

## Crosby Elementary: 5th grade—3D printing

Strange how sometimes a failure can teach the most! The 5th graders encountered several set-backs as they worked on 3D printing and were able to turn such challenges into learning opportunities. For example, the printer doesn't account for gravity, so they needed to make supports, to lay the printer on the side or to print the object in segments. The students also learned that all of their shapes needed to be touching in Tinkercad before they print—or the object falls apart. And the group learned that the size of their letters matters—if too small, the 3D printer can't recognize them and they will not print clearly. They kept at it, using the opportunity to refine their work and to try again.

