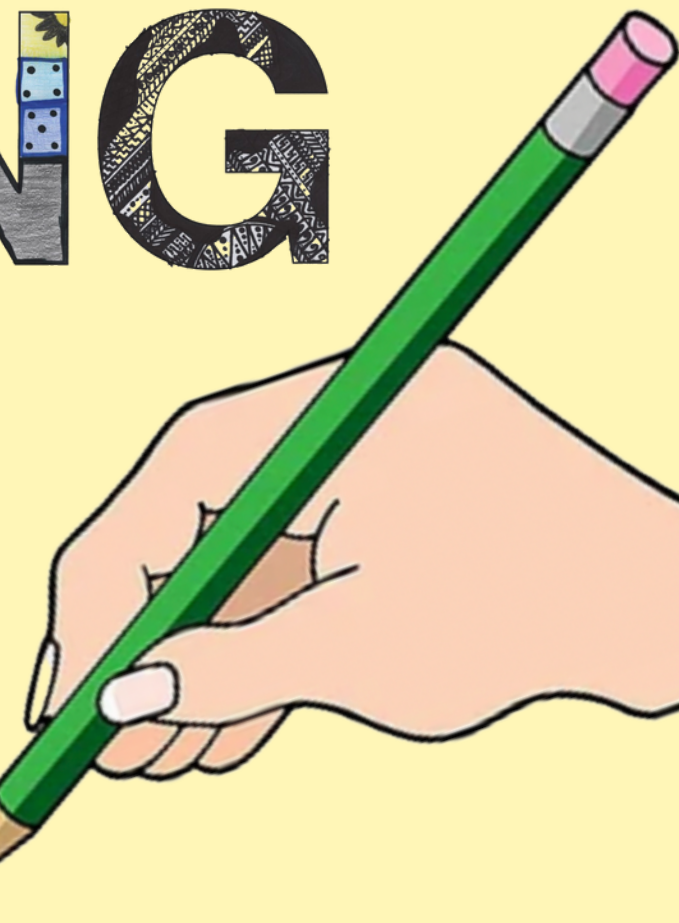




YOUTH WRITING FESTIVAL



a program of the Multicultural Institute



**ANTHOLOGY OF STUDENT'S CREATIVE WORK
Summer 2023**

Table of Contents

About Multicultural Institute.....	3
Youth Writing Festival Tutors.....	4
Students' Writings.....	5-21
Waterside Workshops Field Trip.....	22
Presidio Tunnel Tops Field Trip.....	23
STEAM Projects.....	24-25
Contact Us.....	26

Youth Writing Festival Coordinator

Maria de los Angeles 'Gelo' Caloca

Educational Programs Manager

(510) 847-0736

gelo@mionline.org

About The Multicultural Institute (MI)

The Multicultural Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that promotes community empowerment, youth/family support, and leadership development in diverse communities of Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Mateo Counties since 1991.

Our VISION

We envision a community in which immigrants, regardless of their immigration status, are embraced and valued in the communities in which they work and live

Our MISSION

We accompany immigrants in their transition from poverty and isolation to workforce participation and prosperity

Organizational Focus

Day Laborer & Domestic Worker Support

Job Placement, Workforce Development, Wage Claims, Legal Referrals

Adult Education

GED in Spanish, Citizenship in English & Spanish, Business Entrepreneurship

Youth Education

Mentoring for Academic Success (MAS),
Youth Writing Festival (YWF)

Health

Health Screenings, Free Clinic, Referrals,
Workshops, COVID support

YWF Tutors



Gelo



Ernesto



Jenny



Angel



Fatima



Ximena

Lupita Hernandez



Age: 7
Favorite color: Pink
and Blue
Favorite animal: tiger

When I Grow Up

When I grow up I would like to be a teacher and a vet. I want to be a teacher because I get to work with kids and give them donuts. Teachers also have teacher appreciation week and I want to receive gifts from students. Moreover, I want to be a vet as well because I get to take care of puppies and kitties. I am not scared of any animals so being a vet is the perfect job for me. I have 1 dog and 1 cat and I would like to make them feel better whenever they get sick. Being a vet is something exciting because working with different animals is cool.

