



**independent
day school**

Corbett Campus

Do Only the Good Eggs Survive?

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Tampa, Fla.

As students at Independent Day School - Corbett Campus arrived at Raymond James Stadium, they had with them a multitude of aircraft. Each 6th grader had created an “air” “craft” “carrier” to deliver their “uncooked” egg to a safe landing. At approximately 9am on September 16th, each student, one at a time, stepped up to the top edge of the stadium wall, and at the count of three, released their creation. Mr. Bronson, their math teacher, timed how long it took for each container to hit the ground below. Their goal was to build a container that would protect their egg from breaking.

Students had been working on this project for weeks. In science class they discovered how air pockets make an arc strong. They each worked on creating a container that would cover and protect their “good” egg. Encouraged to share ideas and learn from each other, one student shared that he listened and watched what others did, took bits and pieces of various ideas, and created his own container. He then tested it at home. He threw it, bounced it, and played fetch with his dog, until he felt he had his ideal design.

Students studied how to calculate the average rate of descent ($R=D/t$) and how to use graphing calculators to check their work. As they recorded in their journals about their experiences and graphed results, they analyzed trends such as, “Do heavier containers fall faster?” or “Which eggs survived – ones that fell fastest, slowest, or ones with the best air pockets?”

In the 7th and 8th grade, using different criteria, they repeat this “egg drop adventure”, building on their experiences from the year before and applying new lessons each time.

On an average, approximately 30% of the eggs “survived”. There were eggs wrapped in Nerf footballs, stuffed animals, and hats with bouncing balls attached. There were plastic bags filled with air, while some used sponges or hard plastic containers wrapped in bubble wrap. Some containers had parachutes.

The sky wasn’t falling at Raymond James Stadium – it was just the “good” eggs falling to earth in specially created containers for the annual IDS 6th grade egg drop. Every egg was designed by an inspired inventor; each hoping theirs would survive. It was clear that IDS students enjoyed learning in this joyful, challenging and stimulating way.

Founded in 1968, Independent Day School - Corbett Campus is a fully accredited, independent school located in northwest Hillsborough County. It serves 500 plus students in grades Pre-K through 8. 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 900 visitors observing and learning from and with IDS-CC teachers. For more information about IDS visit <http://www.idsyas.com>.

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