



Migration Tails
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In science we explored various migratory routes of animal species and the human impact on migrating species. Students learned about scientific posters and incorporated their understanding and created their own, focusing on specific animals and migratory routes. Students also created a book, *Migration Tails*, that highlighted their posters and a narrative writing based on their focus animal. In humanities we collectively explored the complex and widespread phenomenon of forced and voluntary migration throughout history, detailing the socio-economic and cultural impacts on both individuals and communities. We explored specific examples of forced displacement, including the Canadian government's relocation of the Inuit to the High Arctic and the protracted struggles of Palestinian and Syrian refugees in host countries like Lebanon. Students also read about the major historical movements such as the Great Migration of African Americans, the Irish Potato Famine diaspora, and the Bracero Program, highlighting changes to traditional livelihoods and community structures due to government policies or crises. Students recorded stories of migration from people within their families and communities and shared them during a "Walk A Mile" exhibition that included listening to a human story, while wearing their shoes. Students curated the work and built a large shoebox to house the stories in. Finally, families added their own migration to a map that we have curated and hung in the school halls.

Teacher Reflection

I think that the students and families loved the exhibition and the walking in the shoes of the person they were hearing the story about, was powerful. They enjoyed the interview process and sharing the recordings with families. They also did a great job with their science posters which they displayed and were able to articulate their learning on exhibition night. Something I would do differently would be how I connected the learning between the science of the animal migratory routes and the migration of people. We were going to look into how migratory patterns of animals have changed due to human impact and compare that to human migratory patterns; this we could have done a better job of doing.

—Matthew Chapman

Student Reflection

We wrote stories about our animals to better understand how the animals migrated. My story was about the bar-tailed godwit and the writing helped me anthropomorphized without making the animal too human.

—Djanira

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