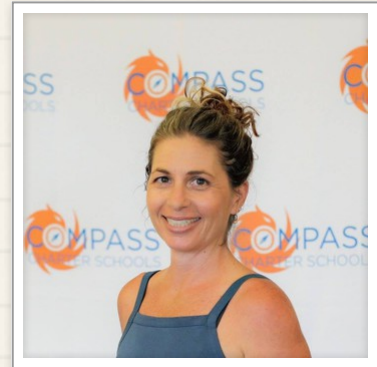


Compass Chronicle

Los Angeles Charter | January 2021

A Word from our Assistant Principal, Tricia Gallagher

As we approach the start of Semester 2, I am reminded of what a pleasure it is to work with our CCS of Los Angeles community and see our families' tremendous attributes. During these unprecedented times, we've seen perseverance and dedication from our scholars and learning coaches, as well as a staff who works passionately to support them. Together we will grow and work towards achieving our goals, one scholar at a time. Let's continue to work hard and reflect on our Compass scholars' success, loud and proud!



What's Been Happening at the Los Angeles Charter?

As the final months of 2020 came to a close, we are pleased to recognize the great things our scholars have experienced and accomplished. Virtual engagement opportunities have been plentiful and a successful pivot for connecting our Compass families in the comfort and safety of their homes.

Scholar workshops included a schoolwide talent show and spelling bee where scholars showcased their skills. Additional workshops were fun learning experiences that included baking, computer programming, animals in the wild, stories read by authors, and creating beautiful art. Although our Coffee with Compass has moved from meeting in-person to a virtual platform, the CCS of Los Angeles team has enjoyed spending time getting to know our families better while discussing a range of topics from birthdays and baby showers to curriculum and needed support.



Our online scholars have been engaged in their learning labs, where they have the opportunity to discuss fun topics and explore current events in the world around them. Scholars in the Accelerate Education online courses have been able to track their hard work on various projects and assessments.

Supervising teachers and families continue to collaborate to provide the best educational experience for scholars. Teachers provide valuable resources to help scholars meet their goals and continue to offer the gold standard in personalized learning. During these unprecedented times, collaboration is needed more than ever as families embrace the new year.

The entire CCS of Los Angeles team looks forward to 2021 and continuing to work closely with our amazing families!




Work Samples and Learning Labs!


Kindergarten Lab!

During Ms. Hooper's kindergarten learning lab, scholars learned all about winter.


The image shows a Zoom meeting window at the top with five participants. Below it is a browser window displaying the ReadWorks website. The page title is "Winter Weather" and it is categorized as a "Question Set". The main content area contains two multiple-choice questions:


2. Where do snow crystals form? ☞ Answer

A  *near the ground* ☞

B  *in the clouds* ☞

3. What is sleet? ☞ Answer

A  *is a type of precipitation that falls from the sky as rain, but freezes before it reaches the ground.* ☞

B  *is a type of precipitation that falls from the sky as snow, but melts before it reaches the ground.* ☞

On the right side of the page, there are three article cards:

