

Reference from Singleton Heights Public School

Janelle Cox, Teacher



Our students experienced something quite special when Daniel and William visited our school last Friday, November 2, 2018.

Several classes from years 2 to 4 had just completed a Geography/Science unit titled 'It's In Our Hands.' Through project based learning we discovered that our actions and decisions affect wildlife in different areas of the world, we researched actions people take to protect living things and we explored actions we can take to promote sustainability. During this unit, we were fortunate enough to notice the 'Tears in the Jungle' website. The students were immediately drawn to Daniel and William's quest to save the orangutan. I bought the two books and they became an excellent teaching resource. The decision to invite Daniel and William to visit our school was driven by the students themselves.

As soon as we locked in a date, my class started counting down the days. They were definitely not disappointed. As my students were the ones who had sent the invitation email, Daniel and William paid them a special visit before the presentation began. The excitement was evident on each and every face.

Fifteen classes attended Daniel and William's presentation. The students were engaged from beginning to end. The presentation covered many curriculum areas and staff were impressed with the boys' knowledge, confidence and delivery. The students were enriched and inspired by the experience. Many questions were asked by a very interested audience and every question was given a quality and insightful answer.

After the presentation, the students left the hall for their lunch break but many came back to ask more questions, buy merchandise or simply chat to the boys. Daniel and William never grew tired of the questions or attention they received and spoke patiently and kindly to all.

I was approached by several parents the following week to mention the impact that Daniel and William's story had left on their child. I am so pleased our school took the step to introduce the Clarke family to our school community. I have been teaching for thirty years and Daniel and William's visit has been one of the biggest highlights of my teaching career.

If you are teaching the concept of sustainability, endangered wildlife, or any environmental issues and you are looking for inspirational speakers to address your school, I would highly recommend Daniel and William Clarke.

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