

**A** fun and exciting way to expand children's learning is through project webs. They are also a dynamic way to incorporate Key Learning Experiences into children's activities.

### Toddlers

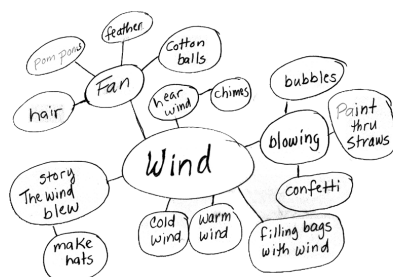
#### MOVEMENT

The children in our toddler class are the new movers and shakers of San Ramon. The long running project on movement included a variety of exciting activities. The children made a marching band with music and instruments, played Ring Around the Rosey, Stop and Go games, climbed in and out of boxes, and crawled through tunnels. You may think Simon Says is just a game, but for these toddlers, it stimulates learning in many areas of early development. Language, communication, spatial relations (stand up, sit down), and following simple instructions.



### Two's

#### WIND



We brought in a fan to see what it would blow. It blew our hair and other things. We brought out pin wheels to see the wind and then we tied streamers to the fence. We blew bubbles and confetti using straws. We could feel the wind as we blew on our friends and on ourselves. Now we wondered if we could hear the wind. We put up wind chimes out in our yard. When the wind blew we heard it. We made hats and then went on a hat parade outside to see if the wind would blow our hats off. Some of our hats did blow off. We read the book *The Wind Blew* and then we made kites and tried to fly them. They didn't go very high but it was sure fun. We noticed clouds moving in the sky and thought maybe the wind was blowing them. This led us into weather and rain. You can do a lot with the wind.



### Pre-K

#### EDIBLE PARTS OF PLANTS



The science area in this Lafayette Pre-K room is set up to extend the learning in the current project web. Children can plant seeds, and experiment with root vegetables like carrots, beets, and potatoes, to see how they grow. Many art and science activities were included in this project web, such as children drawing pictures of root vegetables.



Some criteria for successful project webs:

Subject and activities that hold the children's interests.

Topics are relevant to their lives at the time.

Children can interact with the subject; observe, taste, feel, or go on a field trip.

The subject is broad enough to cover a wide range of learning experiences, counting, measuring, and art activities.

The subject provides a foundation for future learning.

Children can answer questions and talk about what they have learned.

The topics reflect positive values and healthy lifestyles.

# Project Webs - at The Child Day Schools

## Three's

## BUGS

Many wondrous activities have been happening in our Moraga Three's class. Feeling their way through the earth in the sensory table prepared the children for an outdoor adventure at a local creekside habitat where they discovered many insects: centipedes, ants, sow bugs, beetles, and even salamanders and newts! (Much to the surprise of the resident gardener!)



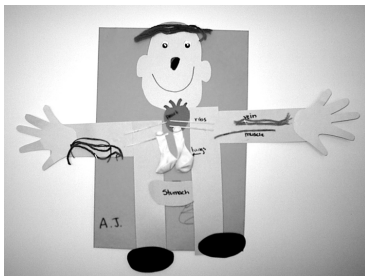
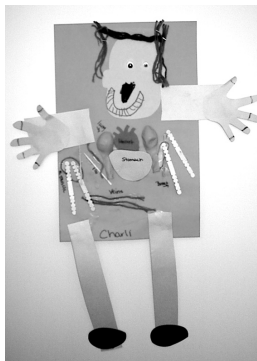
Using your imagination can be fun. Making bug eye glasses out of egg cartons, coloring your own butterfly wings, pretending you can fly. These children discovered which bugs fly, and some that stay on the ground. Many of them also learned what "metamorphosis" means.



## Pre-K

## SAME AND DIFFERENT

Pleasanton Pre-K children are exploring what is the same and what is different about our bodies. Learning about all the good things inside us has raised so many questions for these Pre-Kindergarteners! "How does blood come out when you have a boo-boo?" "How do bones stay together?" "Why don't you have any teeth when you're a baby?"



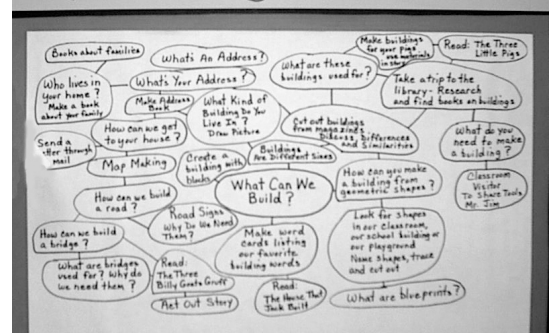
The children studied unidentified baby pictures of their friends to determine who was who. These exercises were excellent for developing logical thinking, as well as social and classification skills. They will be learning more about their bodies using books, and pictures, and even a visit from a doctor.

Topics for Project Webs are usually a combination of what the children are showing an interest in, and how the teacher assesses the learning needs of that group. Are lots of families having babies? Is a family moving? These are real life situations that

## Pre-K

## WHAT CAN WE BUILD?

### Project Webbing: What Can We Build?

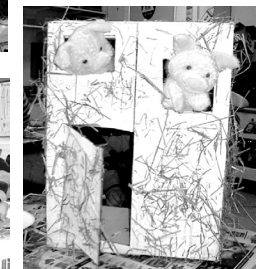


Just like the models made by architects, this Antioch pre-K class constructed castles, and houses, and even complete cities. They used clay and blocks, and paper towel rolls, and many other interesting materials. They described their creations and wrote down the words.

The class read the story of the Three Little Pigs, and decided to build their own houses of straw, sticks, and bricks. Then puppets were introduced so the houses



could be used for a dramatic production. This has been a project rich with



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