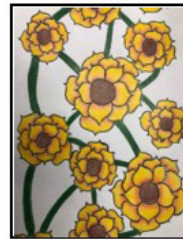
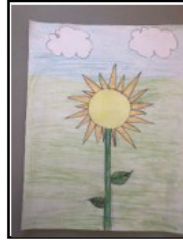
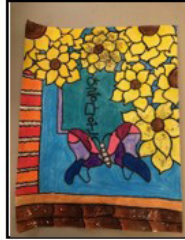
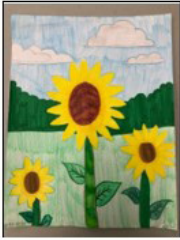


RITE NOW @ ROP



JWW educators recently joined forces for an interdisciplinary unit blending science and art. Earth-science students learned about the surprising role of sunflowers in detoxifying soil. Due to their large biomass and rapid growth, sunflower roots are able to absorb toxins, isolate and store the chemicals absorbed, and continue growing without leaching the absorbed toxins. This process is known as phytoremediation. Farmers have long taken advantage of this natural soil cleansing process by adding sunflowers to their crop rotation in order to maintain productive soil. Phytoremediation also has been used to clean up contaminated landscapes such as the Chernobyl and Fukushima nuclear disasters. In tandem with their earth science unit on sunflowers, JWW students also reflected on the plant's striking beauty through a sunflower themed art contest.
