

# NEWS RELEASE



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## Vista MESA Students Learn About Wildlife Refuge

LAS CRUCES – On November 18, 2010 Vista Middle School Students in the New Mexico Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA), Inc. program learned about Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and its importance as a vital habitat, said MESA Southwest Regional Coordinator Monica Blea.

“Students celebrated ANWR’s 40th anniversary by making kites that symbolize the migratory journey of many species that spend time in the refuge, including the sandhill crane, which winters more than 4,000 miles away here in New Mexico,” said Blea.



*Vista Middle School MESA team members learning about the Alaska Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Vista teachers and MESA advisors Sandy Hill-Heredia and Josh Wisner are in the back on the right side.*

Photo courtesy of MESA Southwest Regional Coordinator Monica Blea.

“During recent months, thousands of students all over the country participated in this commemoration activity to help celebrate the event,” she said.

More photos can be viewed on MESA's webpage [nmmesa.org](http://nmmesa.org) under "Southwest Region" photos.

For more information, contact Blea at 575.646.1382 or [mblea@nmmesa.org](mailto:mblea@nmmesa.org).