Acrostic Poem

L- loves lions
U- unstoppable
P- perfect attitude
I- impressive
T- taco eater
A- artistic mind

If I Was Invisible

If I was invisible I would scare my family. The first person I would scare would be my mom. Next, I would scare my dad because it is not easy to scare him. Normally I would wait till my sisters are watching a scary movie to scare them. Not only would I scare people, but I would also save people's lives

Brandon Linares

Age: 8

Favorite color: blue

Favorite animal: tiger

Favorite subject: math



When I Grow Up

When I grow up, I would like to be a bike fixer. This would be my dream job because I love riding bikes. I always ride them in my free time. Another reason why I would like to be a bike fixer when I'm older is because I love the idea of fixing broken bikes that might seem like they don't work anymore. I find the idea of a bike's anatomy really interesting

Waterside Workshop Field Trip

I saw ducks when I was on the boats. It was fun in the boats. I saw a red thing in the water but it was fun. Another thing I saw was the red shed. I saw the other group and raced Jenny's group but they almost crashed with my group's boat.

My Biggest Fear

My biggest fear is death because it is scary. Death is scary to me because when I think about that word, it makes me feel like I won't exist. Another reason why death is scary is that without being able to breathe I will not be able to see the people I love and won't be able to see how people are doing.



Michelle Sanchez

Age: 8

Favorite color: light blue

Favorite animal: cheetah

**Favorite subject: writing
& math**

When I Grow Up

When I grow up I would like to be a teacher. This would be my dream job because I want to show other people how to read, write, do math, and a lot more stuff. I also think that teacher appreciation day would be my favorite day. I would bring my students legos every time they are good, buy them snacks, and much more. I think what makes a good teacher is somebody that makes sure their students are always on task and always doing their work. Sometimes I hate strict teachers but then I realize that the only reason why they are being strict is because they want me to do good. I remember one time my 2nd grade teacher told me that she never wanted to see me do bad in school and she always wanted me to do my best.

Ode Poem

Oh spider

Your habit of sneaking up on people
frightens me

Your diet of helpful bees saddens me

Oh spider

Your many legs creep me out

I hate you for killing little animals that
help the world

Oh spider...

Acrostic Poem

M- master in math

I- I love to Ice Skate

C- creative

H- has a lot of friends

E- enthusiastic

L- loves music

L- luxury lover

E- excellent



Zoe Lopez

Age: 9

Favorite color: blue

Favorite animal: turtle

Favorite fruit: mango & coconut

I am poem

I am me

I remember 2nd grade

I have always liked the color teal

I see paper and pencils

I know math

I wonder where the erasers come from

I try to read

I want to eat

I don't know how to drive a car

I hate when I have my hands under the blanket

I have never driven a car

I don't how to drive

I don't wander in the park

I try not to go back to sleep

I don't want to die

I love myself

Waterside Workshop Field Trip

Today I went on a field trip called waterside workshops. While I was there, I saw other boats, birds, and trees. I also went on the boat with other kids. I went to the boat 2 times and after the first ride, we ate a snack. When I got on the boat the second time it was peaceful and calm. There was also seaweed and green stuff in the water. The water was a little deep and gross and then we packed up and went home.

Acrostic poem

Z- zappy

O- open minded

E- excellent

Sebastian Monterrosa



Age: 9

Favorite color: red

Favorite subject: writing

**Favorite movie: red
pandas**

Waterside Workshop Field Trip

The boat was very fun. My favorite part was when there were a lot of ducks. When we passed all the boats, I was very nervous. We got on the boat and I saw a duck flying on top of the water. We got really close to ducks and we were going very fast. When I stood up, the boat was shaking. The race was very fun.

