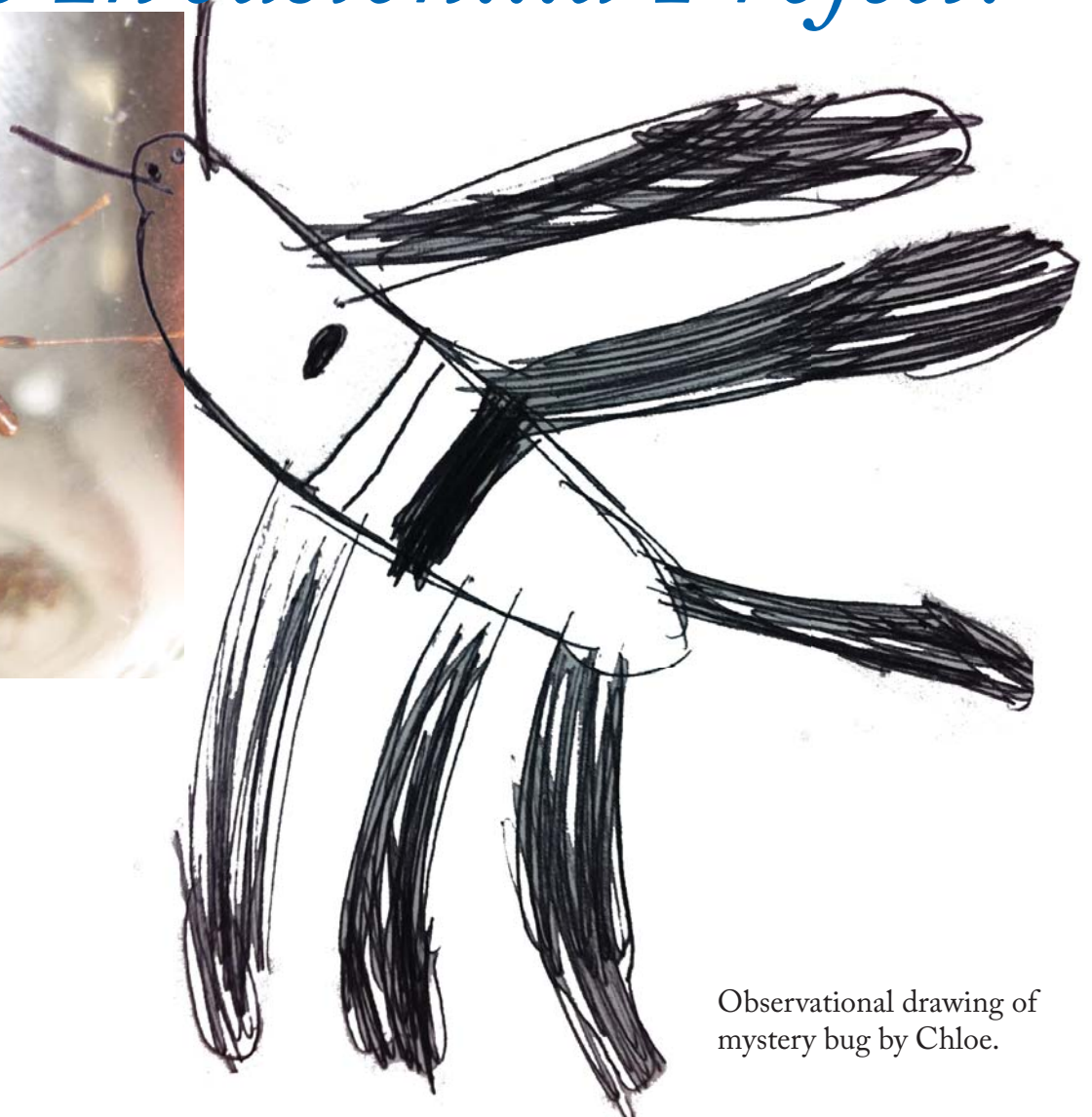


Lab Report

A Reggio Inspired/Project -Based Learning Community

What Do You Do With an Insect Invasion...a Project!



