Students go to Trinity University

By Alexia A.

On Oct. 3, the GLOBE and Environmental seventh grade classes had an awesome experience by going to Trinity University! When the students arrived they got to see two college students do amazing experiments, including turning a pickle into a light bulb.

For the experiment, a Trinity student got a dill pickle, put some wires into it, and suddenly lit the pickle up so it looked like a street light. After that experiment the room smelled weird and the pickle was steaming hot! To cool it off, the students put the pickle in liquid nitrogen and instantly froze it solid!

The Harris students were amazed to see what the liquid nitrogen did right before their eyes. After that, the pickle was smashed into tiny little pieces.

In another experiment, the Trinity students added dry ice to colored water, which changed the water into different colors. After that, the Harris students conducted their own experiments.

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The first experiment was to determine which toothpaste whitened your teeth the best. Students tried four different brands. Each group of students took four eggs, divided them into four sections, and soaked them in coffee, red and blue Kool-Aid, and tea. They then brushed each egg with a toothbrush and a different type of toothpaste. The students concluded that Crest Whitening was the best choice for teeth whitening.

The second experiment was to find out, what offers the best protection from (Continued on page 3)
sunburn, sunscreen or sun block. The students received four pieces of special “sun” paper and three kinds of sunscreen or sun block. They also received either different brands or different SPF's.

Then things got a little messy because the students had to get the sun block or sunscreen on to the sun paper. When everyone had place the products on the paper, they went outside to sit the papers in the direct sunlight for five minutes. Then they dipped the paper in water for two minutes. When the papers were all dry the students would compare the papers to see which one had the most white — that would be the product that protects the most.

The students were surprised to find out that among the sunscreens the brand that worked the best was the Walgreens’ brand. In sun block the SPF did not matter for the brand Ocean Potion, but in Banana Boat the SPF made a HUGE difference. At the end they determined the best cream for your skin was Banana Boat.

The third experiment was to learn how much sugar is in different soft drinks and fruit juices. Students poured these liquids into containers and measured their weights. Then they put a container of each liquid on a hot plate and heated it there until all there was left was sugar. When there was no more liquid the students recorded the weight of the sugar and subtracted that weight from the beginning weight. They found that Big Red had the most sugar and fruit juice had the least.

The last experiment was to find out if Mentos candy reacted with different sodas. The students went outside and combined Mentos with many kinds of sodas. They figured out that the soda does not have to be diet. This was the Trinity Field trip for our awesome seventh grade science enrichment classes. They will be going every nine weeks, but to different locations.

**Hawk Talk**

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