I Am Poem

I am a nice person
I remember 2nd grade
I have always done my homework
I see paper and pencils
I know multiplication and division
I wonder if the next class is nice
I try to be good in school
I want to get good grades
I hate reading
I have never spoken over my teachers
I try not to get in trouble
I don't want to be late
I love writing

My Favorite Holiday

My favorite holiday is Christmas because I spent a lot of time with my family and some of my family members from other places. They send me gifts. It's very fun just waking up very early and opening a lot of presents from my family. On Christmas, we don't let our dogs feel left out so we buy them toys and give them treats. We also take pictures with them.



Mateo Gutierrez

Sonnet Poems

Pigs are fat and stinky
They don't like to shower
They get really sticky
They never smell like flowers

Pigs love to roll in the mud
It's their favorite thing to do
They make a loud thud
When the bacon is due

Pigs are really pink
They have a curly tail
They love to blink
They get really sad when they go on sale

I have learned pigs are pretty
So never make fun of an itty bitty piggy

Age: 10

Favorite color: blue

Favorite food: pizza

Favorite movie: Bad
Guys

My Wishes

If I had 7 wishes I would wish to be healthy and stop world hunger so no one is hungry anymore. I would also wish to be wealthy so I can give lots of money to charity and to my family. I would also wish to have cars because I've loved cars since I was 5 years old. I wish to save all endangered animals so there are lots of animals living in the world. I wish I could go back and forth in time to fix everything I did that was wrong. I wish for super speed so I can be really fast because I play soccer and I would have an advantage.

Emely Hernandez

Age: 11

Favorite color:

Blue/Teal

Favorite animal: cow

Favorite movie: Minions



Ode Poem

Oh cats

You are unique in your different color fur

You climb trees and your houses

Oh cats

You sleep too much

You drink a lot of milk and eat a lot of food

Oh cats...

Acrostic Poems

E- Emely

M- messy

E- early

L- living

Y- yippee

My Favorite Sport

My favorite sport is soccer. Here is why I think soccer is my favorite sport. You can play with your friends and have a match. Another reason why soccer is my favorite sport is because it's fun. You can just pass the ball around to your friends if you're too tired to run. The last reason is that when you play with your friends, you have a good time. Sometimes after games, you can go out to eat food like pizza with your friends. That's why soccer is my favorite sport.

Isabella Monterrosa

Age: 11

**Favorite color: pastel
aquamarine**

Favorite subject: reading

**Favorite animal:
kittens/cats**



Waterside Workshops Field Trip

I am so happy we went on this field trip. It was really windy when we got off. There were 4 teams. #1 was going to win. It was our team. The race was fierce. We had to paddle and paddle and paddle, with all our power. 1 team was about to flip over to their end. As we were finishing the race, we saw something in the distance. It was... **THE TUTORS!!!** They were catching up. Finally, we were close... but the tutors caught up and won. We came in 2nd place on the boat race but it was really fun overall. We saw many types of ducks/birds. The boat went around this small island where we saw a bird.

Ode poem

Oh pasta

You can be made in different ways

You can also come in different shapes

Oh pasta

You are the best with parmesan

You are best with tomato sauce

Oh pasta...

Acrostic Poem

I- I love my dogs so much

S- swiftie

A- amazing

B- best at drawing

E- Ellie is my best friend

L- likes kittens

L- loves volleyball

A- art is my favorite



Emilio Sanchez

Sonet Poem

My sister felt joy
because she saw a cow
she went to the store to buy a
toy
but suddenly heard a meow

Today I wanted to fly
because I saw a mice
I yelled OH MY!
but gladly it was nice

I used a ruler
to measure a Starbucks
I had a cooler
and I saw some ducks

My friend who plays basketball
dunked
and in school he flunked

Age: 11

Favorite Sport:

basketball and soccer

Favorite subject: math

Favorite animal: dog

My Favorite Holiday

My favorite holiday is Christmas because we get gifts. We also get the gifts in the morning and we open them with the family. On Christmas, we eat tamales made of chicken. We play the game we get from Christmas gifts. We also go to San Francisco for Christmas. In San Francisco, we go to Pier 39 to see what we could get or buy.

