



We are so "Lucky" to have awesome teachers like you!



## Spotlight of Success North Fork Head Start

Teaching Staff: Marty Mendoza, Natalie Gray Area Manager: Courtney Berk Advocate: Connie Kapko



**THANK YOU  
FOR BEING  
AN AMAZING  
ONLINE TEACHER!**



North Fork Head Start has been offering virtual learning since the beginning of year and what a great experience they are having implementing the "Sign" study. Marty intentionally chose this study because she believed that it would be an interactive learning subject in a virtual setting but also saw the potential for offering field studies so the children and families could meet in person and explore signs in their community. The study started out with the children making their own room sign with their name.

The children decorated and hung it up on their bedroom door. Next, the families met at a busy community corner to observe the traffic and building signs. They took a short walk to the post office to explore signs in the building; children were noticing shapes, letters, numbers, colors and gaining understanding that signs tell us information. On another field study, the families were invited to meet at the library to explore signs in the building. "You don't realize how many signs are out there, until you are intentionally looking for them, signs are everywhere!" said Marty.

## Self-Care



NHSA's Starling Minds Mental Fitness is a self-care resource available 24/7 with many tools! This includes, self-guided sessions, webinars, video library, exercises and a skills toolbox.

These resources are also available in Spanish.

Sign-up today at: <https://info.starlingminds.com/nhsa>

## Happy Birthday



Surprise, there were no "March" birthday's reported to celebrate. We will have to store up our excitement as we celebrate our "April" birthdays. Please feel free to send me your name to include in next month's coaching corner.

Welcome to the team!



Chances are, you have seen Lynnea Pickens around. Whether she is helping to support our classroom or working for the Strengthening Family Program, we all agree she is a great asset to our agency!

Here is a little more about Lynnea: I have worked for the agency for 6 years. I am creative, patient, and a fast learner. I enjoy building relationships with children. I am currently going to Fresno Pacific University and graduate with my BA in Child Development in May 2023

We are thankful for your support and appreciate all you do!

## "Our teachers have hearts of Gold"

### Important Dates:



Site Supervisors Meeting  
3-16-2023  
2:00-4:00

Community of Practice  
3-31-23  
8:30-10:30 a.m.



This is a "sneak-peak" at the items that will be available for checkout as we are preparing to create study kits which will be filled with learning materials to enhance your interest areas. We will keep you updated when they are ready to be reserved.



## Professional Development



Professional Learning Series  
The California Preschool Instructional Network  
Region: 7-Central Valley

### Language and Literacy: Dialogic Reading

Date: March 14, 2023  
Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
Who: Supervisors, teachers, and staff  
Cost: No Cost  
Location: Virtual: A zoom link will be sent to all registered participants.



- In this interactive session, participants will:
- Discuss the language and literacy foundations with a focus on dialogic reading.
  - Recognize the language and literacy strategies outlined in the framework that focus on dialogic reading.



To register using Workforce Registry, make sure you are logged in to your Registry account, then refer to your email which contains the registration process and registration links. To create an account on Workforce Registry, visit <https://www.caregistry.org/>

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## SCIENCE MINUTE



We have insect and gardening studies which both involve flowers, why not take the opportunity to incorporate this science experiment into your discovery area.



[stevespangler.com/ss-video/519669432](https://www.stevespangler.com/ss-video/519669432)

If you have any questions or need any support, please feel free to call your PD Coach, Julie Gowin at 507-8027 or you can reach me by email: [jgowin@maderacap.org](mailto:jgowin@maderacap.org)