



JP/PRODITA SABARINI

**Creativity contest:** Some students look at photos and clippings displayed in the lobby of Bina Nusantara School in Simprug, South Jakarta. The event is part of the Math and Science Innovation Week that runs from Wednesday to Saturday.

## CREATIVITY

# Kids in battle of wits in math, science

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THE JAKARTA POST/JAKARTA

A group of kids were cheering and clapping at the Bina Nusantara School in Simprug, South Jakarta. Their friends were competing in five different groups in a science and maths quiz.

An enthusiastic teacher asked - in English - the groups of fifth-graders to: "Define the word: force!"

The teacher continued to ask questions about maths and science, such as the name of the front part of the brain - the frontal lobe -, which all five groups answered correctly.

The quiz was part of the school's Math and Science Innovation Week, one of the school's many projects running from March to April.

Bina Nusantara spokeswoman Sheila said the program was aimed

at testing fifth-graders' understanding of concepts such as force, friction, gravity, balance and renewable energy.

Around the classrooms were boards displaying various group projects, with one in particular listing the pros of urbanization. The students wrote some of the benefits of urbanization included more domestic workers and more people to clean the streets of Jakarta.

Fourth-graders, meanwhile, participated in a workshop on energy, where they learned about energy originating from the sun, wind and water.

Aside from the Math and Science Innovation Week for the fourth- and fifth-graders, other students were busy putting together an exhibition. Some 700 students from year four to 11 took part - in March - in a program called Immersion, in which selected

elementary, junior and high school students travelled and stayed for a week in schools in Singapore and China for example. Some students also travelled to cities in Indonesia such as Padang in West Sumatra, Bandung in West Java and Yogyakarta, as well as islands such as Bali and Lombok in West Nusa Tenggara. A select group travelled to Japan and Thailand.

Photos and clippings of their journey were displayed in the school lobby.

Sixth-grader Evita Tifanni, who went to Japan, said she enjoyed the trip.

"We went to Mount Fuji and to Universal Studios," she said.

For sixth-grader Arifianne Fitri, who traveled to Bogor and Bandung, going to the Betawi Kampung and various museums was like a cultural excursion, she said.