Acrostic Poem

E- energetic

M- Michelle is my sister

I- I like ice cream

L- lose stuff pretty easily

I- I like basketball

O- optimistic

Kassandra Flores



Age: 12

**Favorite sport:
volleyball**

Favorite subject: art

I Am Poem

I am a person
I remember my first medal in
basketball
I have always wanted to meet
Bad Bunny
I see trees outside
I know math
I wonder why people are mean
I try to study
I want to go to a concert
I don't remember my 1st
birthday
I hate bullies
I have never tried caviar
I don't know how to draw
I don't wander off to the
casino
I try not to get in trouble
I don't want to skydive
I love my family

My Favorite Movie

My favorite movie is Spiderman Across The Multi-verse. I like it because it is so weird. Something that happened in the movie that was really funny was when all the spiders were like you all look like me. Everyone in the movie theater was laughing. Me, my nana, and cousin were watching and laughing. In one part, everyone started to laugh too. It was like a chain reaction and it was so funny. I felt like I was choking on my laugh. We left and me and my cousin couldn't stop laughing.

Ode Poem

Oh blobfish
You are very ugly
You look slimy
Oh blobfish
You give me an icky feeling
You are the ugliest thing I have
ever seen
Oh blobfish...

Azul Franco



Age: 12

**Favorite sport:
volleyball**

Favorite subject: art

Acrostic Poem

Q- queso

U- unique

E- exquisite

S- salsa roja

A- amazing

B- birria

I- I like it with consome

R- red meat

R- really delicious

I- I order 8 quesabirrias

A- Azul's favorite food

My Favorite Movie

My favorite movie is Fast Five because it has a lot of action. In the movie, they jump off roofs and race cars. Also, one of the characters escaped prison. The main characters in the movie are Toretto, Mia, O'Connor, and Dwayne 'the Rock' Johnson. In one of the scenes, they rob cars from a train. When I watched it I watched it at home. It was exciting and interesting. They had to run away from the police and other people. They were running away a lot. They were also smart and fast.

Ode poems

Oh tacos

**You taste the best with salsa
verde**

Oh tacos

**Al pastor and pollo are the best
with cilantro and cebolla**

Oh tacos...

Acrostic Poem

A-amazing

Z- zero patience

U-unique

L- lazy

Sebastian Fonseca

Age: 13

Favorite sport: soccer

**Favorite subject: History
and P.E**

Favorite object: Sneakers



My Favorite Movie

My favorite movie is Step Brothers because it has Will Farrel, one of the best actors to live on earth. His best movie is Step Brothers. My top 5 favorite parts of the movie are the following. Number 5 is when he stole his dad's boat. When he was at the family dinner he put on a video that was of him crashing the boat. Number 4 is when they were sleepwalking in underwear around the kitchen breaking plates, hitting each other with pans, and sleeping on the floor. Number 3 is when they make the boat into a tree house so they can play on it. Number 2 is when they broke the bunk beds by putting a surfboard to hold it down but it ends up smashing the person below. Number 1 is when they get into an argument and he says

Ode Poem

Oh Crab,
You are so delicious with your
different options
Such as snow crab or Dungeness
crab
Oh Crab,
You are the best thing on the
plant
You are very tasty with your
different types of flavors
Oh Crab...

Acrostic Poem

S - Soccer Player
E - Enjoys going to six flags
B - Beats Omar in the game Fifa
A - American
S - Scores Goals
T - Talking to friends
I - I love Ike's
A - Always practicing
N - Never loses



Nicolas Lopez

Age: 12

Favorite color:

green

Favorite subject:

math

Favorite animal: dog

Short Story

One day, my family was going to San Francisco and we were admiring the place. There were many people performing. My dad Guillermo and I, Nicolas, went to go see a magician called the Great Houdini. I was around 5 or 6 years old. Nicolas, thinking his dad was behind him went to go see him but when I turned around, Guillermo was gone. I started to cry when a family saw me and was about to take me. Then Guillermo came to them and said that i was his son. Guillermo took me and that's how I almost ended up with another family.

