Bug U
This week we explored the arthropod world through the lens of an entomologist! We took a closer look at our exoskeleton friends and classified bugs based on the parts of their bodies, wings, and antennae. Starting with arachnids, we learned about the daily lives of spiders, moving on to butterflies, caterpillars, crickets, bees, worms and fireflies. After observing some natural habitats on our nature walk, we are sure to always remember the importance bugs play in the natural world around us!

Awesome Animation
We spent a week becoming animation connoisseurs! Participants began the week by learning about Victorian-era animation instruments including zoetropes and thaumatropes; they even made their own! They learned about persistence of vision and applied the concept when they created their very own flip books. Our animators worked together to create their own storyboards based off of movie ideas. They brainstormed, directed, and filmed their own 2D and 3D stop motion films. By the end of the week, participants made wonderful new friendships and gained a more thorough understanding of the animation world!

Into The Woods
This week we learned about the kinds of plants and animals we have in our local woods. We studied life cycles and animal tracks, and we made our own ecosystems to take home. We practiced finding our way using cardinal directions, and even made some campfires to tell stories around! We had a lot of fun going Into the Woods!

Spy Lab
This week in Spy Lab our spies-in-training were put through the paces. They learned to fingerprint, neutralize a “poison”, and memorized an undercover identity. They also made some marshmallow shooters and shot at targets, decoded secret messages, went through a “laser” grid, and ran an obstacle course. There was also a final mission where they had to find an enemy spy. At the end, everyone came out of the program a full-fledged spy!

Maker Academy
This week in Maker Academy our makers were very busy. We started the week up in the air by building polyhedral kites, wiffle ball parachutes and hot air balloons. We built our own hula-hoops and hacked tea lights to create magic wands. We worked with Tinkercad and created our structures with using MakeDo tools. We made amazing things and had an awesome time making them!