

# Montessori School of Central Marin

SUMMER PROGRAM GUIDE 2021

## Invertebrates and Marine Wildlife

Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup> – Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup>

Registration is available by the week or by the month with the same programs offered during the school year. During the summer we offer weekly enrollment to better accommodate your family's needs.

This summer our focus will be on invertebrates and marine wildlife. The purpose of teaching preschoolers about our world and different types of creatures is to foster awareness about how wonderful and amazing our natural world is. At this age, children are very curious and enjoy discovering information about their world, including the way other animals are built and function!

During the summer the regular Montessori activity period occurs simultaneously in the morning and afternoon, with the classroom activities modified to encompass the weeks' theme. The regular Montessori curriculum includes the following four major areas:

- ❖ Practical Life focuses on activities in self-help skills, care of the environment, food preparation (TBD), grace and courtesy.
- ❖ Sensorial develops and refines the child's senses – visual, tactile, auditory, gustatory and olfactory.
- ❖ Language Arts develops receptive language in listening/reading, expressive language and speaking/writing.
- ❖ Mathematics develops skills in linear counting, understanding quantity/symbol relationship, base ten and operations.

In addition the following activities will be offered:

- ❖ Outdoor Water Play (for the children not napping) on warm days at 1 PM (please send a bathing suit & towel)
- ❖ Outdoor "Olympic Games" each Friday morning
- ❖ Gardening

**SUMMER HOLIDAYS: No School & No Daycare**

June 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> – CLOSED *staff preparation for Summer Program*

July 5<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day observed, *national holiday*

August 30<sup>th</sup> – CLOSED *staff preparation for School Year*

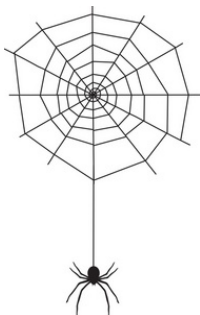
### Summer Program Reminders:

- *Payment is due by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month*
- *Changes to enrollment plans must be made with at least 2 weeks notice prior to the start of the month.*

## June

### Invertebrates of the Land: Insects

### June 14



### Invertebrates: Spiders

How are spiders different from insects? Let's take a leg count! We will explore different kinds of spiders: Jumping Spiders, Wolf Spiders, and Spinning Spiders. The basic parts of the spider will be identified. *Charlotte's Web*, the classic children's story, will be shared with the children as well as a spider art project, songs, books and videos related to spiders.

- Monday morning gymnastics (Gymnastics Bus)
- Water play on warm days in the afternoon

### June 21

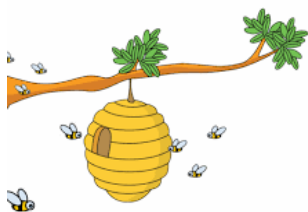


### Invertebrates: Common Insects

How are insects different from spiders? Let's find out! The basic parts of the insect as well as the life cycle will be identified. Children will have the opportunity to participate in art projects, songs, books and videos related to insects.

- Water play on warm days in the afternoon

### June 28



### Invertebrates: Insects & their Communities

The amazing habits and division of labor found in some insect communities are explored. In particular, the children will observe the ants and bees in their community and in nature. Ant and bee art projects, songs, books and videos related to them will be shared.

- Water play on warm days in the afternoon

### July 5



### Invertebrates: Butterflies

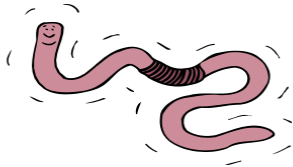
The grandness of metamorphosis is seen as the butterfly is studied. A real caterpillar and its habitat are in the classroom from the beginning of the summer so the children see the creation of the cocoon and the transformation from caterpillar to butterfly. The parts of the butterfly and the life cycle will be presented. Butterfly and caterpillar art projects, songs, books and videos related will be shared.