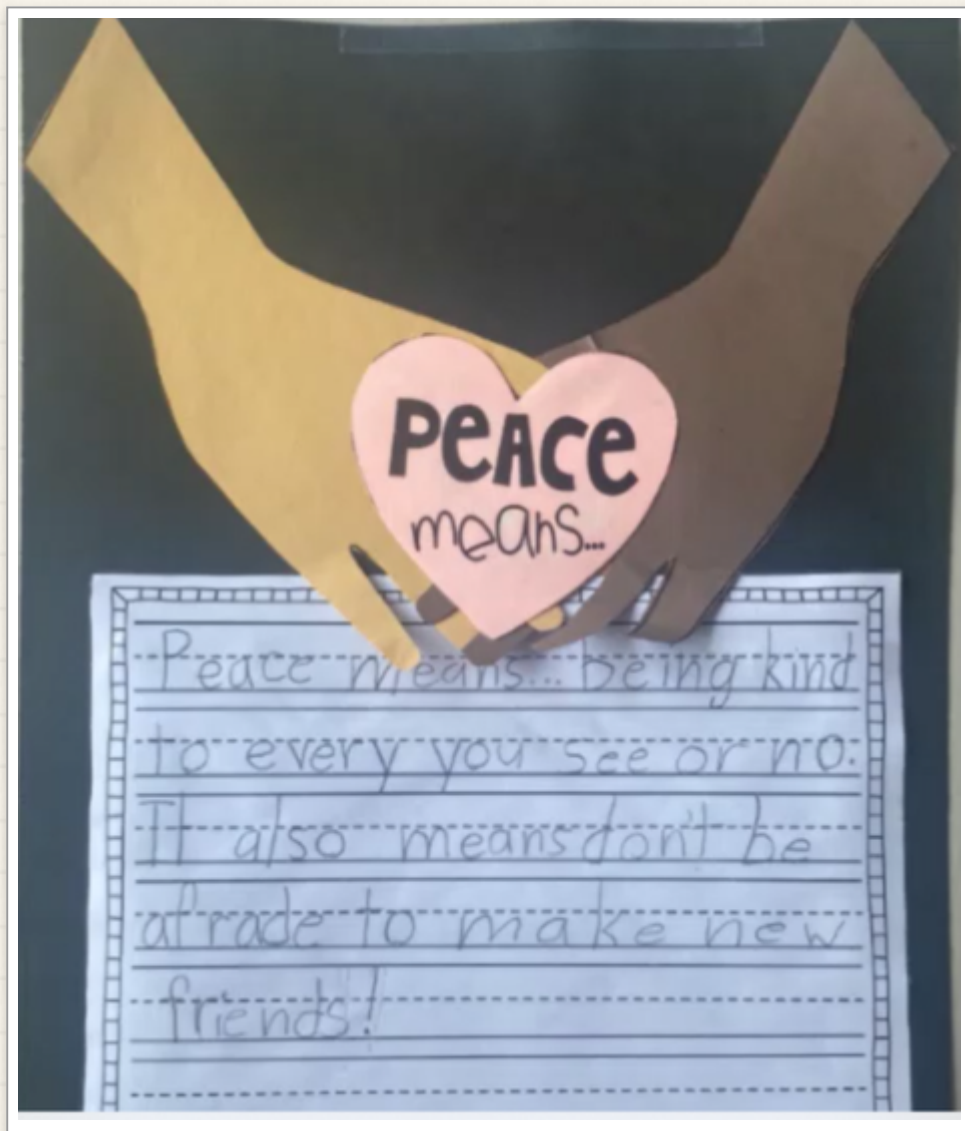
- Sunlight in the Winter** (Grade: K Words: 97)

What do you think about when you think of winter? You may think of cold weather. You may think of trees with no leaves. But do you think about how much sunlight there is in a day? In the winter, there are fewer hours of sunlight in a day. The sun rises ...
- The Winter Olympics** (Grade: K Words: 99)

Every four years, a big event called the Winter Olympics happens. The event brings people from different countries together. These people go against each other in different winter sports! Some of the sports are ones that lots of people have tried. Sk ...

What Does Peace Mean to You?

Elinor a second-grader, shows her writing skills as she defines and gives examples of peace.



Earthquakes!

Charlotte a seventh-grader, conducted scientific research about earthquakes and created a presentation to show all that she learned.

What should you do in case of a natural disaster? (such as an earthquake)



By: Charlotte Williams
Science

What is an earthquake?

An earthquake is the shaking of the Earth that creates seismic waves. Seismic waves are waves of energy. Seismic waves travel through the Earth's layers. They are normally a result of magma movement, volcanic eruptions, and earthquakes.



What is the likelihood of a major earthquake happening in Southern California?



The last major earthquake took place on January 17, 1994 in Northridge, California. So personally, I don't think it's likely because it's been a long time but you never know. More than 60 people died, and over 9,000 were injured.



Do you know what the National

Shakeout is?

