East Hills 4-H

March Newsletter 2019

Table of contents

4-H Archery Report for Mr. Lee

Archery was at the Redwood Bowman clubhouse in the Oakland hills on March 5. It was very wet and raining so we did archery class under a wooden roof to stay dry. We shot at paper connected onto a frame with magnets instead of the normal targets. Mr. Lee taught me about doing the correct hand and feet positions. I also learned how to put my arrow correctly in a modern type bow because I was always used to using an old-time bow. The modern bow was much easier to shoot for me.

Mr. Lee is also my 4H science teacher and he gave me an assignment to talk about a favorite scientist. He told Nicole and I to write a list to figure out our three favorite scientists. Mr. Lee is very smart and knows a lot about science, archery, math, music and knows all this really cool stuff about everything that you can only imagine. My mom also thinks he is really smart.

Primary Makerspace

At our March Primary Makerspace meeting, we made spheres and strings out of sodium alginate. Sodium alginate is a long tangle-y molecule that comes from seaweed. When it is combined with a calcium chloride solution, the molecules tangle together to form a different shapes. If the sodium alginate is added drop by drop, it forms little balls. If it is poured in, it makes strings. If the calcium chloride is added to the sodium alginate, it makes a big ball. The balls and strings are squishy. Some fancy restaurants use this to make interesting foods, but our chemicals weren't pure enough for eating.

We also made paper and cardboard boats. Each boat had a notch at the back. When we put a drop of soap in the notch, sometimes the boat would move. This happened because the soap messed up the surface tension of the water behind the boat. Surface tension is the interaction between molecules on the surface of the water.