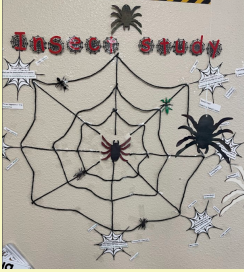


# Madera Regional Head Start

March 2024



## Cottonwood Head Start "Insect Study"



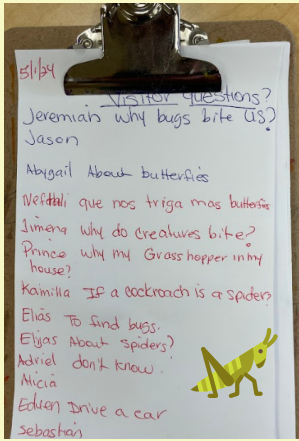
Web of Investigation



The teachers have been providing many hands-on opportunities for children to investigate insects and their curiosity keeps growing and children want to know more. Inviting a Pest Control Expert helped answer some of the questions that the children had. They learned more about spiders, mealworms, crickets and butterflies. One question that through the expert off, was when a child asked if he ever felt sad when he sprayed the bugs? That tells you a lot about how much social-emotional development is also happening throughout the study! Way to go Maria, Trinice, Patricia and Carla!!



Children watched the entire process of caterpillars becoming butterflies.



### Spring SELF-CARE



## Self-Care/Mental Wellness

Mental Wellness is the upmost importance nowadays, especially for Head Start staff because due to the demands of our profession, many of us tend to prioritize the needs of others over our own wellbeing. The National Head Start Association is providing us with a "Free" digital mental health program called "Starling Minds" which makes self care easy, practical and empowering. Scan the QR Code and create an account to have full access to this resource for you and also your family members. Access Code: NHSAMEMBER or for family members: NHSAFAMILY. Organization Name: Community Action Partnership of Madera County



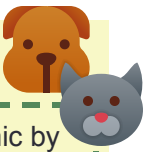
**Self-Care Challenge:**  
If you create a Starling Minds account, you will be entered into a prize drawing. Click below to enter:



<https://forms.gle/ryUfAJHJiDFVkv1d8>

REGISTER

# Valley West Pet Study



The children had a blast exploring the Veterinarian Clinic by pretending to groom pets, feed them, take care of their medical needs, teach them how to do tricks and care for their habitats. Families participated in their "Adopt a Pet" program, where they enjoyed bringing home a stuffed pet for the week and then they shared their experience and pictures with the teachers. Children participated in weekly STEM challenges which included creating homes for pets using a variety of materials. Creativity flowed out of the children as they created sculptures and paintings of assorted animals. The closing event was a "Pet Show," families created pets out of recycled materials and they participated in a pet show describing the materials they used. Everyone walked away with a blue ribbon for "Best of Show." Way to go Nancy, Rosa, Evelyn and Marissa for making this study the best learning experience for your students and families.



## Professional Development

Madera County Office of Education has a VIRTUAL training offered to anyone with a CA registry number.

3/23/2024

Virtual: Literacy Through Songs,  
Rhymes & Read Alouds  
From 9:00-10:30

Please register at:

<https://www.caregistry.org/>

**Please reach out if you need help registering!**

This is a great opportunity to get the PD hours needed for your permit.



## Instructional Support

We are always looking for strategies which will help increase the quality of Instructional Support in our classrooms. We don't have to look too far, because it may be something as simple as asking a few closed-ended questions to get us there.

Teachstone suggests that there is value in asking closed-ended questions, please click on the link below to learn more about how to apply this strategy to increase language modeling in your interactions with students.

<https://info.teachstone.com/blog/value-closed-ended-questions>

**If you have any questions or need any support, please feel free to reach out to Julie Gowin (559) 507-8027 or email me: [jgowin@maderacap.org](mailto:jgowin@maderacap.org)**