



FALL 2025

September
October
November
2025
ISSUE 12

EXPLORER

for lovers of Art and Nature!

NEWSLETTER



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Art and Wilderness Institute is a community centered Institute focused on getting the community re-connected with Nature.

We are based in Southern CA and believe that by Exploring, Creating, and Connecting, we grow as people and as community.


All of our programs aim at incorporating service-learning in order to give back to our local communities and the world.


To learn more

[CLICK HERE](#)



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Nature Quote

**"And He has made everything in the heavens and the earth subservient to you, it is all from Him. Surely, in that are signs for a people who give thought."
- Qur'an 45:13**

November Traits

Good Manners

I respect my elders and mentors

I respect knowledge and the tools of
learning

I will be the first to greet you.

I leave a space cleaner than when I came

I am gentle with my voice and movements

I help those around me

I keep a smile on my face

Nature Journaling Gallery



**Featured
Artist**



Layla

Age 10



Healing Garden at Al Shiffa Clinic

by Waleed Khalif

WE WERE WORKING TO MAKE A GARDEN FROM A PLACE WITH WEEDS FROM ONE TO TWO FEET TALL, ROCKS, AND PEBBLES SCATTERED EVERYWHERE HIDDEN. WE SPLIT THE GARDEN INTO TEAMS AND WORKED WEEDING ALL OF THE WEEDS. WHILE WE WERE WORKING ON THAT, THERE WERE A FEW PEOPLE THAT WERE WORKING ON MAKING BENCHES AND TABLES TO PUT IN THE GARDEN.



BEFORE



AFTER

Healing Garden at Al Shiffa Clinic

Phase 1



Healing Garden

QUOTES FROM THE GARDENERS



“To grow a garden, first we must grow a community to work for it.”

– Daniel JaZairi.



“Paradise is described as a garden, to build a garden is like bringing a piece of paradise down to earth.”

– Ibrahim Dada.



“One thorn of experience is a wilderness of warning.”

– Nur Diyana Dada.



“Something cannot turn into a garden if the person or people that are working on it do not have the correct mindset.”

– Waleed Khalife



When we arrived, it was raining a bit. We worked on putting the plants where they should be and we put in the bench. We planted a couple of plants and then we did some finishing touches. In the end it was worth all the hard work because it looked beautiful.

– Sama Wareh





As Muslims,
we are taught to
leave a place better than we
found it.
We are taught to serve with
kindness and to want for
others what we want for
ourselves.





Why Are Bees Important?



by Farouq Maneksha

October 27, 2025

You have probably heard that honey bees are extremely important to our environment but do you know why? I recently went on a field trip with my AWI mentorship group to the UCR (University of California, Riverside, which is a major university in California,) Center for Integrative Bee Research (CIBER) to learn about bees. One of the things they taught us is what a bee does when it finds an area that has too many flowers for one bee to forage by itself. If a bee finds one flower on its own, it will drink the nectar and then go find another flower. But if a bee finds an entire field of flowers, it will immediately go back to the hive (because it cannot drink all that nectar by itself) and tell the other bees about the field by doing a special dance called "the waggle dance." First, the bee walks in a squiggly line and then walks half a circle to the other end of the line. Then, the bee walks in a squiggly line again and walks another half circle on the opposite side of the squiggly line as the first half circle. The bee repeats this process a few times and then leads the other bees to the field.

Bees are the most important pollinator in the world, especially since they can be found on every continent, except Antarctica because of its freezing temperature. Bees, who are responsible for pollinating about 75% of the world's crops that produce food, are also vital for 80% of the pollination of flowering plants. Bees pollinate by transferring pollen from one flower to another, enabling plants to reproduce. While collecting nectar, their fuzzy bodies brush against a flower's anthers (the part of a flower's stamen or the male reproductive organ that produces and contains pollen), and pollen easily sticks to them. When the bee visits another flower, some of this pollen is deposited onto the stigma (the receptive tip of a flower's pistil which is the reproductive organ), allowing fertilization to occur and leading to the development of fruits and seeds.

