

# Letters from Students



***"I liked going in the sleeping hut. We saw some of the furs from animals the Ohlone hunted. The rabbit blanket was very soft."***

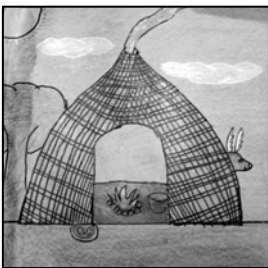


***"We saw squirrels and birds and deer on our walk. The Ohlone used plants and trees to make tools and houses and medicine."***



***"Thank you for telling us about all the things the Ohlone did to live. They took care of their land."***

***"I liked the Village. My favorite part was going in the sweathouse."***



***"I liked pounding the acorns. It took a lot of time and we didn't get very much acorn powder. The women did this a lot during the day. The men hunted."***

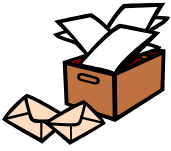
The Deer Hollow Farm Native American Ohlone classes comprise about 40% of the classes held in the Farm's educational program. Third and fourth graders hike through the surrounding Rancho San



Antonio Open Space Preserve to Deer Hollow Farm's replica Ohlone Village for hands-on activities such as hoop and spear throwing, acorn grinding, and face-painting. Students describe their field trip experience in their letters and drawings to their docents, who have shared them with us.



***"My favorite part was the hoop and spear game. It took a lot of practice to get good throwing the spear. Then when they grew up they could hunt better."***



# What the Teachers Say



Vargas Elementary School

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Thanks so much for the opportunity you provide our students by making scholarships possible for schools. This Farm & Garden field trip demonstrates and supports our science lessons (i.e., what do animals provide and need) to the children in a very fun, hands-on way. Our students look forward to their visit to Deer Hollow with much anticipation.

Mrs. Schertler  
Monta Loma Elementary School

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Our Deer Hollow Farm Wilderness Field Trip was amazing. Each docent knew many exciting facts about nature and could relate them to the kids.



The kids were fascinated and enjoyed the hike. Thank you!

Sumangala Prasad  
Monta Loma Elementary School

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Thanks to your scholarships, we were able to bring 80 low-income, urban kids out to Deer Hollow Farm. None had any experience hiking or visiting a wilderness area. The trip gave them a true nature experience and a reason to want to respect and conserve our environment. Thanks!

Donna Abernathy



Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Most of my third grade students have never been in a place as wild as Deer Hollow Farm. It is a wondrous experience to watch their eyes widen and their bodies slow down as they immerse themselves in the natural world of the Ohlone. It is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for many of my students.

Molly Hastings  
Vargas Elementary School

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

My students enjoyed their field trip immensely and couldn't stop talking about what they did and what they learned. For many, the time just flew by and they were sorry they had to leave. Without your support, we wouldn't have been able to expose our students to this life-changing experience. My students are English learners from a socio-economically-deprived area of San Jose with parents that work around the clock to provide for their families. Few have the opportunity or time to venture out into the

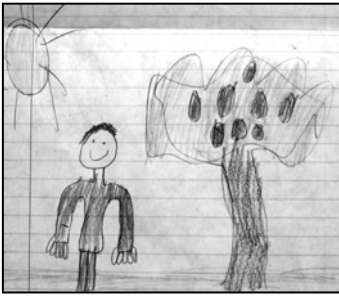


countryside and partake in such activities. This field trip was so valuable to these young third graders who rarely go further than a few city blocks. Thank you!

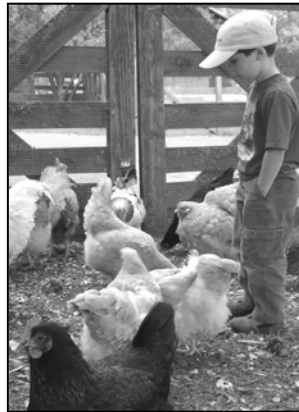
Maria Kettmann  
O.B. Whaley Elementary School



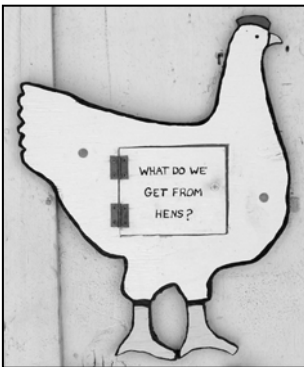
# Letters from Students



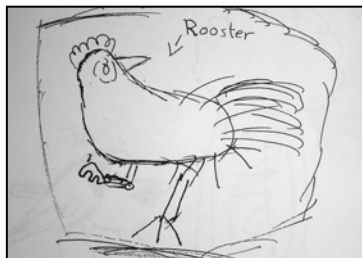
***"We went into a fruit tree forest. That's where the apples and pears grow. It's called an orchard."***



