



Nature Immersion

Weekly Recap

Week of:	January 21-24
Quote of the week	"The way we talk to our children becomes their inner voice." -Peggy O'Mara
Conscious connection	The Power of Unity. BIG IDEA: We're all in this together. GOAL: To perceive compassionately, and offer compassion to others and ourselves.
Birthdays 	<u>Happy Birthday to our School Family Members!</u>
NI News 	Coincidentally, as we learn about bugs in our play space, we happened to have caught a viral bug that has made its way around a few of our school family members. We love playing with your kiddos but please be mindful of any symptoms that may indicate the bug has made its way to you. We wish you well and rested!
The More You KNow...	This upcoming week we will be focusing on habitats; nests, trees, dirt, and our own homes. Please donate cardboard boxes, toilet paper rolls, or any natural/recycled materials for us to build our own habitats!
NI	<p>This week, our focus was on bugs in our backyard. When entering the playspace, students established which bug they would be for the day. We used cardboard boxes to create a life size bug hotel. Children also had the opportunity to create a bug with egg cartons, toilet paper rolls, or pinecones.</p> <p>We created a thinking map to show what we already know about bugs, this gives us a baseline of what we know (live underground, different kind of bugs, eat dirt and wood, can have wings, can have a lot of eyes) , what we're interested in (ladybugs, grasshoppers, cockroaches, millipedes, butterflies) and what we want to learn (what does habitat look like, how do bugs grow, what do they do). We learned that a lot of bugs grow from larvae or come from an egg.</p>

At the beginning of the week, we were lucky enough to find a caterpillar eating kale. After reading *A Butterfly is Patient*, we learned that our caterpillar has white, green, and black stripes, which means it will be a Monarch butterfly. The students named our new friend Caterpillar, we will see how long his name lasts! We learned that caterpillar eggs hatch **under** leaves and spoke about what under means as well as over. This sparked a great debate and we talked about opposites (up/down, day/night, happy/sad, calm/mad), we sang an interactive song to learn about opposites. We were also very fortunate to have Ms. Amanda-Rose, an entomologist who works with the upper school, visit and teach us about her insect friends. Ms. Amanda-Rose found an American Cockroach for us and the students were beyond excited! We talked about beetles such as ladybugs and cockroaches being an oval shape, as well as how their bodies protect them.

Students were very eager to find bugs and explore their new friends. We noticed they need dirt, plants, and air when finding a home. On our nature walk, we found really fine bark on Pine trees. The bark was thin and able to be used like paper. We did not see many bugs on our nature walk, we understand that a lot bugs are hidden underground. We will continue to explore our own backyard and discover what makes our space a home for all kinds of creatures!

