**Mirror Burning**

**Today in Science class, Mr. Smith did two demonstrations.**

**Super Tan**

**In this demonstration, Mr. Smith took a parabolic mirror and focused the sun on our faces. He made us close our eyes, because he would fry our retinas if they were open. When he passed it over our faces, it felt very hot and it was bright even through our eyelids.**

**Burning Leaf**

**In this demonstration, Mr. Smith focused the sun with a parabolic mirror on a leaf, which began burning in one second, and eventually lit on fire.**

**Hammer Parts**

**In this demonstration, Mr. Smith took a hammer with a loose head and slammed the butt of the handle on the table. This tightened the head onto the hammer because the head stayed in the same place but the handle moved. Then he held the hammer handle with the head on upside down, just tight enough so that the head didn’t fall off. Then he tapped the butt of the handle with another, stronger hammer, and the head became jammed on so tight that we couldn’t pull it off.**

**Quarter Soccer**

**In this demonstration, Mr. Smith stacked three quarters on top of each other, and then he took a piece of paper and hit the bottom quarter with it. The top two didn’t move, but the bottom one went into a little goal Vissi made with her hands.**

**Things I learned:**

* **Parabolic dishes are used as antennae.**
* **If you focus the sun with a parabolic mirror, it can burn stuff.**
* **It is focusing light.**
* **The demonstrations were really cool.**
* **If you put a light right at the focal point of the mirror, it will make a beam.**
* **This is how spotlights work.**
* **This is basically the opposite of what happens in Burning Leaf.**
* **Inertia is the resistance of an object to change in rest or motion.**
* **If an object is motionless, it will stay motionless unless acted upon by some force.**
* **If an object is moving, it will move in a straight line unless acted upon an angle by some force.**
* **If an object is moving at a constant speed velocity, it will continue the speed unless acted upon by some force.**
* **Newton’s 1st Law of Motion is sometimes called the Law of Inertia.**

****