

Go Green Fair at Cayuga Heights

What does it mean to “go green”? Students at Cayuga Heights Elementary thought about that big question throughout the week of May 19. The CHES Go Green Week kicked off in style with a whole school assembly first thing on Monday morning to get the school community thinking about ways to reduce trash as a school and start thinking about more ways to recycle. Throughout the week, students were challenged to have low-trash lunches through a competition to create less waste each lunch period by the end of the week. Classroom teachers taught additional “green” lessons as well to reinforce the meaning and importance of the week. Additionally, daily “green tips” on the morning announcements got the whole school thinking each day.

The week culminated with the fourth annual CHES Go Green Fair on Friday, May 23. Students from pre-k through fifth grade were excited to come in to the fair, which was held in the gym and had twelve unique stations. Each station had a different theme and was engaging to students of all ages. Volunteers from Early Morning Farm, Food is Elementary, Tompkins County Solid Waste along with many parent volunteers (and even students from the school Daisy and Brownie Girl Scout troops) joined together to put on the event. Students participated eagerly with different recycled crafts, compost quizzes, recycling games, choosing seeds to plant, learning about water and even hanging up laundry to dry. Each student received a reusable shopping bag from Wegmans to use at the fair and then bring home.

The Cayuga Heights Green Team, a group that includes teachers and parents, put the fair and other events together. The fair was a success, with students talking about recycling and other things that they learned for days afterwards. What does it mean to “go green”? Ask a Cayuga Heights student!