The National Shakeout is a day to educate the public about the importance of taking immediate action in case of an earthquake. It is every year on October 15 at 10:15am.



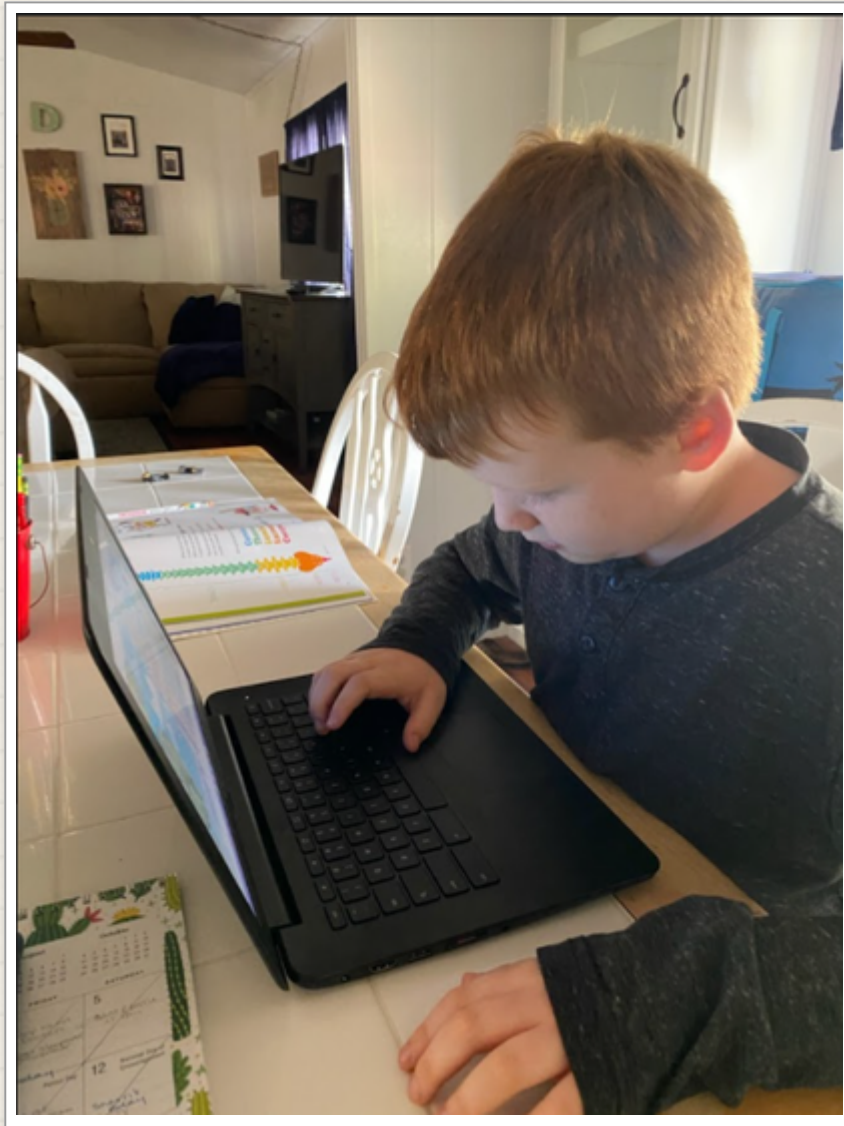
What will you need?

Amazing question! Well, you would of course need yourself, and I'd say a natural disaster kit. In a natural disaster kit, there should be everything you need extremely for survival, such as food, water, flash light, etc. All of these items are in my emergency kit, which I bought like this. You don't need to buy one, you can easily make one at home. You should try and get one quickly.



Typing Like a Pro!

Liam a fourth-grader, enjoys learning with his TypeTaskic subscription.



A Dog's Perspective!

Juliana a sixth-grader, created a newsletter from a dog's perspective.



Platypus Project!

Abigail, seventh-grader wrote a science research report about the platypus and drew a picture to go with her report.