- Water play on warm days in the afternoon
- **Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup> Independence Day Holiday – No School, No Daycare**

### July

#### Invertebrates of the Land & the Sea

July 12

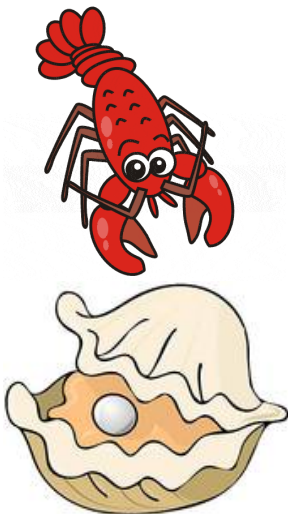


### **Invertebrates: Earthworms**

The earthworm will be observed in its natural habitat in our garden as well as in the classroom. The parts of the earthworm and the life cycle of the earthworm will be presented. A worm art project, songs, books and videos related to worms will be shared.

- Water play on warm days in the afternoon

July 19



### **Marine Invertebrates: Crustaceans, Mollusks, Shell Animals of the Sea**

Crustaceans such as lobster, shrimp, and crayfish, are the water parallel to spiders and insects. The children will explore the ways in which spiders and insects are similar to their water counter parts, the lobster, shrimp and crayfish. Mollusks are all those soft-bodied animals that quite often have shells (clams, mussels, oysters) as a protection (although not octopus and squid). This week there will be a lobster art project, as well as songs and books related to crustaceans. The children will also learn the basic parts of the snail and their life cycle. A snail art project, songs, books and videos related to mollusks will be shared.

- Water play on warm days in the afternoon

July 26



### **Marine Invertebrates: Shells, Home of our Soft-Bodied Friends**

The shells we find at the shore were made by mollusks. The children are introduced to the secretion mechanism the mollusk uses to produce the shell. Different mollusks and the shells they produce will be examined and classified. A shell art project, songs, books and videos related to shells will be shared.

- Water play on warm days in the afternoon

### August

#### Invertebrates of the Sea & Marine Animals

**August 2**



### **Marine Invertebrates: Starfish, Sand Dollars, Sea Urchins, and Sponges**

Starfish, sand dollars, sea urchins, and sea sponges are unique creatures of the sea that make up the animal phyla echinoderm. The *echinoderm* or starfish has five “arms” stretched out from the central body. The digestive system of the starfish is unique. The children will have real models to feel and examine. The life cycle of the starfish will be shared. This week an art project, songs, books and videos related to starfish, sand dollars, sea urchins, and sea sponges will be shared.

- Water play on warm days in the afternoon

**August 9**

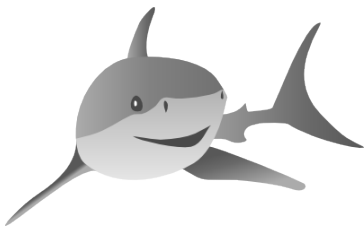


### **Marine Wildlife: Jellies**

So delicate and harmless looking, but how they can sting! Jellyfish and other animals in the same phylum of *cnidaria* will be examined. Parts of the jellyfish will be identified. We will learn of the nematocysts, which are located along the tentacles, they give off a burning chemical that helps in the animal’s defense and stuns their prey! The life cycle of the cnidarian is fascinating and will be explored. A jellyfish art project, songs, books and videos related to jellyfish will be shared.

- Water play on warm days in the afternoon

**August 16**

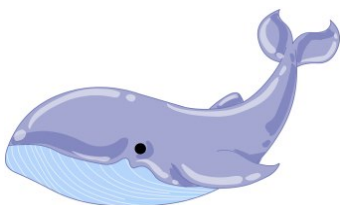


### **Marine Wildlife: Sharks**

Sharks, unlike the other creatures studied thus far, have a spinal column and ribs, making them vertebrates. The children will explore the differences between a sea fish and a sea mammal. The children will be exposed to several species of shark. A shark art project, songs books and videos related to sharks will be shared this week.

- Water play on warm days in the afternoon

**August 23**



### **Marine Wildlife: Whales**

The largest of marine animals, our last week of the summer will focus on whales. The children will learn that like sharks, whales are invertebrates, but because whales bear live young, they are mammals; not fish. The children will learn about different kinds of whales. This week the children will participate in a whale art project as well as sing songs, watch videos and read books related to whales.

- Water play on warm days in the afternoon

**Last Day of Summer School: Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**Teacher Workday: Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**2021-2022 School Year begins Tuesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>**