The Waggle Dance

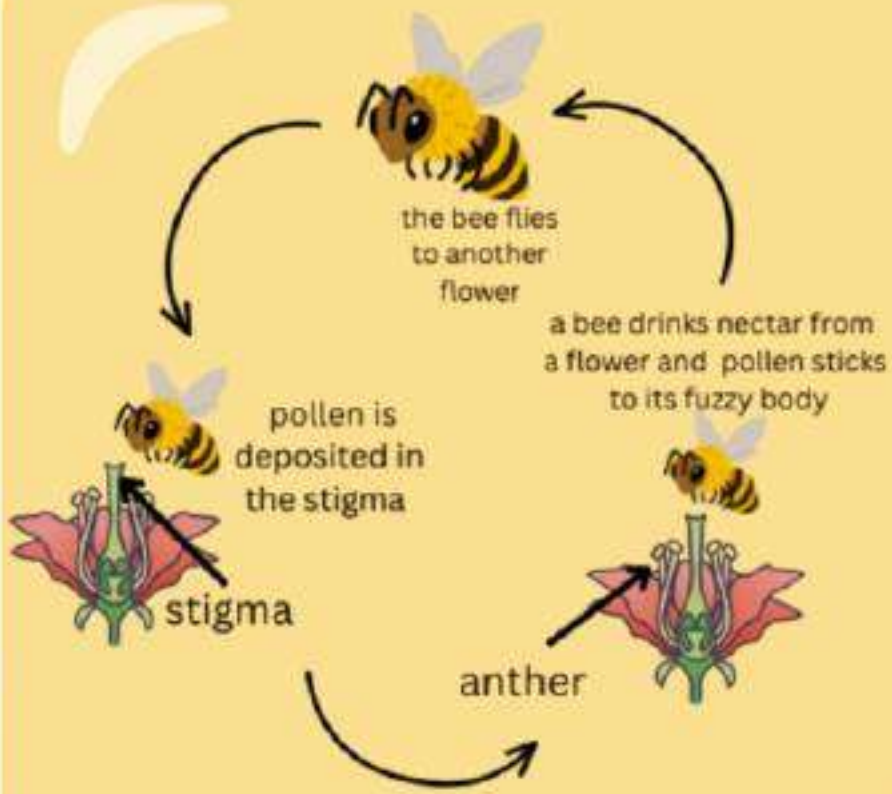
The bee walks in a squiggly line and then walks a half circle around to the other end of the line, where it walks in the same squiggly line and then walks a half circle on the other side of the squiggly line.



Why Are Bees Important?

(continued)

Unfortunately, bees are rapidly becoming more and more endangered. Bees are at risk due to a combination of factors, which are primarily caused by humans, including habitat loss from modernization, exposure to pesticides, climate change disrupting food sources and habitats, and the spread of diseases and parasites. Because of these factors, bee colonies become weakened, which makes it difficult for them to survive and reproduce. U.S. beekeepers sadly lost 62% of their commercial colonies between June 2024 and January 2025.



AWI mentorship field trip to the UCR (University of California, Riverside) Center for Integrative Bee Research (CIBER) to learn about bees.



Why Are Bees Important?

(continued)

People can significantly contribute to the conservation of bees by making adjustments to their gardens. You can help bees by not applying pesticides and herbicides in your yards. Many common chemicals used in yards are toxic to bees, because they weaken their immune systems and harm their navigation skills. Instead, you may use organic and natural pest control methods, like introducing beneficial insects or using neem oil. Look for "neonicotinoid-free" plants when shopping. Not using pesticides is not only advantageous for bees, but it is also helpful for humans. Studies published in 2020 and 2021 in California established a link between prenatal proximity to certain agricultural pesticides and an increased risk of childhood leukemia. A September 2025 study from UCSF, which is another major university in California, reported a 60% higher risk of death for children with leukemia who were exposed to pesticides prenatally. So pesticides are not only bad for bees, but they are also bad for humans.



My favorite part of my field trip to UCR's Center for Integrative Bee Research was that we got to wear bee suits and visit the beehive, which was basically a wooden box full of bees and honey, and we even spotted the queen bee! A fun fact that my teacher, Ms. Dana shared is that one teaspoon of honey is the lifetime's work of twelve bees, who have traveled about 800 miles to visit 30,000 flowers! If you ever get the chance to go to CIBER at UCR, make sure to check out the hive and research lab. Now that you know why bees are so important, try to make at least one or two adjustments to your garden because it will definitely help bees to survive and keep pollinating our flowers and crops.



AWI
POET'S
CORNER

Snowshoe Hares

By Nura Soliman



We are called Snowshoe hares

Remember it's hare not hair

And we don't live in a pair

We're brown in the summer and white in the winter

Variety of plants, that's our dinner

Very good swimmers we are,

And shimmer under the star

Bobcats are the common murderers

Mafias

And also we don't drink coffee

We don't get cold

Because we are so bold

And covered in fur

Also don't purr

Don't ask why



Mentorship Night Hike

by Nur Diyana Dada

What's your favorite part
about the night hike?

"Being barefoot."

-Ali

"Seeing the snake"

-Waleed

"Going barefoot
& blind!"

-Danny

"I can sleep on the
ground without Ms.
Sama yelling at me."

-Adam

"Getting some
questions right."

-Tuba

“Guessing the plants.”
-Ruqayyah

“Seeing the glow worms.”
-Jibreel

“The boys singing: We found a
glow worm!”
-Nur Diyana

“Ibrahim scaring everyone
and the glow worms.”
-Ms.Sama



WOULD YOU RATHER GATHER...

Did You Know?

Some animals are expert gatherers!



Squirrels collect nuts and acorns to store for winter.



Bees gather nectar to make sweet honey.



Birds pick up twigs and grass to build cozy nests.

What kind of gatherer would you be?
Email us about your collection at
office@awicomunity.org

FAST FASHION



By: Jafar Khan

Fast Fashion is a hasty, cheap way of making clothing to meet customer demand. It is extremely bad for the environment and encourages wastefulness and excessive overconsumption. Not only does the clothing rip or get discarded after a very short time, but it wastes many, many materials in the process.

