



Chasten Gold, Nonprofit

Soil Safety Hero Workshop #1

April 18, 2026

On April 18, 2026, Chasten Gold Nonprofit hosted a Soil Safety Hero Workshop as part of the Technical Assistance Grant's environmental education initiative. The workshop welcomed 11 children who participated in a series of interactive learning stations designed to introduce environmental health concepts through imaginative play, storytelling, and hands-on activities. The workshop was specifically designed to make complex environmental topics accessible and enjoyable for young learners while encouraging family participation.

The workshop began with an interactive read-aloud of *The Day I Met Captain Fresh*, written by Isaah Alford. The story introduced children to basic soil safety concepts while emphasizing healthy habits such as washing hands after outdoor play and recognizing the importance of safe play environments.

Throughout the reading, facilitators encouraged participation by asking questions, allowing children to identify healthy behaviors and discuss what they learned.



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Following storytime, participants rotated to the Soil Safety Detective Station where they became "environmental detectives." Children used magnetic wands to remove magnetic "contaminants" hidden throughout a model community play garden. Once the contaminants had been removed, participants worked together to restore the garden by adding miniature trees, vegetables, insects, flowers, and construction vehicles. The activity reinforced the importance of environmental cleanup while demonstrating that communities can become healthier through restoration efforts.

The final activity allowed each child to decorate their own Soil Safety Detective Badge and personalized certificate recognizing their participation as environmental stewards. Children proudly displayed their artwork while discussing ways they could help keep themselves and their families safe during outdoor play.

The workshop successfully combined literacy, science, creativity, and environmental awareness into an engaging educational experience. Parents expressed appreciation for the hands-on learning opportunities, while children remained actively engaged throughout all three stations. By presenting environmental health concepts in an age-appropriate format, the workshop strengthened community understanding of soil safety and further advanced the outreach objectives of the Technical Assistance Grant.

