



Teaching *for*
TRANSFORMATION

Supporting Caretakers 8th Grade Science

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NCAI



Deep Hope:

My Deep Hope is that we are filled with curiosity as we investigate God's world and are inspired to become caretakers of creation.

Long Term Learning Targets:

- 🎯 I can...investigate ways we can use science to bring Restoration to people suffering from genetic disorders
- 🎯 I can... step out and provide support for someone caring for an individual with special needs.

Curricular Outcomes:

NGSS MS LS3-1 Develop and use a model to describe why structural changes to genes (mutations) located on chromosomes may affect proteins and may result in harmful, beneficial, or neutral effects to the structure and function of the organism



Habit(s) of Learning:

Curious Thinking - did a QFT to develop questions to investigate during the unit

Gracious Communicating - asked questions and LISTENED to someone who is a caretaker for someone with special needs (empathize, valued)



See God's Story:

Creation	Fall	Redemption	Restoration
God made people perfect - meiosis, DNA replication, protein synthesis all has a way it SHOULD function. God's creation is orderly, intricate.	Nondisjunction occurs, DNA mutates, proteins aren't made properly and people suffer.	Jesus is the healer; God is the great physician	Science can be used to help treat people with disease (cystic fibrosis) WE can value all people as Image Reflectors, support those who continually provide support to others (Community Building)