***"A chicken lays only one egg a day. If you want three eggs for breakfast, you need three hens, which are girl chickens."***



***"I liked opening the doors on the signs. You get asked a question and then you can see the answer when you open the door."***



***"Roosters are the boy chickens. They don't lay eggs."***



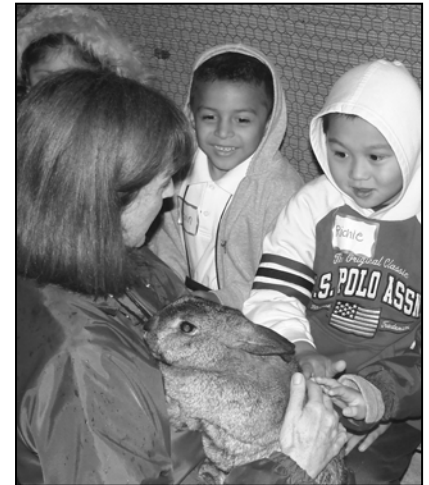
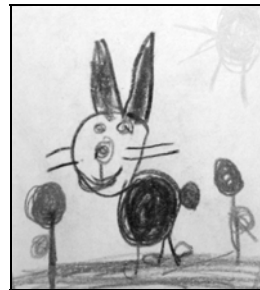
***"Worms are good for the garden, and gophers are not, because they eat the roots."***



***"We picked some carrots and some peas and then we ate them."***



***"I liked the rabbits best. They like carrots. And they get to play in the same yard as the chickens."***

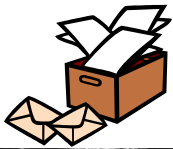


***The Farm and Garden classes in the Deer Hollow Farm educational program are held for kindergarteners. During their two-hour visit to this working homestead farm, the children learn about the source of their food. They visit goats, sheep, pigs,***

***chickens, ducks, rabbits and geese in their pens and learn how the farmer cares for the animals***



***and what the animals give to us. They learn about recycling, minimizing waste, and sustainable agriculture. Students describe their field trip experience in their letters and drawings to their docents, who have shared them with us.***



## What the Teachers Say

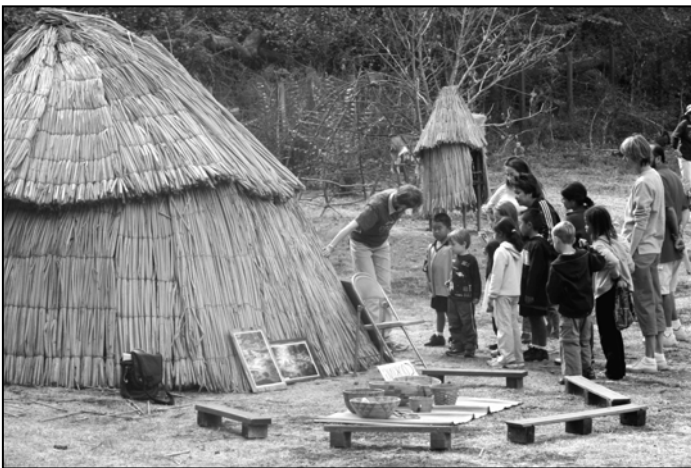


Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

It was the first time that some of my students had ever seen a compost pile. The field trip was well-organized. I loved the way the students were broken up into groups. All the students were in awe of the goat being milked. You could have heard a pin drop.  
Celestina Finkle  
Schallenberger Elementary School

Several of my students have never been to a farm or have been that close to farm animals. Just looking at their faces was a delight. When we returned we wrote in our Journals about what they learned. Their drawings and entries were wonderful. Thank you so much for the fabulous class.

Debbie Pearsal  
Schallenberger Elementary School



Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Our 3rd graders truly enjoyed their visit to the Ohlone Village. Seeing first-hand how Native Americans lived will stay in their minds longer than any textbook reading. Many students had never spent so much time out in nature. Finally, they learned about being kind to the environment with a "garbage-less" lunch. Thank you for a wonderful field trip.

Andree Blevins



Cherrywood Elementary School

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

What a wonderful treat it was to visit Deer Hollow. The children were amazed to see this wilderness area just a few miles from their home. They loved the hike to the farm led by trained docents who treated them to an informative, hands-on experience of carding, dyeing, and spinning sheep wool.

Thank you to all the contributors who make it possible for our children to enjoy these invaluable field trips that bring learning alive.

Melinda Witmeyer  
Theuerkauf Elementary School

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Thank you for supporting our class trip to Deer Hollow Farm. The children were excited to share their stories with me and their friends. They learned a lot and will remember this trip for years to come!

