

July 25, 1996

Lynn Wilson
Parks Department Metro
600 Northeast Grand Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97232-2736

54
students

EE 10
30
Research 134

Final
Report

Dear Lynn,

Westview High School's Metro Environmental Education Grant was utilized during the 95-96 school year to help facilitate environmental education activities in both of Westview's Environmental Science I classes. Both classes took numerous field trips (11 trips for each class). Both classes, on separate days, took a trip to Pier Park to experience the challenge course early in the year. The purpose of these trips were to work on team and decision making skills. Each section of Environmental Science had 10 field trips to two local greenspaces. Period 2 studied Beaverton Creek Wetlands Park, which is owned and operated by Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation. Period 6 worked with Portland Community College's Rock Creek Campus wetlands.

Students began in the fall by learning how to map their site. Once students had completed a map we began studying the flora and fauna on each site. We meet with each of our site sponsors and discussed special projects that they would like to see accomplished at each of the two sites. Next, students placed themselves into small groups and selected an independent project to work on which in some manner was tied to their Greenspaces site. Students working at Beaverton Creek Wetland Park choose the following projects:

- 2 Group #1 = Created a brochure for THPRD that has information on how the site could be used as a teaching tool and what kinds of things could be done on the site by school groups.
- 2 Group #2 = Created a brochure for THPRD that includes a map of the site and the flora and fauna found on the site. The purpose of this brochure is to help hikers become acquainted with the site.
- 2 Group #3 = Made a video about the site and taught a class at Beaverton Methodist pre-school about the site.
- 2 Group #4 = Organized a field trip on a Saturday for a group of sixth graders. Took them to the site and showed them the wildlife and plants. They also discussed ecological relationships.
- 3 Group #5 = Completed water quality tests (pH, turbidity, temperature, and dissolved oxygen). These tests were conducted at Beaverton Creek and Beaverton's Johnson Creek as they enter the site.
- 3 Group #6 = Completed an inventory of the Ponderosa Pine in the Beaverton area for THPRD.
- 3 Group #7 = Same as group 6.
- 1 Group #8 = Worked with others on Earthday to remove invasive plants from the site.
- 2 Group #9 = Removed trash from the site.
- 1 Group #10 = Inventory of aquatic plants

Students working at P.C.C. Rock Creek Campus wetlands choose the following projects:

- 3 Group #1 = Built woodpecker nesting boxes to be put up on the site.
- 2 Group #2 = Constructed a trail which helped in getting to the site.

- 5 Group #3 = Put roofing material on a boardwalk that was already constructed. The roofing material helped make the boardwalk less slippery when wet.
- 4 Group #4 = Planted willow and dogwood trees along Rock creek where it flows through the P.C.C. Rock Creek Campus.
- 2 Group #5 = Completed water quality tests (pH, dissolved oxygen, and total phosphate) on Rock Creek where it runs through the P.C.C. campus.
- 1 Group #6 = Completed a plot study.
- 2 Group #7 = Created a bird reference book for use on the site. The students made sketches of all the birds included in their booklet.

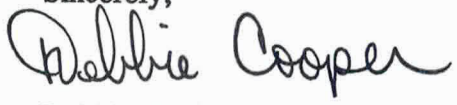
On May 11, 96 both teams presented their study in the Metro Council Chambers. Their presentation began with an introduction to the Greenspaces site they studied. This was followed by an introduction to the maps generated by each team. In addition the site history, flora and fauna were discussed. Their presentation ended with a list of recommendations for further use of their site. I have included in the notebooks below a copy of their research and independent projects.

During the winter the students worked with both a fourth and fifth grade class at Rock Creek Elementary. They presented environmental education lessons to the students. We also designed a field trip for each one of the elementary classes. On June 3rd period 2 took the fourth grade class to Beaverton Creek Wetlands Park and introduced them to this particular Greenspace site. On June 5th period 6 took the fifth grade class to P.C.C. Rock Creek Campus wetlands.

We also presented at OMSI on June 1, 1996. Each section of Environmental Science gave two presentations. One similar to the presentation given at Metro and another one which shared highlights of their independent projects they completed.

The Metro Environmental Education Grant allowed our students to gain a greater appreciation for their environment as well as a greater understanding of their environment. It also enabled them to carry out stewardship projects and to share their knowledge with younger students. It was highly successful. The only problem I faced was trying to get all of the trips organized and attempting to oversee all of the independent projects.

Sincerely,



Debbie Cooper
Westview High School