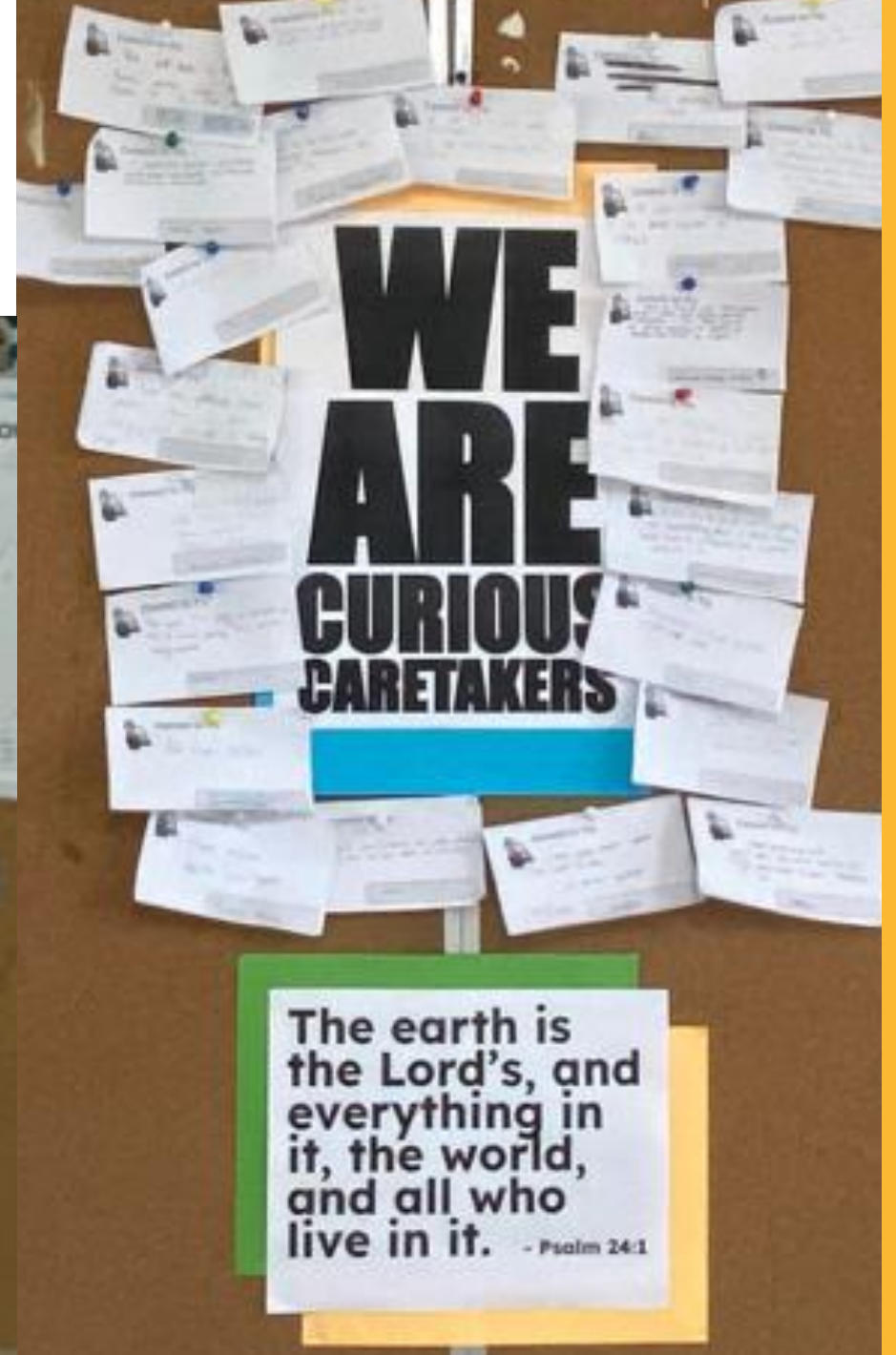
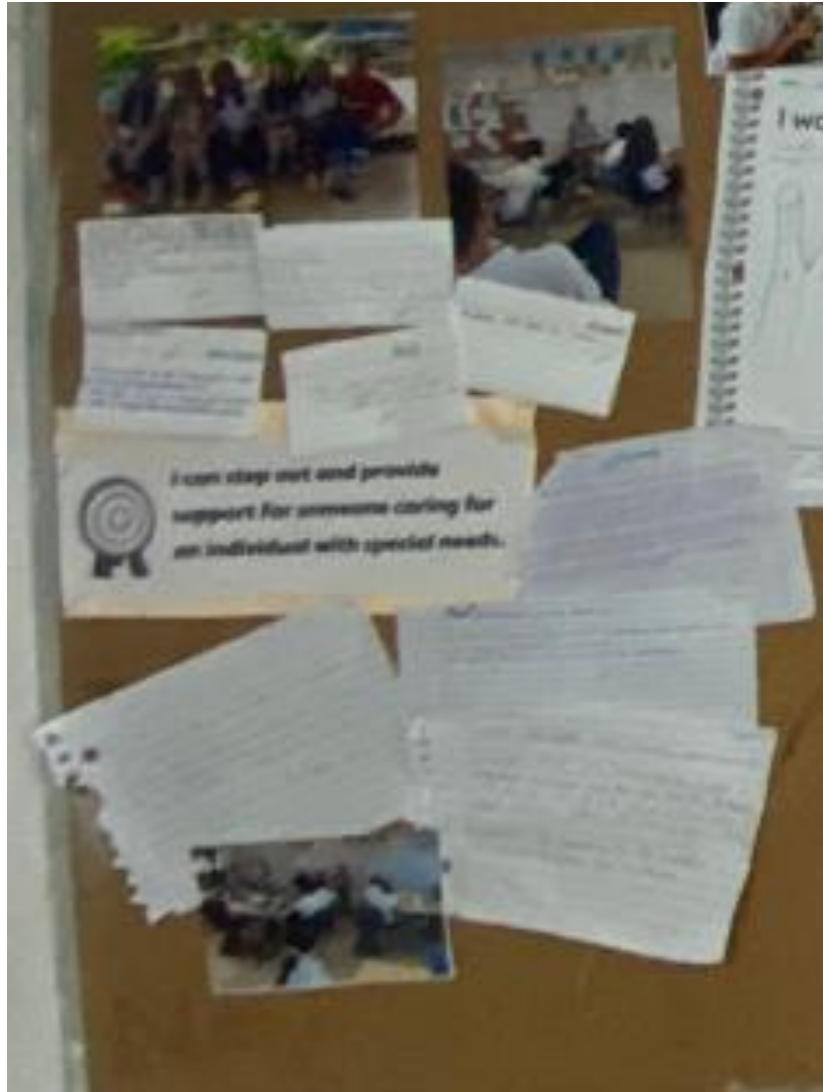


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Storyline:

WE ARE Curious Caretakers

Through this FLEx students were able to curiously learn more about genetics and reach out and be a caretaker...for a caretaker!





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Throughlines:

Order Discoverers

- Students learn the details of meiosis, DNA replication, and Protein synthesis.