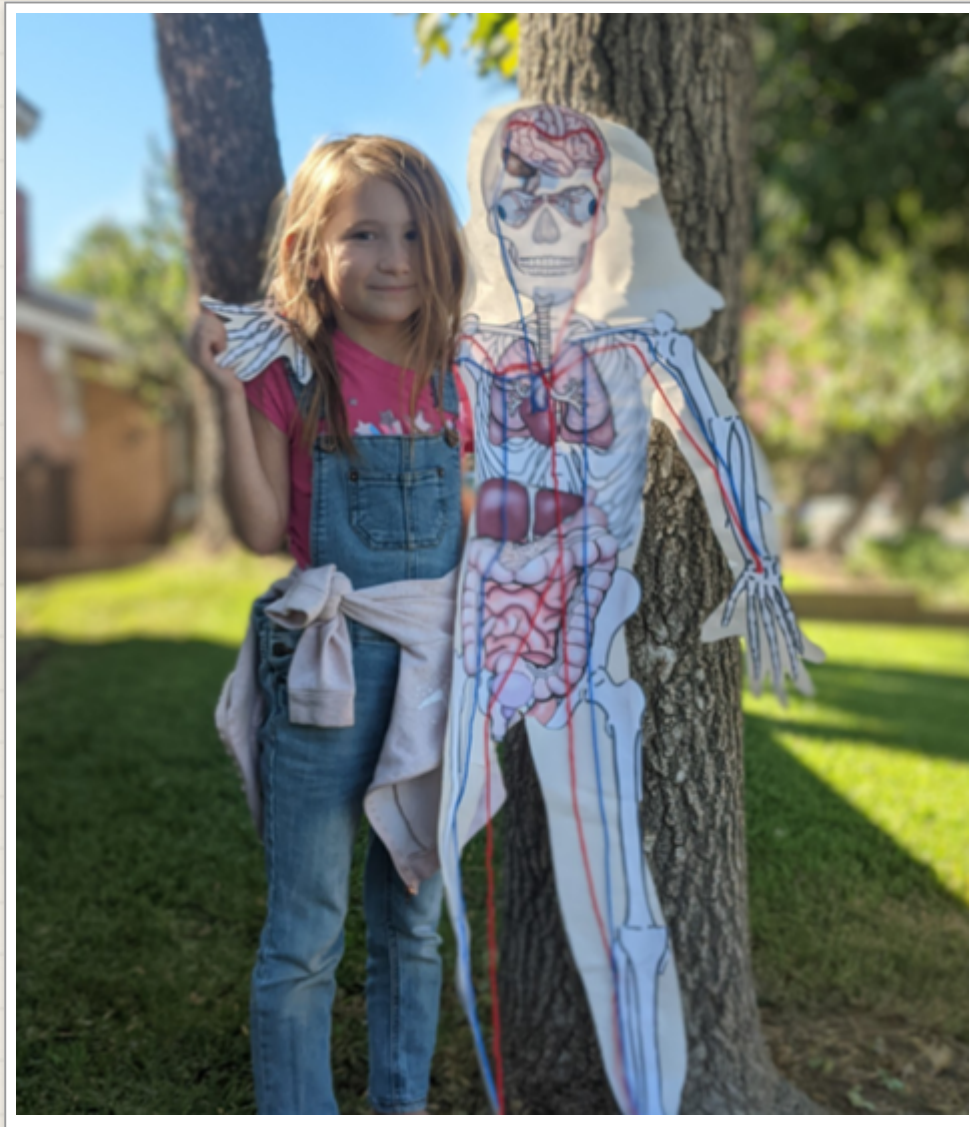
Measuring 20 inches in length including the tail, and around 3 pounds in weight, the duck billed platypus is one of the few mammals in the whole world that produces venom. Males have a spur behind their hind feet that is connected to a venom-secreting gland. The venom is not life threatening to humans but can cause severe swelling and "excruciating pain". Platypuses are found on the islands of Tasmania and eastern and southern Australia. During the day if not hunting they are in their burrow, because they are nocturnal, and at night their hunts can last 10-12 hours. Unlike other mammals the platypuses lay eggs instead of having a live birth, which is called monotremes. When time to reproduce the female digs a burrow and seal themselves in with their 1-3 eggs. It takes around 10 weeks for the eggs to hatch, and when they do, the hairless bean sized baby which is called a puggle, nurses for 3-4 months before learning to hunt. When the platypus was first discovered people thought that it was not a real animal at all they thought that it was multiple animals sewed into one, because of its paddle-shaped tail like a beaver, sleek furry body like an otter, and a fat bill and webbed feet like a duck. The duck billed platypuses bill gives them a 6th sense. This super-sensory organ is packed with three distinct receptor cells that helps the platypus detect movements and subtle electric fields produced by its prey. Their sixth sense is so strong that they can hunt prey with their eyes, ears, and nose closed. The platypuses tail also has multiple uses for example the primary function is just to store up nearly half of the animal's body fat in case of food shortage. A female platypus also uses her tail to hold incubating eggs against her warm body. By this point you are probably thinking "What doesn't a platypus have?" well, they do not have a stomach or teeth! Since they are carnivores, to eat they must scoop up some rocks and sticks from the lake/river floor and squish their prey until it is small enough to digest.



