



WE HAVE A WINNER! π

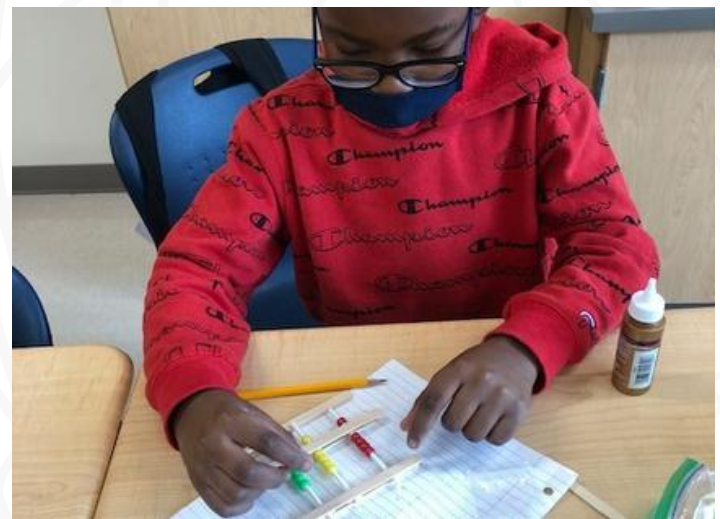
Congratulations are in order for the second grade student at M. Agnes Jones Elementary School in Atlanta, GA who won the Pi Day Challenge at her school. She is holding her prize, a hachimaki, that reads "certain victory" in Japanese. Special thanks to Georgia Teacher, Lesli Dickson for participating there and at Tuskegee Airmen Academy with her students in grades 1-5. A shout out also to Malkia Harvey, Integrated Arts Teacher at Payne Elementary School in Washington, DC and her 4th and 5th grade students, and Eaton Elementary School in Washington, DC., and Scott Elementary School in Atlanta, Georgia who also signed up to join the challenge. Students were both excited and engaged, and enjoyed it so much that one boy wrote on his paper "do not touch" because he didn't want his good work disturbed!



Second grade student and winner of the Pi Day Challenge at M. Agnes Jones Elementary School in Atlanta, GA!



This was our 2nd year hosting the Pi Day Challenge. National Pi Day occurs on March 14th to commemorate the mathematical symbol that represents approximately 3.14. The task was to make a soroban (Japanese abacus) in 3 minutes and 14 seconds or less! We continue to find ways to pique student interest, stretch their thinking, boost their confidence, and allow them to take ownership of their learning.



Five schools participated in this year's Pi Day Challenge to make their very own abacus in 3 minutes and 14 seconds.



Thank you to our volunteers who helped make our Pi Day Challenge a success through assembling the kits!

BLACK KIDS COUNT EDUCATION FORUM

Earlier in the year, we hosted our inaugural Black Kids Count Education Forum, in partnership with The DC Metropolitan Organization of Black Scientists. The impact of COVID on education has been tough on all of us and especially crushing to black and brown communities. It was time to come together and share solutions to address the achievement gap and the work that is being done to move the needle. We believe that the soroban is a proven instructional tool that can help improve outcomes, and that there are others, too. Parent engagement and social emotional considerations are parts of the holistic approach needed to bring about measurable change.

DCSERVE VOLUNTEERS THANK YOU!

Five schools participated in the Pi Day Challenge which meant we had to get close to 150 DIY abacus making kits shipped off to the schools before the big day. That would not have been possible without the help of our volunteers. To stay COVID safe, they came to our DC office, picked up supplies and returned individual kits ready to ship. We had an outpouring of volunteers answer the call from a sophomore student at National Cathedral School, to a world traveler from Benin, to a former Peace Corps volunteer who first learned of a soroban on a submarine on the Asian seas. Our global tool united us in a shared mission to make a difference.

The Black Kids Count Education Forum hosted in honor of MLK Day to discuss solutions for closing the achievement gap.



UPCOMING EVENTS



PARENT INFO SESSION

Please join us on **Wednesday, April 20th** or **May 4th** at **7:00 pm** to learn about the benefits of abacus practice and activities you can do at home to help your kids become better problem solvers. We will also provide an overview of our Japanese Immersion Math Intervention (JIMI) Summer Jam Camp and the activities that make up the camp experience.

Should you have questions, please contact Monica Freeman Lewis at monicalewis@theabacusproject.org.

JIMI SUMMER JAM

Join JIMI - the Japanese Immersion Math Intervention for Kids - on a journey to Japan to explore the culture and the magic of the abacus. This virtual summer program is for students in grades 3 - 5 who want to work on their basic math skills, grow confidence in their ability and experience math with a twist. We offer a hands-on learning experience that includes making a Japanese abacus, learning how to use it to perform basic math operations and exploring Japanese traditions.

JIMI Summer Jam

JAPANESE IMMERSION MATH INTERVENTION



Grades 3-5

Summer Sessions Available:
Jun 27 | Jul 11 | Jul 25 | Aug 8

For more information
& to register, visit:

[THEABACUSPROJECT.ORG/EVENTS](https://theabacusproject.org/events)

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