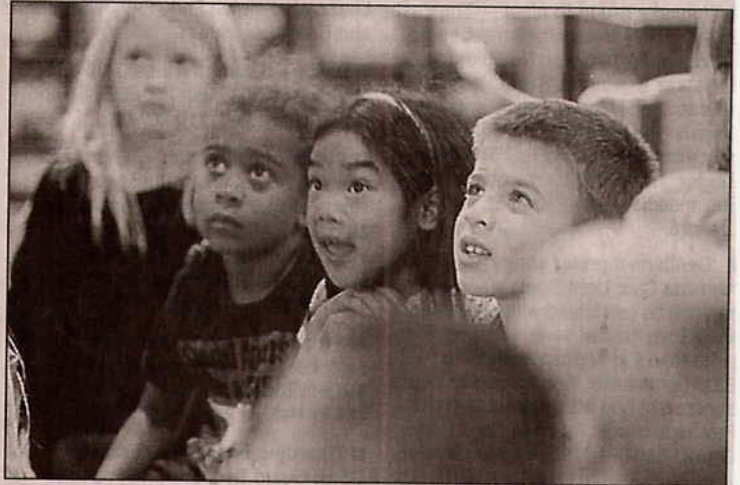


FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS



JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF



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MARINE MAMMAL CENTER representative Marcy Kober, above left, speaks to students at Edison Activity Center Oct. 29 about "Wonderful Whales." Girls Inc. students who learned about marine mammals, are, from left, Elizabeth Rezuca-Brown, 7, Amani Webber-Schultz, 5, Annie Choy, 7 and Macario Yonn, 8.

Whale Bus pulls into Edison Activity Center

By Tricia Caspers
STAFF WRITER

■ **Wonderful whales** — The Whale Bus visited Girls Inc.'s Edison Activity Center to teach boys and girls all about whales, dolphins and porpoises. The bus is a marine science outreach program offered by the Marine Mammal Center, a rehabilitation hospital in Marin for stranded, sick, and orphaned marine mammals.

The center rescues more marine mammals including seals, sea lions, whales, dolphins and sea otters than any organization in the world. Its goal is to rehabilitate and release the mammals back into their natural environments.

As part of the center's program, children in second grade and older assembled a whale skeleton. Younger children played "whale dress up." The children also saw marine mammal specimens, such as bones, pelts, and baleen (fibrous plates growing from the roof of some species of whales that is used to filter food from the water).

For information about the Marine Mammal Center, go to www.tmmc.org.