



School News



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Esplanade *Elementary*

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**Christina
Yokoyama**
Principal

STEM (Science, Technology, Mathematics, and Engineering) projects are happening in Esplanade's classrooms! Pictured are students in Ms. Aihara's 5th grade class. The students worked collaboratively to build Pumpkin catapults, one of the Monthly Engineering Design Challenges provided by OUSD's Science Center. The students discussed the scientific concepts related to the catapults such as inertia, force, precision and accuracy. The students then designed, built, and launched the catapults,



using iPads to document the entire process. The students evaluated their first attempt then redesigned and rebuilt the catapults in an attempt to improve their design. Students tested their designs for distance, force, and accuracy and best of all, had fun while learning!