Ode Poem

Oh dog,
Living in my home
Eating human food instead of
dog food
Oh dog,
Looking so small and cute
You are so peaceful and calm
Oh dog,
You make me happy on a sad
day

I Am Poem

I am lazy
I remember when I got lost
I have always been overprotective
and safe
I see my sister everyday
I know how to play clarinet
I wonder if ghosts exist
I try to conquer my fears
I want to be more athletic
I don't remember my childhood
I hate spiders
I have never had a snail
I don't know how to draw
I don't wander into the woods
I try not to be scared
I don't want to skydive
I love my family but mostly my dog



Omar Zarza

Age: 12

Favorite sport: soccer

**Favorite Subject: Math
and P.E**

**Favorite Thing to do: play
games**

Acrostic Poem

T- takes effort

A- always good

C- can get you full

O- onions add flavor

S- surprisingly great

Ode Poem

Oh coyote

You are annoying

Every time I see you I get scared

Oh coyote

I run from you

You live in the hills

Oh coyote...

My Favorite Sport

My favorite sport is soccer. Soccer is a sport that a lot of people enjoy and play. I like soccer because it is a good sport. Although some people say it is easy to play, you can get hurt. You can also try to do your best. You should try out soccer if you haven't played it before. There are a lot of reasons why soccer is a great sport. In soccer, you kick a ball and run with it. Not only do you run and kick the ball, but you also try to take the ball from others. In soccer, you kick and have fun. You kick the ball with your feet but you don't pick up the ball with your hands. Despite the fact that you have fun playing soccer, you also have to play carefully and not hurt soccer, and you also have fun while playing it.

Irvin Zarza

- Age: 14
- Favorite Subject: English
- Favorite Music: Old Mexican Music
- Favorite thing to do: sleep



Ode Poem

Oh tacos

You live comfortably in my stomach
You are not a living being but if you
were you would eat cilantro and
onions

Oh tacos

You may be big or small but I would
eat you no matter what
I would choose tacos over everything
Oh tacos...

Acrostic Poem

I- interested in nature

R- ready to learn

V- varsity sports are
confusing

I- irresponsible with chores

N- nice to people

When I grow up

When I grow up I want to be a flight attendant. I want to do this once I'm older because I want to travel the world since I get bored of staying in one place for a long time. I am already planning out what I need to become a flight attendant so I am able to achieve this goal. The first thing I need to do is take the right classes in high school such as language and health classes. My next step after graduating high school is to get some experience in jobs such as retail. I will also enroll in programs to help my portfolio. Once I do all of this, I want to take some college classes and when I finish those, I will apply to airlines so I can train to get the job I want. I have to be determined so I can reach this goal.

Camila Munoz



Sonnet Poem

I ate a pie
Then I saw a bat
I started to lie
And I killed a rat

I love having fun
I ran a lap
I was hot because of the bright sun
So I covered myself with a baseball cap

I prefer a hot summer
I am my mom's daughter
Roses are my favorite flower
Can't forget to give them water

I have cousins that are boys
And they like to play with toys

Age: 15

Favorite color: blue

Favorite animal: dog

Favorite fruit:
watermelon

I Am Poem

I am lazy
I remember when I broke my foot
I have always been to Six Flags
I see an ocean
I know I have a lot of stuffed animals
I wonder what I will be when I'm older
I try to get better at tennis
I want to have new clothes
I don't remember that I lost my dog
I hate homework
I have never been to Mexico
I don't know how to swim
I don't wander off to the road
I try not to stay on my phone
I don't want to go clean my house
I love my phone

Acrostic Poem

C- calm

A- amazing

M- mysterious

I- I love ice

L- lazy

A- alert

Antonio Gonzales



Age: 15

Favorite color: black

Favorite animal: dog

Favorite fruit:

strawberries

Acrostic Poem

A - Always studying chess strategies

N - Needs to practice with a chess grandmaster.

