

## NEWS ALERT

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### **For Immediate Release**



Second Graders Test Drive the New Science Lab Unveiled at South Valley Carden School  
*Private School Leads the Way in Exciting Young Minds About Science*

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**San Jose, California**—Students need to have access at an early age to the tools and activities that get them excited about learning science. Two years ago the Parent Association for South Valley Carden School (Near Leigh High School), set a goal to build a state-of-the-art science lab for use by all students to enhance learning of, and excitement for, all aspects of science. The Parent Association raised the money and worked with science teachers, Mr. Haufler (Middle School) and Mr. Kissel and Mrs. DeMarco (grades 2-5), and the Carden School Administration to build and equip the lab. The doors were opened earlier this month, with Middle School students getting the first look, and loving it (see previous release of February 16). Now the Elementary students are getting their chance to experience the lab.



The Lab can accommodate up to 24 students, and is used daily to teach science. Today second graders got to look at earthworms and their environment (freshly dug dirt) under one of 14 compound microscopes. Earthworms will be part of the students' science curriculum in the classroom for the next few weeks. The youngsters also viewed goldfish fins under the scope and saw a preserved shark fetus with yolk sack attached. Six dissecting scopes; a micro slide projector that projects both preserved and live microscope slides on the wall for class illustrations; dissecting equipment; and many other specimens are available to the students. There is also a wide variety of lab equipment and sampling tools to fully teach and demonstrate every aspect of the five major sciences (Geology, Astronomy, Physics, Biology, and Chemistry).



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## South Valley Carden School-ADD ONE

When asked if they liked science, most students responded with an enthusiastic yes. One young boy wasn't as sure about liking science, though, but admitted with the new lab "it would be a lot more fun". Miss Vitulli, the second grade teacher who accompanied the class to the lab, commented, "I never had anything like this when I was little. It certainly would have been great." She added, "The students are going to love having this facility. It will make my job (teaching science) so much more enjoyable." Vitulli did her undergraduate work and received her Masters in Education from UC Santa Barbara.



South Valley Carden School first opened in 1978 and today has over 250 students from all over the South Bay, enrolled in K-1 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The school is located in San Jose on the Los Gatos border. South Valley Carden embraces the Carden method of teaching developed by Mae Carden over 50 years ago. The Carden method focuses on teaching children to think and develop good judgment. In addition to core subjects such as Math and Reading students also study French, Computers, Science, Art, Music and Physical Education. In the middle school students also



study Latin. With South Valley Carden's rigorous academic standards and emphasis on critical thinking, students leave the school with an expanded concept of the world and their place in it. These students go on to attend the Bay Area's leading high schools. The school's Parent Association is committed to enriching students' education through additional activities and enhanced learning opportunities.

For more information on the South Valley Carden School Science Lab, downloadable photos and student quotes, go to:

<http://www.sciencemaster.com/features/teachers/sciencelab.php>

To access this press release in a downloadable PDF format, go to:

<http://www.sciencemaster.com/about/press.php>

To find out more about South Valley Carden School, go to:

<http://pw2.netcom.com/~svcarden/svcs/index.html>

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