Jennifer Jensen  
Landels Elementary School

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Thank you so very much for the opportunity to bring my students to Deer Hollow Farm. The docents were wonderful, knowledgeable, and great with the children. The kids started learning the first five minutes with the docents and never stopped. Having this up-close-and-personal experience with nature sparked an ongoing curiosity in my students. They have continued to notice, ask and learn about what they see in nature every day. Thank you,  
Bonnie Malouf  
Castro Elementary School

Thanks so much for the opportunity you provide our students by providing scholarships. The experience provides students with much needed real life experience which keeps them talking and writing about farms for months! This was our favorite field trip of the year!

Nerissa VanTuyl  
Castro Elementary School

Our kids had so much to say about the Farm after our trip! Thanks so much for providing them with this special opportunity.  
Melanie Ramirez  
Castro Elementary School

# Letters from Students

***"I had such a wonderful time at Deer Hollow. The best part was pretending that we were the Ohlone. My favorite part of the Village was pounding acorns. The acorns felt smooth, the top was a little rough. I liked how the Ohlone used the Elderberry tree to make nice music. You are the best tour teacher ever!"***  
**--Mariana**



***"I had fun with you. You were the nicest teacher I ever had! I really liked learning how to play Ohlone games. I learned so many things. I will miss you. So have a nice day! -- Paula***



***"Thank you for letting us come to Deer Hollow. What an***

***amazing place! There were lots of things you showed me that I didn't know. My favorite part was going***



***into the sleeping huts. And I liked all of the dead animals! At first I didn't think I would. But then I got to touch the furs of fox***



***"Our whole group thought the trip was very fun. My favorite part was when we smashed acorns. But I also liked***

***the spear toss, because it helps you learn how to hunt. Only the Ohlone boys played this game, not the girls."***

**--Matthew**

***"Thank you for showing us around at Deer Hollow Farm. I had so much fun. Remember when we saw the mother deer and the baby deer? That was exciting. I never saw a baby deer before. I only saw a man one before."***

**--Emma**



***"Thank you for letting us come to Deer Hollow. I learned that female deers don't have horns." --Ervin***

***and coyote. I really want to come back again."***

**--Daisy**

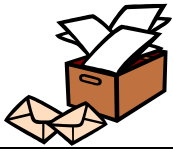
***"I liked the sweathouse the best, because we went underground! What an amazing place." --Julio***



***"It was my favorite day of school so far. It was very nice of you to help us get to Deer Hollow. Can I come back soon?"***

**--Melanie**





# What the Teachers Say

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Enclosed is our Class Letter to all the wonderful Friends who made our field trip possible. The students enjoyed and were inspired by our field trip to the farm. They now understand how important animals are to us. They are still talking about the products we get from animals.



Thank you again,  
Sharon Hicks  
Landels Elementary School

### **FIRST GRADE CLASS LETTER**

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

We had a good time at the farm. We enjoyed it for three reasons. First, we stroked the sheep. We also carded their wool and



dyed it. Next, we patted the goats. We drank their milk. Most of us liked it! Last, it was raining so we went into the barn to learn a new game. As you can see, we had a great time.

Room 8, Landels Elementary School, First Grade

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Thank you so much for providing this wonderful opportunity for my first grade children. They were thrilled to see and touch the live animals. They have continued to talk about the experience weeks later. They were very interested in the loom and how yarn is made.



Cheryl Brummitt  
Landels Elementary School

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Thank you so much for the wonderful field trip to Deer Hollow Farm. My kindergarten class had a great time and learned so much. The trip provided a wonderful opportunity to connect classroom learning to hands-on experience.

Pam Krebs,  
Castro Elementary School

Dear Friends of  
Deer Hollow Farm,

Thank you so much for our scholarship so that all the Cureton School first graders were able to visit the farm and learn about the animals and the garden. I frequently refer to the farm in my lessons before our trip. After the trip the students make so many connections about the farm and our lessons.



Sharon Pribula  
Cureton Elementary School

Dear Friends of Deer  
Hollow Farm,



What an incredible day our third grade students experienced. They learned so much about the life of the Ohlone. Although we had given them basic information about the Ohlone in class, they were able to see and participate in

numerous activities that confirmed what they learned. We as teachers were also very impressed with the quality of instruction and artifacts.

You have contributed enormously to the education of our students by awarding the scholarships. We appreciate your dedication to support the students of Mountain View.

Theuerkauf Elementary School Third Grade Teachers  
Judy Dinges, Gloria Valdez and Cindy Murphy

Dear Friends of Deer Hollow Farm,

Thank you so much for providing us with such a wonderful field trip! Our first graders were so excited to see all the farm animals and still talk about it now. Living in San Jose, many of these children had never seen goats and sheep.

Deer Hollow Farm was an experience they will never forget. Thanks!

Sandy Kennedy  
McCollam Elementary School