

Hello Vashon Island Families and Friends!

This week in the Vashon Island Classroom our focus was about the Earth and our surroundings. We had many discussions about the Earth, the living and non-living things that encompass the Earth and things that people (whom are also animals) can do to help protect the Earth. Stella explained that “the Earth is a planet.” Milo added that the Earth is “the thing that we live on.” This led to a further discussion about all the things that make up the planet including animals, plants, water, air, infrastructure, etc... The children also discussed about the degradation of the environment, including pollution and waste. Miles stated “that we don’t want to get Mother Earth mad!” Then the children came up with a plethora of solutions to help our planet, which included throwing our garbage in a garbage can, recycling, composting, turning off lights when they are not being used, turning off the water while brushing teeth, and reusing our materials. Harley was insightful with her statement “if we clean the Earth, it will just get dirty again.” We all agreed that we need to do our part to help keep our waters, air, and soils clean.

Thank you for such a wonderful Earth Day! The school grounds look beautiful. We planted various herbs, vegetables, flowers, and even Kiwi fruit trees. It is an incredible experience for the children to develop a connection to the foods they eat. The children will be a part of the entire intricate process and experience, beginning with the planting and resulting with the pleasure of eating. The children will be responsible for watering and taking care of our plants. It will be so amazing to watch the garden grow!



This week we further investigated about insects through observations of the Stick Insects, also known as Walking Sticks. To our surprise they are nocturnal, even though they appear to be active during the day. We also learned that the females are larger than the males and that it takes 200 days

for the eggs to hatch and each female can lay up to 300 eggs! We discovered that they are vegetarians and prefer to eat Ivy, Blackberry and Raspberry leafs as well as Rhodendrun. We have heaps of Stick Insects so if anybody is interested in bringing some home please let us know!



Sincerely Your Teachers,

Whitney and Eric