The Human Body!

Sawyer F, a first-grader, learned all about the human body. In her own words, "I learned many things about the human body. Bones help us bend. The heart is always working, even when we

are sleeping. Lungs help us by bringing oxygen into our bodies. The human body is cool!"



Sports Broadcast in Spanish!

In Ms. Davis' Spanish class, scholars listened to a sports broadcast in Spanish and reflected on what they heard.

Spanish 1 - Ms. Davis

What I experienced from listening and watching the news report was that the way they pronounce and add the accents to certain words can be really hard. I could understand a few things they said but it was kind of a challenge with the speed they talked at. If they slowed down I think I may have learned better.

¿A qué deporte escuchas o miras?

Miro fútbol, baloncesto y fútbol

¿Quiénes juegan a este deporte?
Kevin

Algunos jugadores que veo son

Durant, Aaron Donald y Kevin De
Bruyne.

¿Dónde juegan ellos?
F.C.,

Ellos juegan en Manchester City

Brooklyn y Los Ángeles.

¿Cuándo juegan ellos?

¿Cuándo juegan ellos?

Ellos juegan domingo, miércoles y
Viernes

¿Quién gana?

Todos ganan a veces

Government Discussions

With the events that took place at the Capitol a few short weeks ago, Ms. Rosen had the opportunity to lead a discussion in her government class to enable scholars to express their thoughts regarding the event during the learning lab session using a video from NearPod.



Scholar Story: The Baez Family



Our family chose the “learning from home” path for our boys Jacob (8) and Caleb (5) after having a very rough time in the classroom. My oldest, Jacob, has autism and would come home from school with intense anxiety, having meltdown after meltdown. School became aversive for him, and he wasn’t learning or being challenged.

We took a leap of faith and came to Compass, which has been the absolute best decision. Compass has taught my boys that school is FUN, learning is EXCITING, and we have a completely new outlook on education. Compass takes the time to assess where my scholars are academically and provide them with the challenges and supports that provide exponential growth academically, socially, and emotionally. My scholars have exceeded benchmarks and are both working multiple grade levels ahead, which couldn’t happen any other way.

Our typical school day starts at 9 am for my second grader, allowing focused work time to target math and writing. At 10 am, my kindergartener joins in, and we continue for another hour and a half, working on manners, calendar skills, spelling, and other core work. During that time, the kids get multiple breaks for jumping and sensory movement to focus their best. We have a two-hour break for lunch and outdoor playtime, and then we cozy up together again around the couch to read books before heading back outside for hands-on science and social studies. Our day ends at 3 pm for the kids to have free time and to be just that, kids. Open and explorative free time outdoors is a huge part of our day and a priority for our family. And that alone is, hands down, my greatest joy. Seeing my kids light up with learning and also have the time to run freely outside makes my heart sing.

