

**Violette Martin**  
**Grade 5**  
**Cambridge Connections Afterschool Program**  
**Lamoille North Supervisory Union**  
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Cambridge Connections is a fun afterschool program where I choose interesting activities. I have gone to Connections for five years. I get homework help, can be creative, use my imagination, and solve problems.

There are many ways I have been creative in Afterschool. I've taken many different art classes. In one session, I made Kuna Indian Molasses, fabric creations of animals and spirits. I made my grandmother's cats because they are close to me. In another class, I made clay sculptures. I made a whale for my teacher they are one of her favorite things. I imagined what it looked like and then made it. These are two ways I created in Afterschool.

Another cool thing I have done in Afterschool is use my imagination in Painting and Gingerbread House Making. In Painting, I used blank canvas boards to express my imagination. My painting was bright, colorful, and abstract with many different textures. In Gingerbread House Making, I built and decorated my fantasy house made of candy. Using my imagination helped me get out stress and create something with it.

This session, I am taking Design and Build where I have to solve problems with limited resources. I built a structure out of masking tape and index cards that held a stuffed bluejay. In another session, I participated in a Robotics class, which was similar to Design and Build, but used different technology based tools and resources. Solving these problems gets a different part of my brain working than I normally use in school. These classes provide different ways to challenge myself.

Cambridge Connections provides opportunities to be creative, use my imagination, and solve problems through asking questions. It is a valuable resource to me because I have made many friends, tried new things, and learned a lot.