T - To go to chess tournaments

O - On time for chess games

N - Needs time to go and get chessboard

I - I like playing tennis

O - Often plays chess

About Myself

I have 2 siblings. One is older than me and the other is younger. My older sister is 25 and my younger sister is 13. I used to live in South San Francisco. I moved to Hercules in the year 2016. During my free time, I like to make stop-motion videos.

I Am Poem

I am myself

I remember that I kicked a clown

I have always bought Lego sets

I see lots of Lego characters at home

I know some things about Legos

I wonder how to make money

I try to play chess

I want to buy more Legos

I don't remember playing video games

I have a younger sister

I have never gone to New York City

I don't know how many Legos I own

I don't wander anywhere without permission

I try not to be happy when I see a clown

I don't want to see a clown

I love myself

Waterside Workshops

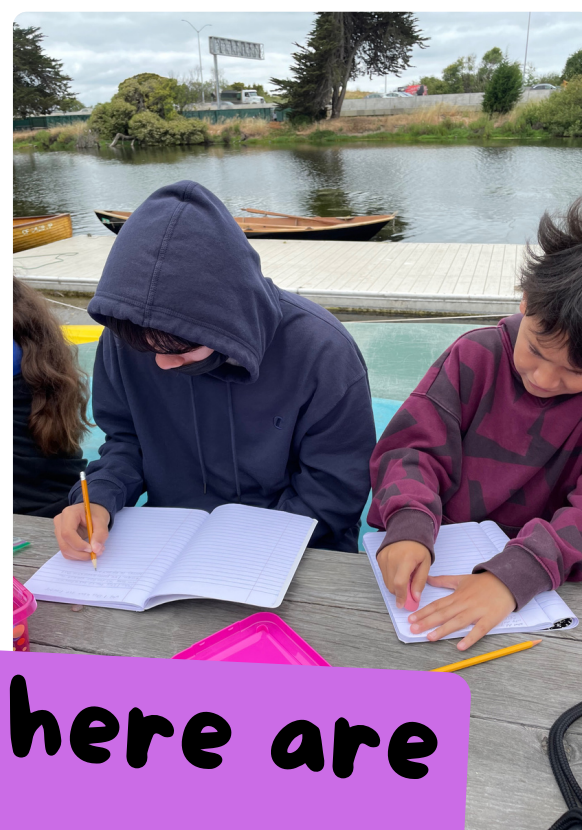
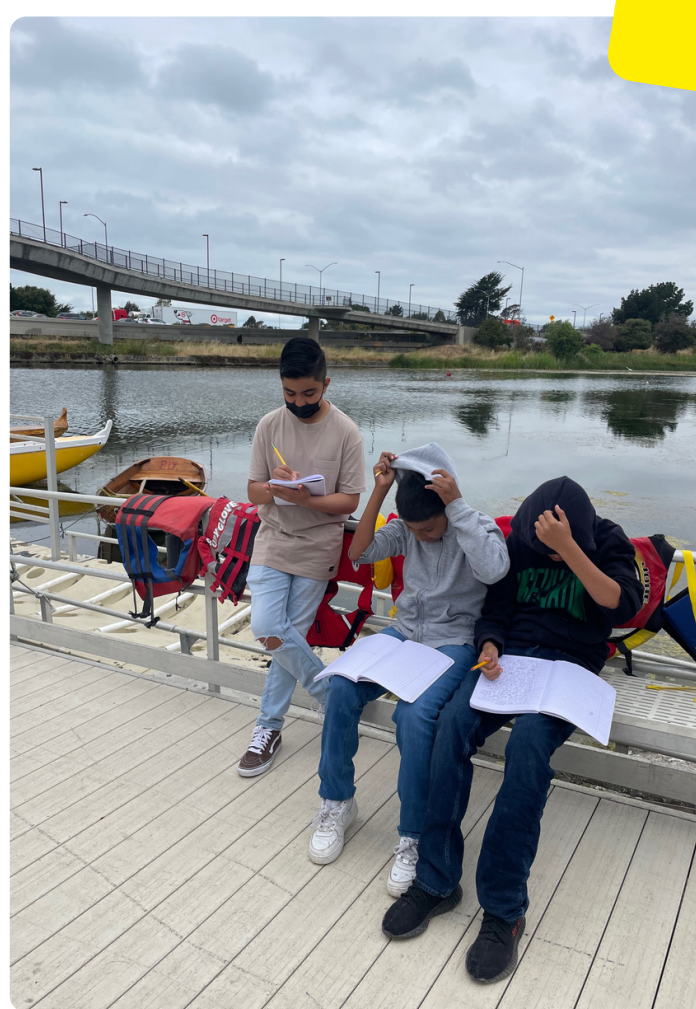
Field Trip



