



A Recognized School District

NEWS RELEASE

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Cummings Students Study Alief History

Recently, Cummings Elementary School students had the opportunity to view the History of Alief display created by the Westchase District, and used it as a starting point for researching the history of the local community. Librarian Karen Shiver told the story of Alief's first post mistress Alief Magee and students used the information to create an Alief alphabet book called the "Alief ABCs."

Kindergarten and first grade students collaborated to rewrite the song Old McDonald and made it "Ode to Alief Magee." To help students in second through fourth grades work on their research skills, students were directed to peruse the current Westchase brochure, examine the pictorial history of Alief display and review a variety of online resources. Third and fourth grade students discovered that the Wikipedia entry about the history of Alief contained a mistake and corrected the Wikipedia article. They also were able to add a citation to the list of references to show where they found the factual information.

Through the research project, students realized that they have a number of details that are not in the Wikipedia article; therefore, their research project has now been expanded. They now plan to complete their original Alief ABCs project and then will add facts to Wikipedia's history of Alief so that it is more complete and easier to read.



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