21st Century Competencies – Creativity using Powtoon

Teacher: Nicole Molnar

School: Outlook Elementary School

Outcomes:

Grade 4 Health:

USC 4.1 Assess what healthy eating and physical activity mean for pre/adolescence.

Grade 4 ELA:

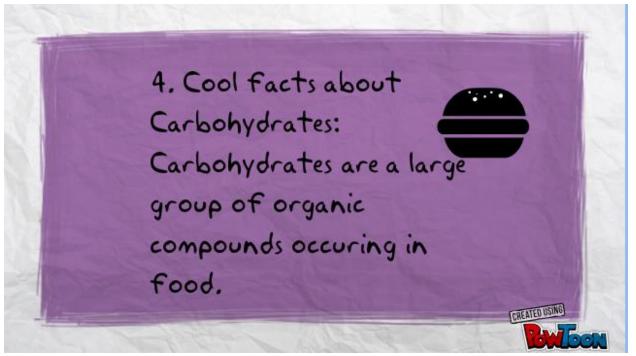
CC4.2 Create a variety of clear representations that communicate straight forward ideas and information relevant to the topic and purpose, including short, illustrated reports, dramatizations, posters, and other visuals such as displays and drawings.

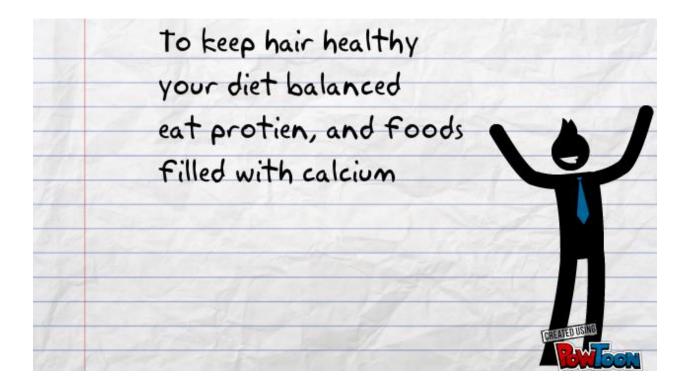
Summary:

In my grade 4 class, we were working on developing questions and a healthy lifestyle. I introduced the Health outcome we were going to be covering. I went over the specific indicator we were going to work on. Students came up with some questions that they would like answered. I formed students into groups based on their questions. I put similar questions together to form their groups. Students needed to research to find the answers to the questions. Students worked together by breaking their questions into parts. Each student will cover a part of the bigger question. I found this led to more questions being formed and more research being done. Students combined their information with their group members and created a Powtoon video on www.powtoon.com. In order to use this, a username and password are required. I showed them the different features of the website on the SMART board. I showed them a video I had created on Powtoon about the benefits of exercise. I logged each group into my account so each video would be easily accessible for me. Each student would take a turn designing a slide how they wanted to portray their information. They designed the background, how the information was displayed, the song used in the background, and the pictures in the background. I allowed students to be as creative as they wanted. I showed them how to change the displays and options in the program. They would show each other the slide once they finished their own and they would collaborate about any changes it may need. Once the video was finished, their classmates watched the video and were able to ask the group questions. The students were very engaged throughout the entire process and loved showing their parents the videos at Student Led Conferences.









Reflection:

I really enjoyed the students' engagement in this activity. They were able to play around with the website and show me features that I wasn't aware of. The students really took creative control of their learning in this activity. While I would walk around the room monitoring the students, each group would stop me and ask me if I knew a fact. They were very proud of what they were able to learn. Many of them could not wait to show their parents during Student Led Conferences. I found it opened up a dialogue between the student and their parents. It was a wonderful demonstration of their learning. I never had an issue with the website, but I did have issues with the laptops when we used them. The connection would not always be stable and other times, it would take too long for the laptops to log in. We had no issues when we used the computer lab. The videos can be uploaded onto YouTube. I do not have an account, so I did not upload them. I would use this website again with different projects. The next time that I use it, I would have them each do their own individual video. This was a great way to introduce the website to get students familiar with the features.