For example, to make one cotton t-shirt, the fast fashion industry uses about 2,700 liters of water, which is about 700 gallons! This water is used in growing the cotton, because they often grow it in dry, barren areas where little rain falls. Because of this, they have to use massive amounts of water, causing nearby ecosystems to be drained of their water. According to The Quantis International 2018 report, 36% of industry pollution comes from dyeing and finishing, 28% comes from yarn preparation, and 15% comes from fibre production. This is why it is better to reuse clothes, or buy clothing from thrift stores, because it is much better for the environment.



**SECOND
HAND**





Raven Readers Recommend



Birds of the Air



A Children's Classic

Arabella Buckley

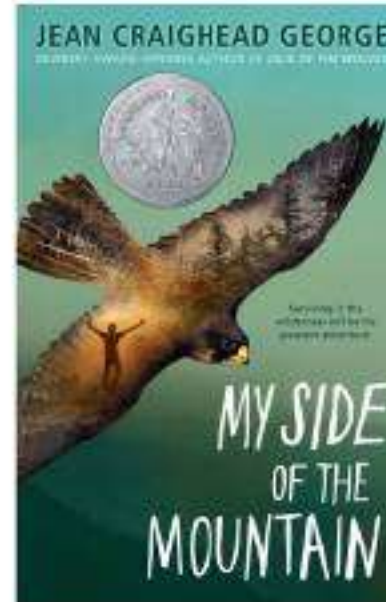
For:
ages 8-12
2nd-6th
Graders

"Birds of the Air"
by Arabella Buckley
is a charming classic
that introduces
children to the
wonders of bird life—
explaining how they sing,
build nests, and care for
their young—in a friendly,
story-like way that kids will
enjoy for its mix of nature
facts and delightful
storytelling.

For:
ages 4-8
Pre-K to 3rd graders



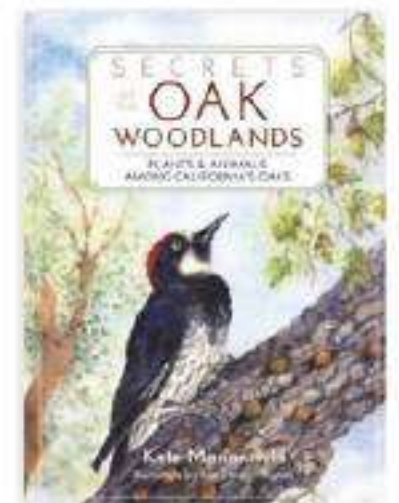
"We Are the Gardeners"
by Joanna Gaines
A charming introduction to gardening
and perseverance



For:
ages 9-12,
4th-6th graders

"My Side of the Mountain"
by Jean Craighead George tells the
adventurous story of a boy who runs away to
live in the wilderness, and kids will enjoy it for
its exciting survival challenges, clever
resourcefulness, and the thrill of imagining
themselves in nature's wild freedom.

**"Secrets of the Oak
Woodlands"** by Kate
Marianchild is a beautifully
written exploration of
California's oak woodland
ecosystem, weaving
fascinating stories of 22
plants and animals into an
engaging narrative that kids would
love for its mix of science, wonder,
and playful storytelling.



For:
ages 14+



CORNER

The Green Masjid Initiative aims to support our masajid transition towards more sustainable and responsible practices in accordance with the Quran and Sunnah.

We have been endorsed by the Islamic Shura Council of Southern California.

Visit our Website

[CLICK HERE](#)



MAKE YOUR GREEN PLEDGE TODAY!



[click here!](#)

Green Pledge



ISA JOKE

by Isa Dada

Why did the mushroom get invited to every picnic?



Because he's a real fungi!



What do you call a plant that sings?



Elvis Parsley!.



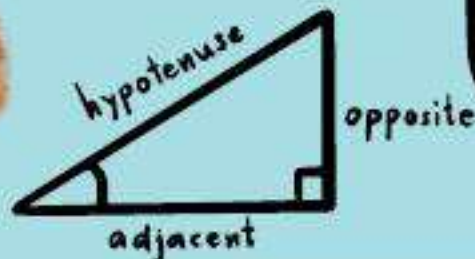
What's a bee's favorite hairstyle?



A buzz cut!



What's a squirrel's favorite kind of math?



Tree-nometry!!



House Drinks



Autumn Apple Sage Sparkler

A bubbly, cozy drink inspired by native plants and fall flavors. The drink is gentle, grounding, and community-oriented, much like a steward who cares for the land and teaches respect for native plants.

Ingredients

- 2 cups fresh apple cider (apples are native to North America and a classic fall staple)
- 1-2 sprigs sage leaves (sage is a native plant in many regions and adds a gentle earthy note)
- 1 tablespoon maple syrup (maple trees are native and give a sweet autumn touch)
- Sparkling water (for fizz and fun)
- Optional garnish: cranberries (native fruit) or a cinnamon stick

Instructions

1. Warm the apple cider gently in a pot with the sage leaves for 5 minutes to infuse flavor.
2. Remove sage leaves and stir in maple syrup.
3. Chill the cider mixture or let it cool to room temperature.
4. Pour into cups and top with sparkling water for a fizzy sparkle.
5. Garnish with cranberries or a cinnamon stick for a festive look.