Image Reflectors

- We value all people as made in God's image, even those with special needs (Down Syndrome) or sickness (Cystic Fibrosis)

Community Builders

- Students plan a respite day, and sit and listen to people who are caretakers



Formational Learning Experience:

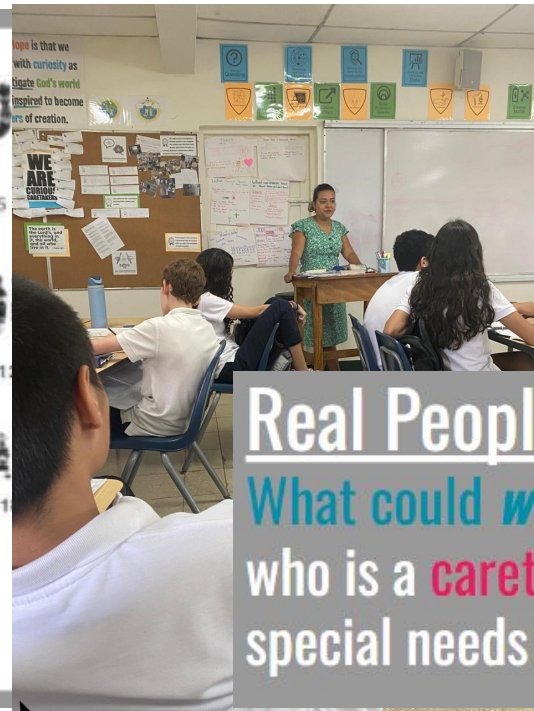
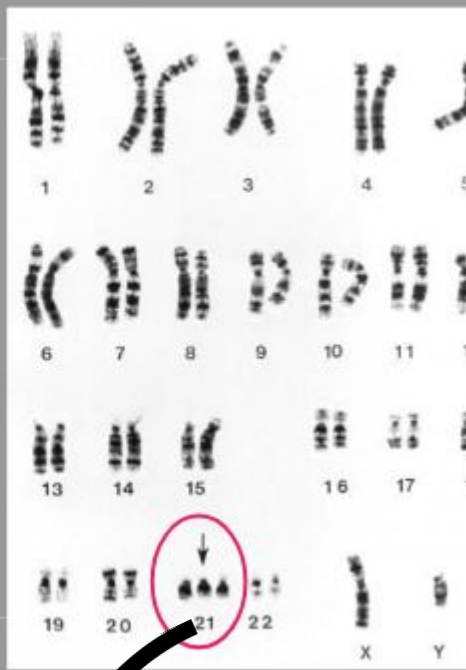
Real needs: rest, relationships, empathy, support, care, feeling seen

Real people: parents of individuals with special needs

Real work: ask questions, listen empathetically, provide respite, prayer, and food for caretakers



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Real People / Real Needs

What could *we* do to support someone who is a **caretaker** for an individual with special needs (like Down's Syndrome?)

INVITE

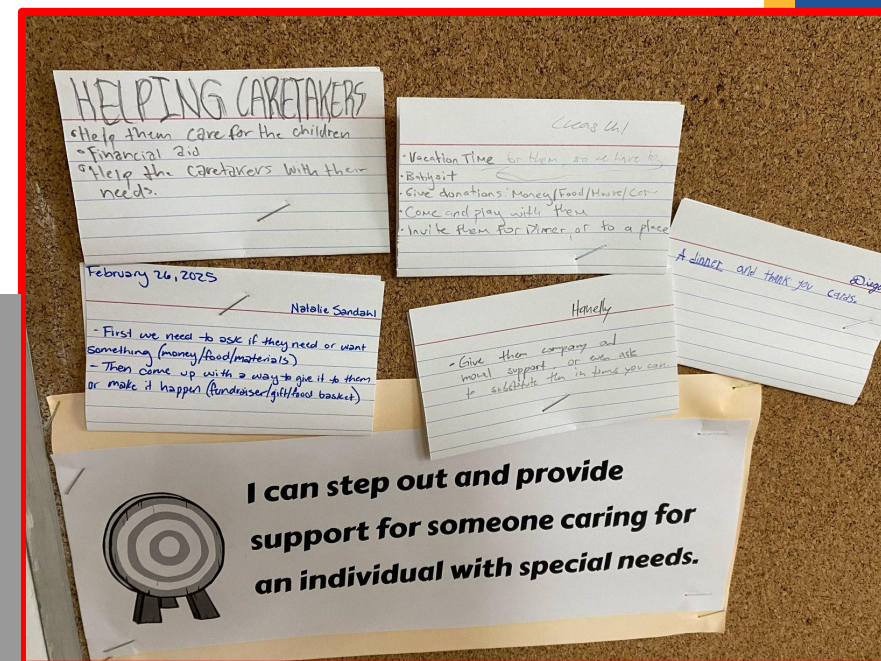
5 Things Caregiving Taught Me

joni&friends



Reflection:

- In what ways can **caretaking** be fulfilling / rewarding / growing?
- Does it sound like **caretaking** is easy or hard? Why?



