



Madeira Board of Education, 7465 Loannes Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45243
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Madeira Preschool Class Runs Mini Marathon

Jennifer Schaeffer's Madeira Preschool class ran a modified 26.2 mile Flying Pig marathon – they ran 26 laps around a small area of the school's parking lot.

Leading up to the mini Flying Pig marathon, Schaeffer wanted her 12 preschool students to learn more about Cincinnati history and Cincinnati events. She also taught a unit on sports and introduced the students to marathons. The students learned about why flying pigs are used as a mascot of the city of Cincinnati. As the students learned about flying pigs, she introduced them to the Flying Pig Marathon. Many students were excited to share about a time they saw a flying pig or about someone they know who has run in the marathon or helps with the marathon.

Their Flying Pig marathon was held the first week in May a few days before the real Cincinnati Flying Pig Marathon. Schaeffer's students created flying pig paintings, explored a map of the race course and created signs. They learned about healthy foods that runners eat and how running makes their bodies strong. At the end of the week the students were ready and excited to participate in their own race.

Before the event the class did stretching exercises, having learned the importance of warming up before a race. They also each brought a water bottle for breaks. Schaeffer had a notebook with pages numbered 1-26 to show them their progress after each round they made. After an exciting start, all runners crossed the finish line with pride after completing all 26 laps.

"While I'm not a runner, I love experiencing the excitement that the Flying Pig Marathon brings to the city," Schaeffer stated. "This is the first time I have focused on marathons and I am so proud of how much my students not only learned, but also pushed themselves to do their best."



Pictured above left: Gus Uebel, Everett Dye, Lizzy Ironmonger



Pictured above right: Jennifer Schaeffer and her Madeira Preschool class after a successful mini Flying Pig marathon.