

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Uschi De Rose

(714) 524-1350 ext. 111

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For Heritage Oak Students, Science Is Really Hands On!

Seventh grade student Abby Dergazarian provides her arm as a great resting place for one of several “walking sticks” that call the Heritage Oak science lab “home.” A walking stick is any one of a group of mostly wingless insects related to the grasshoppers - having a body like a stick or twig.

This common insect is often overlooked, because it does not bother people. Walking sticks feed on a variety of leaves (the one on Abby’s arm is partial to rose bush leaves).

There may be more than 2,500 varieties of walking sticks world wide found in both temperate and tropical regions. They spend most of their time hanging from leaves and branches. The insect’s name comes from its appearance, as walking sticks look very much like sticks.



Other creatures inhabiting the Heritage Oak lab are two bearded dragons, two tarantulas, a turtle, and assorted gold fish. More creatures are likely to join the family as the school year continues.

Heritage Oak is a traditional school appealing to parents who are seeing a proven curriculum and a safe, nurturing environment. Community awareness, academic achievement, and family values are part of its program that focuses on the development of the whole child.

The U.S. Department of Education bestowed its highest honor upon Heritage Oak when it awarded the school the 1998-1999 “Blue Ribbon” award. The “Blue Ribbon”, our Nation’s most prestigious education award, distinguishes Heritage Oak for its excellence in leadership, teaching, curriculum, student achievement, parent involvement, and community support.