



## Lessons in Real World Science & Environment

Guest educator engages students in unique ways

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Magnetism. Induction transformers. Tesla coils.

Cooking your own lunch in a magna-cooker, using nothing but solar and bicycle energy!

These are a few of the lessons 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at [Berlin Middle School](#) were engaged with on Wednesday, December 5, when guest educator, Bill Harris, from the [Renewable World Foundation](#) (RWF), came to Angela Beck's science classroom. RWF is a nonprofit organization providing high quality, hands-on, minds-on educational opportunities to schools across the Midwest.

"What Harris does is unique," stated Beck. "He brings in all types of equipment, has incredible enthusiasm and immediately gets the students engaged in learning about things happening in everyday life. It incorporates the STEAM approach to learning and students love it." STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, arts and math and is used to guide student inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking.

Harris is an electrical engineer who is passionate about science. As a child, once he understood a concept, he wanted to share it with the world. "Knowledge is useless without inspiration; like a seed that isn't planted," he said. "I'm hoping I can add a little additional inspiration to the students." Harris is the co-founder and one of the primary funding sources for the 501(c)(3) RWF.

RWF also sponsors an annual trip for a group of Berlin students to [Isle Royale National Park](#) where they learn to live with a group of peers and experience an outdoor adventure unlike any other. RWF staff teach the basics of water filtering, camping, outdoor cooking, and leave no trace ethics. Students also learn about the inter-connectedness of natural and human systems through on-site programs provided by the National Park Service (NPS) and Isle Royale Institute Staff.

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About the Berlin Area School District: The Berlin Area School District is a Wisconsin Public School District educating more than 1,600 area youth in grades pre-K through 12th grade. For more information, go to: [www.berlin.k12.wi.us](http://www.berlin.k12.wi.us) Like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Berlin-Area-School-District) (facebook.com/Berlin-Area-School-District) or follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/berlinschools) (Twitter.com/berlinschools)