

Cedar Grove in the News! The Gazette/Gazette.net

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Cedar Grove celebrates National Parks Week

People and Places | Susan Singer-Bart

This week is National Parks Week, but last week, physical education teacher Chris Jansson helped student at Cedar Grove Elementary School in Germantown celebrate local parks.

Jansson brought traveling trunks filled with hands-on educational materials to the gym at Cedar Grove Elementary School in Germantown last week. Students learned about parks and participated in park activities such as fishing, orienteering, bird watching, horseshoes, bocce and disc golf.

"My main objective and goal is to show kids there are a lot of national and state parks that are close to where we live," he said.

Jansson created stations inside and outside the gym where students could learn to use a compass to follow clues to find imaginary animals, learn to cast a fishing pole, put a bike helmet on correctly before heading out on a bike course or read a book in the camping tent that served as a library.

A ranger from the Monocacy National Battlefield spoke to the children about the nearby national park April 13.

"My main goal is to just get the kids excited about going outside and visiting a park near their house," Jansson said.



Chris Rossi/The Gazette

Physical education teacher Chris Jansson helps second-grader Bryan Tam, 8, of Clarksburg, look for birds through binoculars April 11 as part of Jansson's Park. Students at Cedar Grove Elementary School in Germantown learned about parks and participated in park activities.