

Promotion Page

Volume 5



Tim Hegeholz leads the discussion on concrete and its many uses.



Students construct beams with varying amounts of mix water.

Concrete 101- What's in a Name?

The majority of us in the ready mixed concrete industry have had to explain at one time or another, that the “*cement* driveway” outside of our neighbor’s house is really a “*concrete* driveway.” And when someone says they are going to pour a *cement* patio, we know that they are really going to construct a patio made with *concrete*.

Those of us in the ready mixed concrete industry know the difference between the two related products. But how many people outside of our industry know the difference between cement and concrete? On April 8th, 9th and 10th, close to 120 students learned the difference between Portland cement and ready mixed concrete. The kids watched a video on the making of Portland cement and we led the discussion on the ingredients involved in making concrete.

Paul Dravitzki (Overland Ready Mix), Tim Hegeholz (Ash Grove), Joel Sedlacek (Lafarge) and I took turns teaching and helping the fifth and sixth graders from various elementary schools in the York area. These kids not only left their respective classrooms with a better understanding of concrete and its many uses, but they also had the chance to cast small beams.

These beams will be removed from the forms and tested in two weeks. Half of the class used 200 ml of water while the other half used 250 ml with the same amount of sand and Portland cement. The concept of water/cement ratio will be discussed in relation to beam strengths.

These Concrete 101 classes are an excellent way to teach kids about our industry. If you would like to put on a Concrete 101 course in your local school, please call the NC&AA office. I will supply all of the materials for the 1 hour course.

Promotion Works...in Nebraska

NC&AA Phone-402-325-8414 Fax-402-467-2775

E-Mail- ernie@nebrconcagg.com