

Fourth Grade Students Go Back in Time
Mrs. Balmer

During Social Studies the fourth grade students have traveled back in time to the early 1600s to learn about the early native people of New York State. On their journey they discovered that these native people called themselves the Hudenosaunee which means “people of the longhouse”, but they were called the Iroquois by their Algonquian enemies. Iroquois means “rattlesnake” in Algonquian.

The fourth graders separated into small clans just like the Hudenosaunee. Each group selected a clan name, such as Wolf Clan, Bear Clan or Turtle Clan. The children are exploring clan life and are participating in activities as a clan. Each clan member recorded an important event to pass down to future generations. The event was recorded in the form of a wampum belt. It’s commonly believed that wampum was used for money, but the clan members can tell you that it was used to record important events and was a sign of honor and truth. Here are some samples of their handiwork