Smells and tastes like autumn!





SAGE GNOCCHI

With potato pasta and sage butter, this yummy and healthy meal will make your day



PREP TIME
60 MIN



COOK TIME
30 MIN



SERVINGS
3

Instructions

1. In a pot, cover the potatoes with water and cover the pot. Put on low-med until you can pierce potatoes with a fork.
2. Mash the boiled potatoes in a medium bowl and add 1 tsp salt.
3. In a small bowl, beat the egg and add it to the potatoes.
4. Clean a dry, smooth surface. Lay *all* the flour on the surface, and spoon all the potato mash onto the flour. Then cover the mash with flour from the surface.
5. **Gently** fold the flour into the mash, then put more flour on the mash. Keep folding until it forms a single ball of flour and potato. (If the dough is sticky, add 2 tbs flour at a time until it no longer sticks.)
6. Split dough to 8 pieces. Gently roll out each piece into a log about as round as a blackberry, and cut each log into squares.
7. If you have a gnocchi board, then roll each piece onto it, creating a dimple in the middle where your thumb is. If you don't have one, you can use your work surface.
8. In a large pot, half-filled with water, add 1 teaspoon of salt. Boil on med-high.
9. Gently lower some of the gnocchi into the boiling water with a slotted spoon. When it floats to the top, it is ready. Put it in a heat-proof colander. Repeat with the rest of the gnocchi.
10. In a large skillet, melt the butter on med-high until fully melted. Add the sage leaves. Cook until crisp. Add the gnocchi and stir until the pasta is covered.

Ingredients

- 2 med-sized golden potatoes
- 1 large egg
- 2 teaspoons salt (1 tsp for dough and other to boil gnocchi)
- 1 ½ cups flour (plus a little more to handle dough)
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 10-12 fresh sage leaves
- Parmesan cheese and basil for optional topping

Note:

You might want a gnocchi board for making the texture on the pasta



SOURCE: KIWI CO, MODIFIED BY
MUHAMMAD JAFAR KALYAN



MOIST DATE CAKE WITH PEAR



INGREDIENTS:

- 2 sticks of melted butter
- 1+ cup brown sugar
- 3 eggs
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 2 cups of wheat flour
- 2+ tsp. of baking soda
- Walnut pieces (as much as you like)
- 500 grams dates (Package of paste, or dates soaked in warm water)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup stewed pear
- Many generous splashes of milk
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oats
- Generous dash of cinnamon
- Dash of nutmeg
- Pinch of allspice



DIRECTIONS:

1. Mix the butter, sugar, and eggs
2. In a separate bowl, mix the flour, baking soda, and walnuts
3. Mix the dry ingredients into the wet ingredients along with the dates
4. Mix the oats and pear in, adding splashes of milk as you go
5. Mix all of the spices in
6. Bake at 350° in a greased loaf pan. The cake is ready when a fork comes out clean



High School Mentorship Expedition to Thurman Flats, San Bernardino National Forest

by TUBA MUSEITEF
The Expedition Press



Salam, today I will be talking about my first day of high school apprenticeship. As an eighth grader who is not homeschooled, I was so blessed to be accepted into this class- Alhamdulillah. To start off our day, we had a full car of kids and we were simply buzzing with as much energy as we could muster at 7 am. We arrived early and patiently, sleepily waited for the rest of the students. Once they showed, I met so many new, outstanding people. We kicked the day off with the previously planned pot-luck that was incredibly successful. Miss Sama left us with a piece of advice, "Always open your item at a potluck, so others won't feel awkward opening something that is not their's." or something along those lines. That simple wisdom will forever stick with me.





Next, we had an activity of us slapping petroleum jelly on an index card and putting them in different areas and logging the difference that happens in time. Seeing as we had been speaking of air quality/pollution, it was fascinating watching the difference between the areas you put the card in and how long you leave them. After such an experiment we had finally gotten to, in my opinion, the best part, the hike.



Today's hike was somewhat unique because we were going to be trekking through a mountain stream. Stream hikes are simply unforgettable, you stay cool, avoid sunburn if you are careful, and create irreplaceable memories. I want to say about a third into the stream we take a rest stop and play in the water, there are squealing and joyful memories made all around.



Later, we make another pit stop, this one being longer, as we stop for a while and sit in peace starting another assignment of writing a poem/paragraph of the nature around us. I highly recommend this to anyone who wants to feel deeply connected to their environment. Then, we make our wudu and pray Dhur-Alhamdulillah. Always make prayer your first priority. Whether it's the end of the world or you are on a hike.

