



Pacifica's Mobile Nature & Horticulture Center

"The All – Encompassing ECO-WEB" Kindergarten and First Grade Program Outline

Introduction: All of life is interdependent on each other. Within each habitat are niches where the most fragile of species can be found. Each organism is part of a larger ECO-WEB called life. Students will learn how all living things are parts of this fragile web. As students enter, they will be given the names of creatures and plants. During the discussion of the interdependence of all things, the "student-creatures" will be temporarily connected by a string in an appropriate eco-web sequence. In addition, there will be a discussion of the finiteness of the earth's resources.

NATURE CENTER STATION OBJECTIVES:

1. To discuss how all living things are interconnected.
2. To observe a colony of ants.
3. To discuss how an ant may see the world.
4. To examine the pyramid of energy.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Students will play a game that shows the pyramid of energy.
2. Students will observe an ant colony and discuss how different creatures see the world.

HORTICULTURE CENTER STATION OBJECTIVES:

1. To explore the importance of plant life is to humans and other creatures.
2. To describe how plants are used in the world by humans and other creatures.
3. To discuss how important plants are to humans and other creatures.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Students will discuss how plants are used today in the world.
2. Students will plant seeds.

Pacifica's Mobile Nature and Horticultural Center Curriculum

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Connections to the Certificate of Initial Mastery (CIM) Standards:
Nature Center Objectives –

Unifying Concepts and Processes: Understand and apply major concepts and processes common to all sciences.

Common Curriculum Goal: Apply relationship concepts of population, equilibrium, force, interaction, field, structure, and function, time and space, and order.

Content Standards: Use concepts and processes of – Systems, order, and organization.
Leads to Benchmark at Grade 3:

1. Student will be able to recognize and diagram parts of a system.

Content Standards: Use concepts and processes of – Evidence, models, and explanation.

Leads to Benchmark at Grade 3:

1. Student will be able to compare objects, drawings, and constructions to the real things they represent.

Life Science: Understand structures, functions, and interactions of living organisms and the environment.

Common Curriculum Goal: ORGANISMS – Understand the characteristics, structure, and functions of organisms.

Content Standards: Describe the characteristics, structure, and functions of organisms.

Leads to Benchmark at Grade 3:

1. Student will be able to classify organisms based on a variety of characteristics.

Life Science: Understand structures, functions, and interactions of living organisms and the environment.

Common Curriculum Goal: DIVERSITY/INTERDEPENDENCE – Understand the relationships among living things and between living things and their environment.

Content Standards: Explain the interdependence of organisms in their natural environment.

Leads to Benchmark at Grade 3:

1. Describe the habitat and the organisms that live there.

Horticulture Center Objectives –

Unifying Concepts and Processes: Understand and apply major concepts and processes common to all sciences.

Common Curriculum Goal: Apply relationship concepts of population, equilibrium, force, interaction, field, structure, and function, time and space, and order.

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Scientific Inquiry: Use interrelated processes to pose questions and investigate the physical and living world.

Common Curriculum Goal: Formulate and express scientific questions and hypotheses to be investigated.

Content Standard: Formulate and express scientific questions and hypotheses to be investigated.

Leads to or Meets Benchmark at Grade 5: Ask questions and make predications that are based on observations and can be explored through simple investigations.

1. Ask questions about objects, and events in the world.
2. Identify questions that can be explored through scientific investigation.

Background Information: It is included in the front pocket of each grade level activity.

Post-Activities:

1. There is information about several possible post-visit activities in the back pocket of each grade level's folder.