The 6th graders started reading the novel *Iqbal* this week. It is a true story about a young boy, Iqbal Masih, who was involved in bonded slavery and helped better the lives of other Pakistani children. We had a lesson on tessellations. The students learned about the history, saw some examples of famous tessellations from Escher, and created their own. We have started the introductory lessons for our toothpick bridge construction. The students are excited to start learning about bridge construction, history, and styles.

### Important Date

**Toothpick Bridge Competition**

Feb. 29th at UTC

More information is available at

[https://toothpickbridgesrq.wordpress.com/?fbclid=IwAR0nYYoU4Sf-pu2KI0KB5SoDiQAuCG7Q97a-Vsj-HUXggjgES-](https://toothpickbridgesrq.wordpress.com/?fbclid=IwAR0nYYoU4Sf-pu2KI0KB5SoDiQAuCG7Q97a-Vsj-HUXggjgES-)

Last Thursday Paola from Planned Parenthood came and spoke with the students about puberty. She had a lot of information and presented it in a way that made the students feel comfortable about the topic and safe to ask questions.