



# Lost Boy of Sudan Visits Hayward



Lost Boy Bol Aweng with John, a student from Niger

A big thank you to Ann Richards-Dellapina for organizing the day and Principal Edna Chapman for providing such a warm welcome.



Bol shared his incredible story of the 1,500-mile journey he took when he was 6 years old. He was forced to walk for months with 35,000 other Lost Boys in search of safety from the Civil War. They faced many hardships including lion attacks, starvation, dehydration and enemy soldiers. He spent 14 years in refugee camps before being relocated to the United States in 2001.



Students looked over Bol's art work, painted rocks and display.



After presenting to the 7<sup>th</sup> graders, Bol went to classrooms to talk with the students and answer their questions. Here were some of those questions:

- What was it like in the refugee camp?
- How long did it take for you to walk to the refugee camp in Kenya?
- Was it hard to adjust to living in the United States?
- How did you learn to draw?
- What are the marks on your forehead?



A news reporter came out to interview Bol, but we're sure that the students also did a great job sharing Bol's story with their families.



Teachers used the book *A Long Walk to Water* to help students understand the many horrible experiences of the Lost Boys.



Students wrote papers about their thoughts on Bol's journey to escape the Civil War. A group was selected to join Bol for lunch. Many students expressed how Bol had taught them perseverance.

