

Fourth Grade: Czech Republic & Canada

Global Week 2022 // Lower School

Czech Republic

Monday: Mr. Poth's students began the day with some Polka music, and constructing our Czech Republic fact flaps, which included information on Czech greetings and phrases, important facts and information, and much more! The introduction to the Czech Republic continued with a slide-show that gave students a glimpse of the geographical history of the country, explored maps, and pamphlets, and a mini-documentary about some of the famous landmarks and sites of the Czech Republic. The class enjoyed looking at actual maps that Mr. Poth had gotten while on his trip to the Czech Republic back in 2014! Students also had a double-period art class, where they were able to spend time working on a craft with Ms. Young. We ended the day with a documentary on some of the most beautiful and important sites to see while visiting the country. The class was very excited to dive deeper into all things Czech as the week progresses!

Tuesday: Photos from Mr. Poth's trip to the Czech Republic started the day, which emphasized the beauty, unique building styles and its historic castles and designs all throughout the country. The class practiced their Czech greetings and phrases, watched the most popular cartoons for children with "Krtek" and "Mat & Pat", two clumsy handymen that the class loved pointing out their silly and careless mistakes. We did a bit of research on our Chromebooks, looking at the different foods, and some of the most well-known (and lesser-known) castles that make the Czech Republic one of the most beautiful countries in the world.

Wednesday: Sports and games of the Czech Republic! We looked at hockey, one of their most popular sports, and discussed other sports such as tennis and soccer that are popular professionally and played by the locals. Students were introduced to the castle building project and began brainstorming their castle builds while enjoying the beautiful weather

outside. The creativity and inspiration from a few days of immersing ourselves in the Czech culture has certainly sparked some very unique ideas, and students used castle vocabulary to help explain their thinking!

Thursday: Mushroom picking – a Czech tradition! We went outside and students looked for Mushrooms that we hid throughout Jones' Bowl. A fun, unique thing to start our morning! Students then refueled by trying Chlebicky, an open-faced sandwich that is popular in Czech cuisine and Mr. Poth had breakfast almost every day during his studies in the country. Students were surprisingly pleased with the variety of combinations you could make with ingredients like ham, salami, hard boiled eggs, pickles, the list goes on! Students also spent a block period with Ms. Shazy and Ms. Terry down in the Tech Lab/Makerspace, working on an activity specifically designed for the week. The remainder of today's time involved getting castle materials ready, which are being built with recyclable materials that students brought in over the last few days. It was hard to get them to stop and leave for the day :) A full day of building awaits us on Friday!

Friday: Castle building began right away, with a few "Mat & Pat" episodes and some Polka dancing to keep ourselves energized and entertained. Hot glue guns were used to solidify their builds, and were painted to make a fantastic final product! Students were inspired by their own favorite things, like Batman, or books they had been reading, and incorporated them into their builds. Others went the route of a "classic" castle build, and added creative touches like locks of Rapunzel's hair, or tying into St. Patrick's Day and creating leprechaun traps or castles. We also reflected on some of our favorite things from the week, and filled out a wrap-up information sheet that we then were able to share with our 4th grade neighbors over in Canada. Both classes enjoyed learning some main points about another country, and had some laughs when comparing some of the foods, language, and much more between the two countries. The majority of the day was castle-building, and you could tell they took great pride in their builds and the effort they put in the previous few days was finally paying off.

Mr. Poth's class had an amazing Global Week!

Canada

Monday: Students began making a classroom passport and booklet about Canada with Mrs. McCormick. We started watching videos about the map of provinces and territories of Canada. The students started taking notes and labeling the map of Canada. We finished Tiger Boy. They had a double period of Tech. The students also had world language and PE each day. They each got a few “maple drops” which was a hard candy made from maple syrup.

Tuesday: Tuesday started with the students working in groups to find famous inventions, famous athletes and entertainers and famous historical figures of Canada. They hadn't realized so many famous people were Canadian. They had a double Art period that day. The highlight-to them-was watching a short video about the First nations creation myth and trying Canada's favorite flavor of potato chips... ketchup flavor. It was a big hit with almost all of them. They liked the word search of Canadian sports.

Wednesday: Today was exciting for the students because they researched a canadian animal, made a poster board of the animal and then presented it to the class. One aspect that we focused on was if the animal was endangered and what Canada does to protect this animal. Students did an excellent job! We began talking and learning about the Inuit people today. We watched a video about why igloos actually keep you warm. Then the students began building their own igloos. Some worked alone and some worked in pairs.

Thursday: We continued working on our marshmallow igloos. We learned a bit more about the indigenous/First Nations people of western Canada and the significance of totem poles. Students were asked to think of their own families and create a totem pole that incorporated color and symbols of significance to them. We also learned about the Irish that settled in the Eastern part of Canada. Since it was Saint Patrick's day, we had irish biscuits that are still eaten in Ireland and in Canada.

Friday: We closed out Friday with a short Canada quiz reviewing some of the fun facts that they had learned and their Canada spelling quiz. The students finished their igloos. We also learned about the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights). We also closed the week with a final Inuit legend about a Woman and her bear. We had a final discussion about whether the students would want to visit Canada and what they would like to see, do and eat when there. With all of the activity we never finished our children's film titled the Legend of Sarila. The students loved shouting out all the things about Inuit Culture they recognized. Finally we had a Canadian game experience. The students got to play Crokinole, an authentic game from Canada. They also got to play Yahtzee which was invented by a Canadian couple. They didn't even realize we had snuck in some math!