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## Abilities United Learns at the EcoCenter

By Eric McKee, Education Programs Coordinator

In November, the EV hosted 15 adult participants from Abilities United for an field trip to the EcoCenter and created a wonderful learning experience few will forget.

Abilities United has served adults with physical and developmental challenges in the Bay Area for nearly 50 years. Because Abilities United creates opportunities for adults to connect with the world around them, it was a natural fit for the EV to partner with them for a day of nature learning.

Several of our volunteers worked with Abilities United to receive training, and together selected and planned all of the learning stations in order to provide an effective and educational experience for all. The day's focus was on ecosystems and featured 3 learning stations and a tour of the EcoCenter.

A break in the rains even allowed for a guided walk through the Baylands. Participants were delighted to learn about food webs in a marshland environment, examine study skins of migratory and resident bird species, and experience a hands-on approach to learning about bird adaptations.

Through exciting partnerships and programs like these, the EV can reach out to more members of our community and continue to connect people from all walks of life to the natural world. Special thanks to Bonnie Sibley, Anne Carpinetti, and Ellen Turbow from the EV; and Roger Young, Soheila Razban, Andrea Thronsdon from Abilities United.