

## Spotlight on Academic Excellence

In the next weeks, we will occasionally spotlight Whitefish students involved in innovative and challenging learning. Expect to read about high-performing students from ages 5 to 18. This week, allow us to introduce you to a number of our high school students engaged in a myriad of interesting explorations, from studying genes to developing software applications for cell phones.

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# Whitefish Pilot



Students in Eric Sawtelle's Earth Science class are currently studying aquatic systems, in light of our planet's fresh water "budget." Students are researching Cow Creek, collecting data on the habitat and water chemistry from three sites on the creek, and then analyzing the data to determine the condition of Cow Creek's water quality and riparian habitat. Students will use the data to devise a land-use management plan.

Mr. Sawtelle's FREEFLOW students are currently working with Whitefish Lake Institute (WLI) scientists to study Viking Creek, examining potential septic issues in the Viking Creek watershed. Viking Creek is the largest contributor of sediment to Whitefish Lake, and also drains into Monks Bay close to where the city water intake is located. Students will be using instruments like fluorimeters and a submersible computer, to collect water samples and will present their findings to the City Council.