NURTURE

Students learned about the cause of Down Syndrome through studying meiosis and reproduction and the cause of Cystic Fibrosis by studying protein synthesis

Students shared stories of their experiences of people with Down Syndrome

Students applied this to other situations & people (transfer task)

Students reflected on what they used to think about illness/disability and what they now know



EMPOWER

- Students sent emails to adults who could come speak
- Students provided ideas of what we could do and where we could go
- Students each had different jobs/roles to fulfill

The Roles

- 1) **Organize / run a drive (raise \$) for supplies**
 - a) Team Leader: Paulina and Jose Raul
 - i) Lucas, Zech, Caleb (Kristen, David, Natalie, Vivian, Sabina)
- 2) **Listening to people tell their stories**
 - a) Team Leader: Cristiana
 - i) Kristen, Larry, David, Natalie, (Lucas, JR)
- 3) **Setup / Clean up for food and activities**
 - a) Team Leader: Diego
 - i) Yisak, Danielle, Lily
- 4) **Serve Food**
 - a) Team Leader: Vivian and Hanelly
 - i) Emely, Sabina
- 5) **Provide Respite (activities with kids)**
 - a) Team Leader: Belen and Janieth
 - i) Noel, Hassan, Mariapaula (Zech)
- 6) **Other:**
 - a) Paulina and Caleb - Pray + Notes
 - b) Jaxsen - Floater

Preparations

Brainstorm!

- WHAT will you do?
- WHO will be responsible for things?
- WHEN will you do it?
- HOW will it be helpful, encouraging, and effective?
- What RESEARCH/RESOURCES do you need?
- What QUESTIONS do you need answered?

Student Reflections:

Kingdom Seeking - We search for Him.

Kingdom Seeking - We search for Him. responding to brokenness.

FLEx Trip Reflection

Our learning target was, "I can step out and provide support to someone who is a caretaker for an individual with special needs." Do you feel you met this learning target? Why or why not?

Yes, I feel like we genuinely connected with them, there was so much smiling and laughing, and they seemed to really enjoy their time.

What Real Work did you do to meet the Real Needs of Real People?

We worked hard to create a peaceful environment where the moms and a dad's could be taken care of as they care for their kids.

Which Throughlines best fits with what you did today during our FLEx trip? Circle one or more. (see a description of the throughlines on the back of this paper)

Christ Following Image Reflecting Community Building Servant Working

Order Discovering Creation Caretaking Beauty Creating Kingdom Seeking

What did you learn today?

That we have a lot in common / listening = important

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) in God's st

FLEx Trip Reflection

Name: Pauline

Our learning target was, "I can step out and provide support to someone who is a caretaker for an individual with special needs." Do you feel you met this learning target? Why or why not?

Yes, Talking with the Moms made me realize how much this little break helped them.

What Real Work did you do to meet the Real Needs of Real People?

I did notes and provided Respite to the Moms of Tesoros de Dios.

Which Throughlines best fits with what you did today during our FLEx trip? Circle one or more. (see a description of the throughlines on the back of this paper)

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What did you learn today?

everybody needs a break even if it's just a little.

Name: Manapaula

Our learning target was, "I can step out and provide support to someone who is a caretaker for an individual with special needs." Do you feel you met this learning target? Why or why not?

On that day, I feel like we really made a difference for those caretakers by helping them on their daily activities and letting them enjoy their time with the kids with down syndrome.

What Real Work did you do to meet the Real Needs of Real People?

I helped a girl named Zedani identify and recognize the letters in her name as well as numbers. I feel like she enjoyed her time when learning since she was excited to meet me.

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What did you learn today?

I learned how much love and care the teachers and the moms have with the children so much that they're willing to make time every single day to bring them to Tesoros and more learning easy for them.

FLEx Trip Reflection

Name: Carlos Winge

Our learning target was, "I can step out and provide support to someone who is a caretaker for an individual with special needs." Do you feel you met this learning target? Why or why not?

Yes, I feel we met the goal because now we can see and feel how it is to be a caretaker.

What Real Work did you do to meet the Real Needs of Real People?

I helped them going to their classes and taking care.

Which Throughlines best fits with what you did today during our FLEx trip? Circle one or more. (see a description of the throughlines on the back of this paper)

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I learned that having not something people should be about mothers should that the really love.

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What did you learn today?

I learned to not judge people by how they look.

Teacher Reflections:

Students were definitely motivated to learn about meiosis with the introductory activity with the karyotype. They did a great job with the science, and also an amazing job planning the FLEx. I had team leaders, we raised the money, and the day went smoothly. Students really stepped up to the plate and did well!

Additional Information to tell the story:

- Sent thank you cards to visitors
- I have found that assigning 'team leaders' for various aspects of the FLEx to help plan has been really helpful for my students.
- We got asked back to do it a second time with different people!

