



# THE EDGELEY MAIL

**\$1.00**

**Wednesday, November 25, 2015**

## School holds Family Engineering Night

By Patty Wood Bartle

There was a whole lot of unstructured learning going on Monday night at Edgeley Armory.

Edgeley Public School sponsored Family Engineering Night, an event for parents and kids. Twenty-four stations were staffed with teachers, engineers and community volunteers. All was an effort to let kids have some fun as they discovered the types of activities engineers do, the problems they



**Madison Sitzmann and Taryn Hartman watch as Merissa Sitzmann tests the speed of her car against the wind.**

attempt to solve the tools they use to get the job done.

Activities were designed to foster questions such as for what purpose did engineers design this object. What features help make it work? Are there other

for this object? At another station matching products with things from nature that sparked an idea and a product also provided an opportunity to learn more about that product.

Students had an opportunity to discover learning occurs even when projects fail. Students had hands-on opportunities timed to see if

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**Kate and Zeke Barnick run marbles over the rollercoaster they designed. Wooden marbles stayed on the track and glass marbles failed to make the loop.**

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it is more efficient to work alone or develop an assembly line. Car designs were tested at "Against the Wind" station. Students were rewarded for less damage and more products at "Mining for Chocolate" where they were challenged to remove chocolate chips from hard and soft cookies.

Another station taught teamwork and how important accurate communication of ideas is to production of the final product. They also were challenged to deal with layoffs of personnel.

The roller design with marbles as the car of passengers allowed students to test loops and distance traveled. It was a popular station.

Edgeley teachers are participating in a STEM program through VCSU in Valley City.