Observational drawing of mystery bug by Chloe.

What do you do when insects invade your classroom...a project of course! At most schools when insects invade a classroom, the exterminator is called. Well, we called the exterminator too, but the mystery bugs have also provoked interest in a project in Miss Estridge's classroom.

Shortly after school began, these unusual bugs began appearing in her classroom. The children found them fascinating and began catching them to place in jars around the classroom. The children became keenly



Isabella and Jamaria observe the Praying Mantis.

interested in what kind of bug these invaders were. So, on the day the exterminator came to school we asked. He told us that he has been an exterminator for more than 10 years, but he has never seen this particular bug! Knowing the exterminator did not even recognize the bug only further motivated the children to find out what kind of insect was sharing the classroom with them.

A few days after the project to learn about insects began, Mrs. Grotjan found a Praying Mantis at home and brought it to school as well for the children to study. The children learned that a Praying Mantis survives by eating other insects, especially crickets. So, Miss Estridge brought crickets to school as well (the kind used for fishing).

The children have been observing the insects, drawing the insects, modelling the

insects out of Play Doh and other materials. They have been reading books about insects and they have even generated a list of questions for which they are trying to find the answers. Keep track of this project on our blog and in future newsletters. Once the children figure out what the name of this mystery insect is, we will let you know.

Martavious created a model of a Praying Mantis from materials he found in the classroom and the Studio.



Martavious and Daytwon made bug finders for the classroom.



Daysia created a model of a Praying Mantis from Play Doh.

Larry helped by writing "bug finder" on the devices.





Mrs. Bucher's class began constructing familiar buildings downtown including Lucas Oil Stadium, Circle Center Mall, Monument Circle, a hotel and a church connected by a system of roads.

Book club members, Ruth and Leah sorting our new reader's workshop books.



Children in Mrs Argus's class made paper helicopters in the studio and tested their designs. Children experimented with throwing them, dropping them from different heights and adding 1, 2, and 3 paperclips for weight to compare how they flew.

Snapshots



During our NFL back to football celebration, children in Mrs. Estridge's class made writer's workshop books about football.



Parents and Staff Thinking and Planning Together



On Thursday, September 15th, parents and staff members met for the first time to begin thinking about what a parent organization at a school like ours can become. A guiding question for our group is how can a parent organization be meaningful to parents, to staff, to the community, and most importantly to the children? Bob Price (Lab School parent) facilitated the meeting during which the big ideas that could guide our organization were discussed. The discussions were thoughtful and everyone in attendance seemed to enjoy the time we spent together. It was a joy to see that after the meeting had ended, everyone stayed to spend more time together talking about our children and our school. Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, October 6th at 6:00 PM. If you could not join us for the first meeting, we hope you can find the time to be with us on the 6th!



Peewinkle's Puppeteer Visits Mrs. Bucher's Classroom



This past week, Debbi, a puppeteer from Peewinkle's Puppet Theater visited Mrs. Bucher's classroom to share information on different kinds of puppets with the children. She brought paper puppets for the class to make, and she gave a short presentation on different kinds of puppets. Several parents were able to join the class for the presentation on puppets, making it a very special day indeed!

The children are currently working on a various puppet shows including; The Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Runaway Pancake, and The Princess and the Frog. Some students have even begun to mix the puppet shows with Writer's Workshop by writing books about puppets! We all look forward to seeing the children's puppet shows when they are performed.



Jett working on creating his wolf puppet for the class puppet show.



Jonah wrote about puppets during Writer's Workshop.

Important Dates:

September 21st	Afternoon and Evening	Parent/Teacher Conferences
October 6th	During School	Picture Day
October 6th	6:00 PM	Parent Organization Meeting
October 8th - 23rd	No School (No Childcare)	Fall Break