

Lunchbox Legends

Tiogue students use recyclables to create lunchboxes



Kendra Leigh Miller • Daily Times

Mrs. Susan Hackett's first-graders at Tiogue Elementary School in Coventry sit together in the cafeteria with the lunchboxes they completed as a project, all made out of recycled materials in connection with Earth Day.

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COVENTRY — Tiogue Elementary School first-grade teacher Susan Hackett presented her young students with a rather interesting challenge to recognize Earth Day by asking them to create lunchboxes out of recycled materials.

Hackett explained they completed the project last week as a homework assignment following certain criteria.

"They had to use less than four different recycled materials, not including fasteners, it had to be sturdy, it must have a handle and the designs should go outside that of a normal lunchbox; for example, it could have lots or sections inside

and/or outside or extra parts that serve as a function," she said.

Olivia Hopkins thought outside the box with her use of apple juice containers with an Apple Jacks cereal box with bottle caps for a decoration.

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Tiogue students into recycling

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Kennedy Hayle used yarn with elastics, brown paper bags and wrapping paper and decorated it with a sunshine scene.

Dylan Phillips said the most challenging part for him was finding the materials then trying to be creative.

"You had to figure out how you were going to use the pieces," he said.

"The hardest part for me was creating the cupholders," said Jacob D'Ambra.

He created a bag with a fold-over top with a chip bag as a foundation.

The biggest challenge for Spencer Ciotti was assembling his two main bags for the pieces.

"I use a paper towel roll for part of it," he ex-

plained.

Mariah Smith used Cinderella wrapping paper for a portion of her design with a metal handle.

Hayden Ferrucci described her challenge as creating a flat bottom.

I used tape with the other materials," she said.

Hackett said they all did a fabulous job.

"It was very easy to give them all good grades," she said. "The most important thing to me was that they did this as a family project instead of watching television and I'm hoping it shows them that just because something's old doesn't mean it can't be used again and you can make something really cool with it."