

Education

Page 10A Wednesday, January 29, 2020

CES Students become S.O.A.R. Certified

By Brandy Laymance
Morgan County News

The after school students at Wartburg Central Elementary School were able to exercise their abilities using ham radio this past Friday.

"Ham radio is becoming a lost art and myself and others are trying to keep this skill alive," says Kitty McDowell, Save the Children Literacy Tutor.

Save the Children has delivered quality education to over 273 million children in the last decade – more than any

other global development organization. Save the Children is working with the students in Morgan County by introducing new technology and ideas such as the ham radio to their educational practices.

After school was dismissed the eager after school students went to participate in the two-meter radio exchange with the Scott County Boys and Girls Club.

McDowell explains that the students were able to participate in speaking to adults via ham radio in the past.

"This is the first time the kids will actually get to talk to each other and I'm super excited."

The kindergarten and 1st graders were the first group to participate in the radio exchange. The students played a guessing game with the Scott County Boys and Girls Club by communicating through the radio with one another.

"Everyone is so dependent on technology," says McDowell. "When the tornado went through, ham radios were the only form of communication. That's

why I got into it."

After the kindergarten and 1st graders mastered the ham radio then the 2nd - 5th grade classes got to try it out.

McDowell and the others with Save the Children believe that educating students on the ham radio is crucial because of how effective the technology can be in emergency situations.

After all the students mastered the 2-meter ham radio they received a Students Operating Amateur Radios Certificate of Participation.



Students show their excitement as they communicate via ham radio with the Scott County Boys and Girls Club.



BRANDY LAYMANACE
MORGAN COUNTY NEWS