

Youngsters at VPE enjoy folk-loaded iPods

Students at Veterans Park Elementary have combined modern technology with the olden days, using iPods to learn more about Appalachian folk artists and their work.

Fourth- and fifth-graders got to use the iPods, which were on loan from the Kentucky Folk Art Center at Morehead State University and came preloaded with tunes like “Turkey in the Straw,” photos of artwork and video clips featuring such experts as woodcarver LaVon Van Williams. Art teacher Kate Christianson said the format and functionality were a big hit.

“The kids really do like it. They love comparing (folk) music to the modern music they listen to and hearing how it’s different,” she said. “This gives us a much better overview of Kentucky folk art.”