Ripple Rock Story Telling Lab

Ripple Rock Elementary School

Please join us in acknowledging that we work and learn on the traditional territory of the Laich-Kwil Tach Nation.
Our school...

• Our school is designed in the style of a big house with open spaces

• Our population has grown and we are at full capacity with little space for creative learning outside the regular classroom
Our children…

- Ripple rock is an elementary school in Campbell River with 311 K-5 students, 136 of those being Indigenous students mainly from our two local Nations – The Campbell River Indian Band and the Quinsam Band

- Our school is proud of our culturally rich foundation and we strive to make it a vibrant and safe place for all to learn
Our Staff…

• We have a staff of 38 dedicated and caring adults who work together to provide the most positive and inclusive learning environment
In the Fall we looked together at our student data from last year and we discovered…

30% of our students are not yet meeting expectations in behaviours for successful learning.

51% of our students are not yet meeting expectations in Literacy (reading, writing and oral language) with a spike in grades 2 and 3. Up to 62% of these students not yet meeting in oral language and writing.
**Big Ideas**

- Language and story can be a source of creativity and joy. (K-3)
- Playing with language helps us discover how language works.
- Everyone has a unique story to share. (K-2)
- Through listening and speaking, we connect with others and share our world. (K-2)
- Curiosity and wonder lead us to new discoveries about ourselves and the world around us.

**BC’s Redesigned Curriculum…**

**English Language Big Ideas**
Curricular Competencies

Literacy

- **Explore**
  - Explore oral storytelling processes (K-2)

- **Plan and create**
  - Plan and create stories and other texts for different purposes and audiences

- **Create**
  - Create stories and other texts to deepen awareness of self, family, and community (K-3)

- **Use**
  - Use language to identify, create, and share ideas, feelings, opinions, and preferences

- **Exchange**
  - Exchange ideas and perspectives to build shared understanding (K-5)
First Peoples Principals of Learning

- Learning ultimately supports the well being of the self, the family, the community, the land, the spirits and the ancestors.
- Learning recognizes the role of Indigenous knowledge.
- Learning is embedded in memory, history and story.
- Learning requires exploration of one’s identity.
Our Idea…

To create a story telling lab focused on oral language and creativity.
The Challenge...

We have limited space for storage of materials.

All the supplies and props are in bins and require extensive set up and clean up.

Materials should be easily accessible and visible for all.

Classroom example… what we have now…

This is a photo from our mentoring school showing materials displayed and stored in a transparent and accessible way.
Opportunity presents…

• Our galley-shaped library with tall bookshelves was not as inviting as we desired. The purchase of wooden shelving units on wheels allowed us to create an open, inviting, and flexible learning space.
In the Fall, our school was lucky to receive two carts of student devices from the School District, to support 21st century learning.

This allowed us to dismantle the computer lab and gain a large space for creative learning.
The story telling lab is born…

- We repurposed the replaced library shelves into the former computer lab to house the bins and baskets of supplies for story workshop.
- The transformation of the two spaces is awe-inspiring!
- So what is next…
The dream…

To build a story workshop room in the newly constructed language lab, complete with the supplies, furniture, and storage containers. This will be a place where students can engage in joyful inspiration, story-creation, exploration, and expression.
Some samples of supplies...
The room at the school that has supported our journey and learning so far... what we aspire to achieve...
Estimated remaining costs...

- Carpets – 3x $500.00 = 1500.00
- Non-consumable supplies for students to manipulate $2000
- Consumable supplies for generating ideas (ie. Paint and clay) $500.00
- Baskets and bins for storing supplies $500.00
- Picture books to support lessons and inspire ideas $500.00
Our District supported us with the student devices to enable us to repurpose the computer lab space.

Our school library budget and capital funds from the District allowed us to purchase the new library shelving.

Our school has committed funds from our Student Growth budget.

Our PAC has committed $500.00 to help launch and will commit to $200 each year for supplies.

Funding for our project...
How we need your help...

• Our vision to build a place where students feel safe to create and explore language aligns with the BC’s Redesigned Curriculum and the First Peoples Principles of Learning, and stems from our school data that indicates an emergent need for further supporting our students in Literacy and Social Emotional Learning.

• Thank you for your consideration.