

Hearst Elementary School

In our first-grade classroom at Hearst Elementary, we are learning many things. In science, we have been learning about light and sound. We learned that sound travels in waves and is made when things vibrate.

To learn more, we went to the SPARKlab at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. At the SPARKlab, we took turns exploring the exhibits and the experiment stations. All the exhibits used sound and light and you could invent lots of things. At one station we used squares and light to make a sound music box. At another station, we had to find out how to keep a pair of magical shoes safe. We created an alarm with light and sound to alert burglars. At another station, we had to draw a solution to make a better alarm clock. At another, we had to match sounds to a silent video. We also made sounds with colors on a record player.

The SPARKlab was very creative and unique. Our class got our brains working and had a great time.

— Sonya Goldberg and Owen Carpenter, first-graders