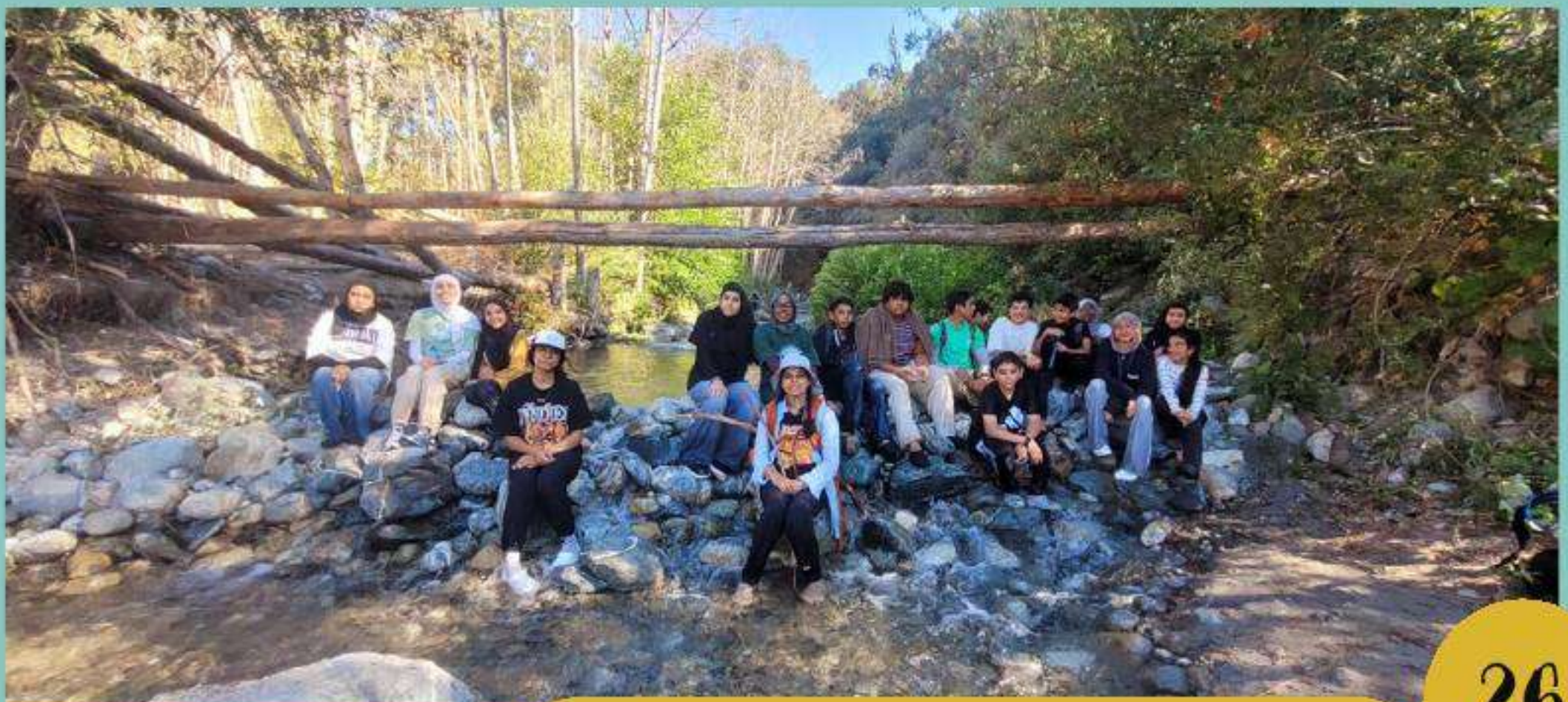




Continuing through the stream, we settle down for lunch, today's also pre-planned lunch was ramen. It was truly beautiful because everyone brought their stoves and ingredients and generously shared if anyone was in short-supply. We then heard some wonderful stories of Morocco from the incredibly humble, Miss Sama. Next, we made an effort to use our Life Straws which some were familiar with and some weren't (I was amongst the people who had never tried it before). From my point of view, it was brilliant and an excellent invention, extremely useful.



After that, we obviously had to take a picture on a stone wall embedded into the river. I had then volunteered to recite my poem to the class, practicing my public speaking voice over the raging, roaring stream. Then we all packed up moving on to the trek back to the cars. One area of the stream was incredibly deep about 4-6 feet, I am not sure. Plenty of brave people from our group plunged into the slightly frigid water unregretfully. All I can say is that it will forever be a core memory of Apprenticeship. Then we had a deep discussion of the summary of the day. Which sums up this article as well. I hope this inspires you to take a big group to Thurman Flats. Assalamu Alaikum.



In the **Garden** with
Ms. Dana
Interviewed by
Muhammad Muallim
- Spotlight Reporter



1. What is your favorite plant?

I would believe that my answer for what my favorite plant in the garden would probably change by season but I would say that right now, kind of late Fall and early into Winter, my favorite plant is the **Bougainvillea**. It's just wonderful! It flowers year round, and it offers these papery beautiful little flowers.

It's really beautiful. It's considered ornamental.

It's edible. The petals of the flowers just before the three waxy flowers that are brightly colored come in fuchsia and orange and white. They can be used on cakes as edible flowers. They taste like nothing. They're just really really pretty.

The reason it's my favorite right now in the garden is just that all the other flowers are pretty much at rest. I have a few trailing **calendula**, a couple of **sunflowers**, borage flowers kind of year round here and there but they are like smaller flowers that are kind of in the mix but not like a source of cheer for me per se and I just think that Bougainvillea, when it flowers constantly year round... it reminds me to smile.

