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July 18, 2019

**Photo/Video Opportunity:** Wednesday, July 24, 9 a.m. to noon

## **Solving the Problem of Plastics**

### ***Bellevue students generating ideas in summer program***

**BELLEVUE, Wash.** – Summer vacation often means unplugging and taking a break. Not for a group of students in the Bellevue School District’s [Operation Ideation](#) program.

Students in the three-week program learn and practice the process of Design Thinking, then apply their learning to solve authentic, relevant problems. Design Thinking is a problem-based learning framework that guides and encourages creative yet pragmatic thinking techniques for solving the problems of today and tomorrow. Schools, such as Stanford University, have capitalized on these principles by creating the [d.School](#) and have incorporated it into instruction of all university students.

Because this month is [Plastic Free July](#), students are working on the issue of sustainability. This includes studying the impact of plastic on our environment, as well as ways society might consume less plastic, leading to less waste and reliance on plastic products. Each group will determine a need based on their research and experiences, then ideate possible design solutions, which they will prototype and present to mock clients on July 24.

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