

Food For Thought In IDS-CC Science Class

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Visualizing cells as three-dimensional structures in an intermediate classroom at Independent Day School-Corbett Campus is literally food for thought.

Student exposure to cell structure through diagrams in textbooks and on websites usually involves two dimensions, and certainly lacks a hands-on feel. According to science teacher Ted Richter, “This activity was designed to reinforce the concepts taught in class about cell structures and functions, with each food item representing a specific part (organelle) of the cell.”



The third, fourth and fifth graders produced a cell model from various food items with which they have great familiarity: blue and red fruit roll up –Golgi bodies and endoplasmic reticulum, round cake sprinkles –the ribosomes, 4 hot cinnamon candies –mitochondria, 4 chocolate covered raisins –vacuoles, a single jelly bean –the nucleus, of course, and the cell itself housed in orange gelatin.

When the lab was completed, there was much discussion about exactly where this might be located in the body. There was no doubt about what happened to the created cell upon completion of the project. It made its way to the mouth!

Founded in 1968, Independent Day School-Corbett Campus is a fully accredited, independent school located on Orange Grove Drive in northwest Hillsborough County. The school serves over 500 students in PreK3 through 8th grade and offers the International Baccalaureate program of study for all middle school students. At IDS, all children experience learning in a nurturing and highly academic environment focused on excellence and developing a positive self-concept. IDS-CC has become recognized as an exemplary school with over 4,000 visitors observing and learning from and with IDS-CC teachers about the school’s M.O.R.E. Approach to education.

The vision for all students at IDS-CC is to accelerate learning by creating a brain-friendly environment that is: Joyful and Challenging, Stimulating and Productive, Nurturing with High Standards and High Expectations, and includes Ethical Conduct, and Dignity and Respect for all. For more information about IDS visit www.idsvs.com.

Contact: Pam Barfield, Director of Admissions- Independent Day School-Corbett Campus

Telephone: (813) 961-3087