I also really love that the Arabic name for Bougainvillea is Majnoonay which means "crazy woman," so I just think about this beautiful plant making Dhikr as it blossoms and blooms and it brings me a lot of joy



Bougainvillea



Calendula



Sunflowers

2. If you could be any plant in our garden, which one would you be and why?



Again, I'm going to answer just in the moment of now, the season, I've got **chickweed** growing like crazy. For most people, it is a weed. It just kinda pops up in the Late Fall/Early Winter, but it is awesome! It has so many functions. It can be used in place of a salad green like a **lettuce**. It is extra tasty when it is young. When it starts to seed, it's not quite. It has a little bit more texture to it.

I also use chickweed in salves. It's excellent for any sort of skin sensitivity. I'll make a salve with chickweed and **olive oil** and a little bit of **beeswax** in there and **honey**. Sometimes, I add **calendula** if I've got extra flowers on hand. Or I might add **comfrey** as another really helpful medicinal plant with soothing anti bacterial properties.

It grows so prolifically and I think the reason it gets a bad rep for being a weed is it forms these really dense mats if you allow it to grow. It just kinda keeps on growing. It is very much an opportunist. And I think of myself as an opportunist and a positive thinker so I love chickweed and it's one of my favorites.



Chickweed



Lettuce



Calendula



Comfrey



Olive Oil



Beeswax & Honey



3. What's the coolest bug or creature you've seen while gardening?



Okay, so I'm not sure if this is going to be actually answering the question about my favorite bug or the coolest creature, but I'm going to go ahead and say **fungi**. Seeing mushrooms in the garden brings me so much pleasure. It's just beyond words, and we're in mushroom season right now, and the kids in my classes know how much Ms Dana loves her fungus! And Alhamdulillah, we've had some humongous fungus among us this season in a big, big way.

My son, just this morning in the garden, brought a bunch of different **boletes**. A bolete is any mushroom. It's like the class of classification of mushrooms that have pores under their cap. So different mushrooms have structures, like *gills* are the ones we are typically seeing in mushrooms like **portobello**, this giant mushroom that everybody eats a whole lot of. Boletes are not that. Boletes have this kind of *porous*, micro little hole structure that their spores come out of. So, I think that these specific boletes are in the genus *swilis*. And when they are cooked up, they taste like fatty lamb. They are so delicious.

And the more I learn about **mushrooms** and fungus, the more I'm just absolutely fascinated. It's like, as a kingdom, there are actually more species of fungi than there are in any other kingdom. More fungi than plants. More fungi than animals. Also, interestingly, they have more resemblance to animals characteristics than they do plants. In that, animals have to eat in order to produce their food and fungus similarly actually needs to eat decay like the rot. That's why they are the decomposers. They actually break down the wood and all kinds of detritus around them. So they are definitely my favorite when I see them in our garden it's just a reminder that, Alhamdulillah, everyone, every thing, every living being has its function and it feels like such a blessing to get to acknowledge that the reason we have food to eat is because the fungi are responsible for breaking down the other matter around it in order to make the micronutrients to supply the appropriate ecosystem for the insects to come and for the worms to do their thing.





I also love to think about all of the little *mycelium* under the ground, all the little hairs like fungal connections that exist underground, plants talk to one another through fungus. I imagine like telephone wires just connecting all of them together, so they're an extremely important part of the garden and something that I take great pride in seeing a lot of.



4. Have you named any of the plants?
What would you name them?

That's a sweet question. To be honest, I actually take pride in learning the scientific names of the plants that I grow and that are in the garden. I mean someone named them, the people who, I guess, were the first to put them in our colonial dictionaries. I think the plants had many names through the years, ancestrally, through their use in all kinds of Native American cultures and other First Peoples. I don't think of naming my plants per se. I do pet them and I do talk to them, hehe, on occasion, but I don't use a formal name actually at all. I guess you're asking what I would name them if I could name them. I don't know, to me it's more like, "Habibi" in terms of endearment, like, "Habibti, how are you doing today, sugar plum," and yeah I look at them all as babies. I don't necessarily give them all names, but just terms of endearment.



"Habibti,
how are you
doing today,
sugar plum?"



AWI CONNECTIONS, MARKETPLACE REFLECTIONS



At the MHN kids marketplace, the energy is electric—tables lined with colorful displays, handmade signs, and proud young entrepreneurs eagerly sharing their creations. From fresh lemonade and baked treats to hand-painted bookmarks and nature-inspired crafts, each booth tells a story of creativity, effort, and joy. Watching the children engage with customers, explain their products, and exchange smiles is a heartwarming reminder of how capable and imaginative they truly are. It's more than just selling—it's a celebration of learning, confidence, and community.

AWI CONNECTIONS, MARKETPLACE REFLECTIONS



WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PART DURING THE MARKETPLACE?