Being the teacher to your own children can come with frustrations, and honestly, that typically comes in the form of kids not listening. However, when I experience resistance from them, it is a cue for me that something needs to be altered in our day. Flexibility is a major perk in learning from home. It is always a learning lesson for me to see what I can do to better support my children. Sometimes school gets moved outside, or we involve more movement to help us self regulate. If a flower isn’t growing, you wouldn’t blame the flower but rather change the environment, which is essentially the mantra of our day.

Making the leap from traditional public school to Compass and going from a brick and mortar to your own home for learning can absolutely feel overwhelming. Still, for anyone considering it, I would say try it. No decision you ever make academically is permanent. It’s okay to follow your children’s unique needs versus the societal norms. We chose Compass over others out of an abundance of research and their ability to work uniquely with my children. Working above grade level and still having open afternoons to freely play and peaceful evenings as a family is how we choose to raise our family.

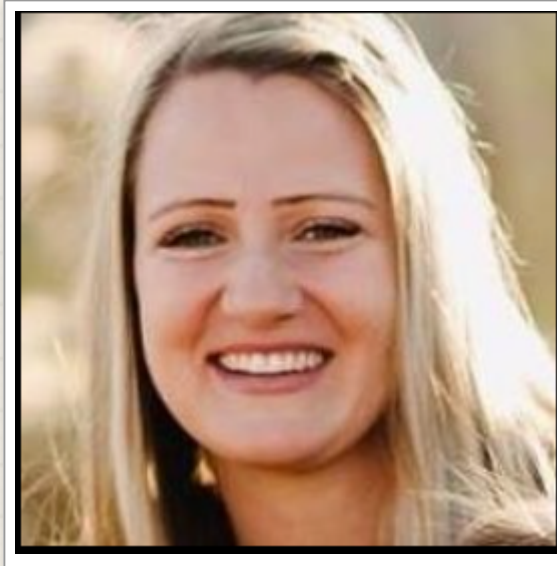
My children's depth of education with the sounding board support from our Compass team is phenomenal. The IEP process has been a true act of absolute teamwork where our family is treated with respect and our sons' needs are met with utter enthusiasm. It’s just absolutely beautiful to see the shining light of educational possibilities that come from Compass. Needless to say, it has been the very best decision we could have ever made.

Staff Spotlight: Meet Shannon Davis, Online Elementary School Teacher!



Ms. Davis is an online middle school and high school Spanish teacher. She has worked at Compass for three years now. She enjoys assisting all of her scholars who choose an independent and virtual learning environment. She finds supporting this population of learners rewarding because it allows her to personalize and differentiate each students' educational path according to their individual aspirations and needs. As an educator, a piece of advice she would want to share is to take it all one day at a time! In her free time, Ms. Davis loves to dance Lindy Hop and she's even gotten pretty good at Shim Shaming!

Staff Spotlight: Meet Jenna Morales, Options Supervising Teacher



I have been a supervising teacher at Compass for one year, and I help facilitate options families' needs. My families are my "why". I do everything I can to help them on their educational journeys and to be there in their lives, helping wherever they need it.

As an educator, I think the best piece of advice I was ever given is to have **patience** in all aspects. Patience with your scholar, patience with your learning coach, your supervising teacher, schoolwork, school, community, etc.

I was born and raised on a farm in Wisconsin, and in our free time, I like to get outside! My family and I try to be outside every waking minute of daylight and good weather.



SHARE YOUR STORY



Are you enjoying the educational experience at Compass? Tell us! We want to hear from you. Why did you decide to join the Compass family? Or, what do you love most about being part of our community? Share your comments and all of your wonderful experiences at Compass with us! [Click here](#) to share.



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850 Hampshire Road, Suite P, ... info@compasscharters.org
 compasscharters.org

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_3jyxoCWVU

A video player showing a young boy smiling. The video has a large play button overlay. The text "COMPASS CHARTER SCHOOLS" and "CompassCharters.org" is overlaid on the bottom of the video frame.

