Physical Science through Comic Life

Students were able to take complex concepts and, through the use of technology, make the difficult concepts understandable to both themselves and other students who viewed their comics.

Curriculum/State Standards
PS.2 The student will investigate and understand the basic nature of matter. Key concepts include
a) solids, liquids, and gases;
b) characteristics of types of matter based on physical and chemical properties;

Overview
Students were introduced to four states of matter, and then learned how to use ComicLife. Students then produced a draft and final comic booklet that met the specific requirements.

Project Objectives
• The student will be introduced to concepts on states of matter and then basic training on use of the ComicLife software program.
• The student will merge what they have learned about the concepts and ComicLife to create a comic booklet on the states of matter.

Materials
colored paper, colored printer, textbook, ComicLife program, colored pencils, watercolors, colored markers, and other miscellaneous art materials.

Readiness Activity
Overview and review of Newton’s three laws of motion.

Strategies/Activities
• Students watched a movie on states of matter
• Discussions and experiments were completed (use of Vernier probes to watch temperature changes, making of slime, and cornstarch and water enigma; all of these can be Googled and viewed online).
• Students were introduced to the program ComicLife
• Students produced a one page comic on their own life in learning the program.
• Students then worked to produce a multi page comic book that included specific words and concepts.

Culminating Activity
Sharing of their comics

Evaluation Method
Completion of the project within the guidelines of the rubric.

Belinda Casto-Landolt
Rodney Thompson Middle School
75 Walpole, Stafford, VA 22554

8 GRADE LEVEL
ARTS
LANGUAGE
MATH
MISC
SCIENCE
HISTORY
SOCIAL STUDIES

3 WEEK
$1000 TOTAL BUDGET