**“Seeing familiar faces.”
-Ms. Naz**



**“Making all my money
and selling sugar cane.”
-Ahmed Labenieh**

**“Getting interviewed.”
-Mohammad**



**“Being able to see
people I know.”
-Yunus Jibaly**



**“Making money.”
-Ameera Malik**





This Space for Writing Messages

POSTCARD

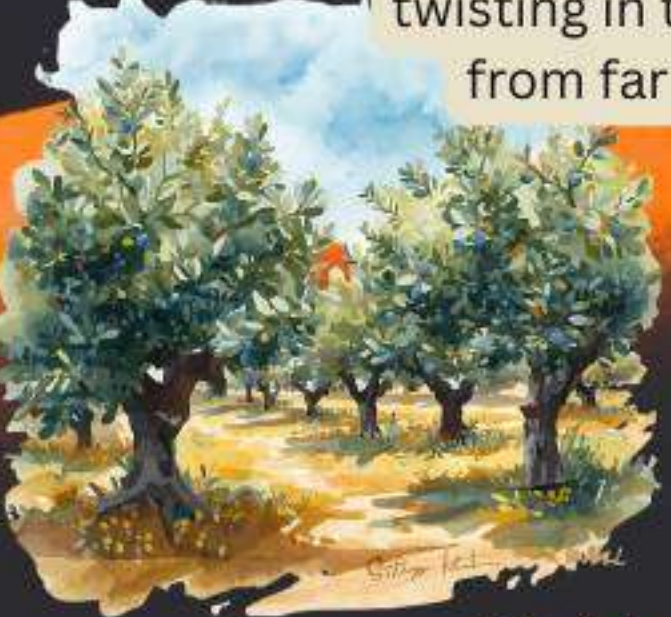
Place Stamp Here
Domestic: One cent
Foreign: Two cents

Where in the World is Ms. Sama? Postcard Mysteries

I wandered through winding alleys where the walls glowed like baked clay under the sun. The air was filled with the scent of mint tea, spices, and orange blossoms. I heard a call to prayer echoing from a tall tower, followed by the hum of drums and the clink of brass lanterns.



People wore flowing robes and colorful scarves. Some sold dates and almonds, others poured mint tea into tiny glasses with a smile. I saw camels resting near golden dunes and olive trees twisting in the breeze. Snowy mountains watched from far away, even as the desert stretched endlessly.



Can you guess where Ms. Sama was?
Here's a hint: It's a country in North Africa, across the sea from Spain.

Extra hint on pages 24-26 from
High School Mentorship Expedition to
Thurman Flats, San Bernardino National Forest
by: TUBA MUSEITEF



HOUSE SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard reset for the School Year



Did you know?

You have to fill out the form to earn points for volunteer days, leading hikes, and other things. The points won't get added unless you fill out the form!

Only actions worth 5 or more get displayed on the house scoreboard even though the points will be added.

Learn more about how the houses earned these points

[CLICK HERE](#)



Get House Points



Nature Detective Lens

by: Ibrahim Dada

Guess the Nature Close-Up!



Answers on page 40



C
R
O
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S
W
O
R
D

CORNER

gardening

[CLICK HERE](#)



2025-2026



- Holidays
- Semester Begins/Ends*
*Mentorship Exception
- END OF YEAR STORE DAY/ CELEBRATION
- Make-up Week
- Drop Date No fees
- Drop Date 75%
- Drop Date 50%
- No refunds after this date
- OVERNIGHT
- Skate Night
- Community Dinner/Iftar
- Ramadan Camp
- Summer Camp
- Hike-a-thon
- Wellness Day Khalil Center
- Quad-M

Calendar 2025 - 2026

Theme: Reflection

AUGUST 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14		16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24		26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

Theme: Purpose/Intention

SEPTEMBER 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31		2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11		
		16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29		1	2	3	4

Theme: Self-discipline

OCTOBER 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14		16		
	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Theme: Good Manners

NOVEMBER 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23		25	26	27	28	29
	1	2	3	4	5	6

Theme: Friendship

DECEMBER 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	1	2	3	4		6
7	8	9	10	11		
		15	17	18	19	20
	22	23	24	25	26	27
	29	30	31	1	2	3

Theme: High Ambition

JANUARY 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						10
11		13	14		16	17
18		20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Theme: Patience

FEBRUARY 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		17	18	19	20	21
	23					28

Theme: Humility

MARCH 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
22		24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Theme: Honesty

APRIL 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16		
	20	21	22	23		
		28	29	30		

Theme: Compassion

MAY 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	
10	11	12	13	14		
17				21	22	
	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Theme: Gratitude

JUNE 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	
		16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Theme: Resilience

