

# Baylis Blast

## Making our Writing a “Hands on, Minds on” experience with Dr. Kelly

Second graders have been looking at nonfiction writing in a new way. Taking a "lab approach", they have focused on writing about scientific experiences. Dr. Kelly visited as a science expert and helped them learn to talk about (and write about) the science of catapults. Students used tongue depressors to create basic catapults. After learning about potential and kinetic energy and variables, we talked about trajectory by looking at something all our kids seem to know about: Angry Birds! The students then tested their ideas about how altering the size of the fulcrum in a catapult might affect the trajectory of the projectile. It's great when science helps us make sense of our writing!