"The boat was very fun"

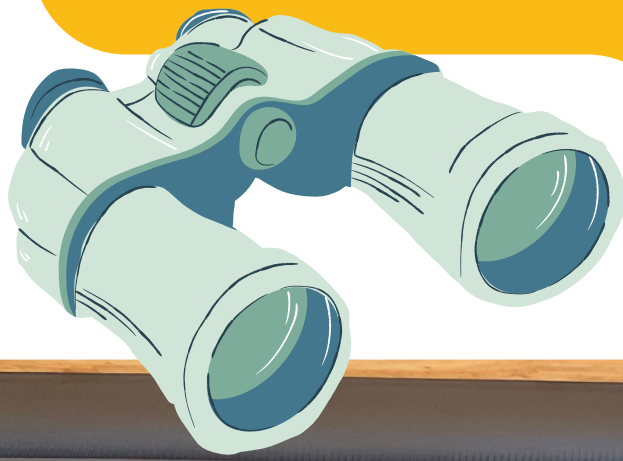


"The race was fierce"



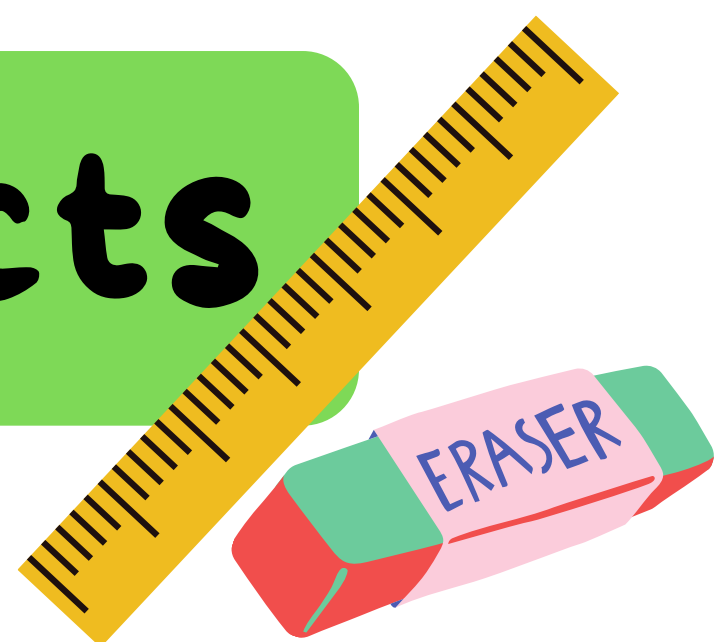
"I learned that there are different types of boats"

Presidio Tunnel Tops Field Trip





STEAM Projects



STEAM Projects



Contact Us

MI locations

1920 Seventh Street
Berkeley, CA 94710
(510) 848-4075

533 Warrington Avenue
Redwood City, CA 94063
(650) 339-2794

3600 MacDonald Avenue
Richmond, CA 94805
(510) 847-1479

A special thank you to The City of Berkeley Youth Equity Partnership (YEP), previously known as Berkeley 2020 Vision, for its support to the Youth Writing Festival (YWF).



To support MI's work or to hire a worker
scan this QR code with your phone's camera