JULY 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Ravens Student Gallery



Sunset Above The Ocean
Unaysa Malik, Age: 8

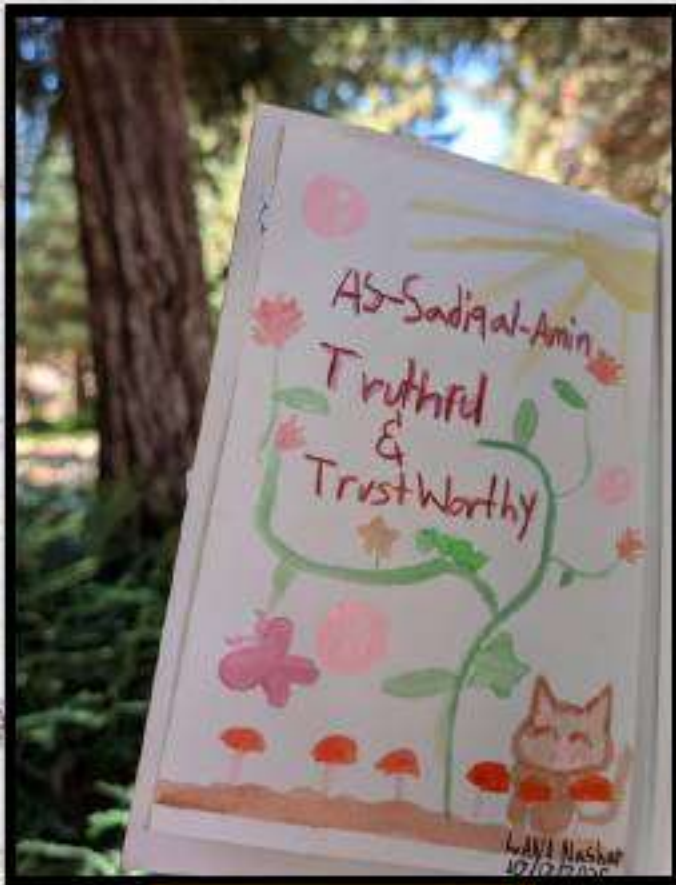


Cat Napping in Basket
Amina Jawadi, Age: 9



Tatreez the Cypress tree motif
Nour, Age: 9
(Art with Ms.Hind)

Ravens Student Gallery



As-Sadiq al-Amin
Truthful & Trustworthy
Lana Nasher, Age 12



Lanterns at Khulafa Al Ard
Ms. Carla's Class



Tatreez earrings of resistance 🍉
By: Emaan Alserhan, Age 9
(Art with Ms.Hind)



Nature Detective Lens

by: Ibrahim Dada

Guess the Nature Close-Up! - Answers



White Sage



Cottontail Rabbit



Western Fence Lizard



Praying Mantis



Turkey-Tail Mushroom

Save THE date

SPRING RESTORATION



NOW ENROLLING

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

The WAIT is finally over.

WOODSIDE, CA
Now Enrolling

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RAMADAN CAMP

February 22 –
March 15

Arabic Calligraphy

SUNDAYS

12:00 – 1:30pm

[Learn more...](#)

END of YEAR

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

MAY 16

POTLUCK CEREMONY
HOUSE TOURNAMENT

10am – 4pm

SUMMER CAMP

Registration is almost here

June 29 – July 2
Khulafa Al-Ard CAMP

July 13 – 16

Mission Impossible CAMP

[Learn more...](#)



Save
THE
date



END of YEAR

COMMUNITY
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[Learn more...](#)



Summer
Camp is my
favorite time
of year!



MISSION IMPOSSIBLE:

NATURE'S WONDERS UNLOCKED

July 13 - 16

SUMMER CAMP



In this thrilling nature adventure, campers become eco-agents on a mission to uncover the "impossible" things that happen in the natural world! From plants that eat insects to creatures that glow in the dark, nature is full of mysteries that defy what we think is possible.

Each day, campers take on exciting challenges and experiments inspired by real-life natural marvels—like walking on water (just like the basilisk lizard!), building ultra-strong spider-silk structures, or discovering how seeds travel across oceans. Through hands-on exploration, creative problem-solving, and outdoor adventures, campers will learn that nature's "Impossible" is actually nature's genius. Get ready to investigate, imagine, and be amazed—because at Mission Impossible: Nature Edition, the only limit is what you think can't be done!

Ages: 3 - 10

Earlybird Registration (ends May 30) \$325

Orange, CA

10am - 2pm

JOIN NOW!

AWICOMMUNITY.ORG/ENROLL





don't forget



KHULAFAT AL-ARD ADVENTURES

JOURNEY OF THE HEART

JUNE 29 - JULY 2

Discover the 99 names of Allah through Nature! Students will get to experience adventure through the lens of understanding their role as stewards of the earth. Students will hike, Nature Journal, Explore, Create and learn foundational character traits that bring faith into action.



Ages: 5 - 10

Earlybird Registration (ends May 30): \$325

Orange, CA

10am - 2pm

JOIN NOW!

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Amazing!

Meet the Team

Ibrahim Dada - Editor, Event Explorer

Waleed Khalif - Mentorship Correspondent

Ameera Malik - Field Notes Correspondent

Farouq Maneksha - Mentorship Adventures

Nur Diyana Dada - Mentorship Adventures

Muhammad Muallim - Spotlight Reporter

Tuba Museitef - The Expedition Press

Jafar Khan - The Mugworts Press

Muhammad Jafar Kalyan - Steward's Kitchen

Lubabah Memon - Mugworts Media & English Mentor

Suhana Shereef - Advisor

Amina Mustafa - Advisor

Sama Wareh - Advisor

Join the team!

Email us at office@awicommunity.org