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Young students plant laguna trees

by Corey Young
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SEBASTOPOL — Third graders from Dunham School in Petaluma put down their pencils and workbooks this month in favor of shovels and work gloves.

The class of 20 students joined their teacher and restoration volunteers to plant more than 50 native trees in Sebastopol's Laguna de Santa Rosa wetlands preserve. The eight- and nine-year-olds spent the morning digging away at the ground, then filling the new holes with young buckeyes and oaks.

The students, split into teams of four, learned how to lay down anti-weed cloth and wrap mesh around the new plantings to protect against hungry deer. The

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FIELD TRIP — Ashling McAnaney of the Marin Conservation Foundation Corps holds up a garter snake for Patrick Kiernan and other Dunham School students to see at a tree-planting project in the Laguna wetlands.

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