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The Environmental Middle School "Salmon In The Schoolyard" Final Report Salmonid Education Grant

Project Description -

The students at The Environmental Middle School shared information about their watershed and what young people can do to help salmon recovery in the city. This was accomplished through tours of the schoolyard and through Wildlife Tours at local parks and greenspaces. Over 20 schools visited EMS and took part in stations including composting, worm bins, recycling, native plants, wildlife habitats and the building of bioswales. In the parks students took 24 elementary classes to parks and greenspaces where they took part in stations on salmon life cycle, tracking, native plants and birds. Many children had never been to their local park and showed a great deal of appreciation for the project. School left their schoolyard tours with some free plants and many ideas that they could implement at their own schools.

Goals and Intent -

Our goal was to show schools what they could do at their own schools to help salmon and to give students with little access to environmental education, an opportunity to learn and experience their local parks.

We felt very successful in meeting these goals and plan to continue these projects in the future.

Work Tasks and Timelines -

- 1. Invite students to schoolyard tours and facilitate these tours.
- 2. Plan wildlife tours/ stations and practice them with their classes.
- 3. Invite elementary schools to go on the tours and arrange buses.
- 4. Put together boxes of supplies for the stations.
- 5. Give the tours!
- 6. Give the tours also on Earth Day and at other community events.

Project Budget -

Money was spent this year to complete boxes for the wildlife tours. This included money to build a "bear curriculum" as related to Salmon \$463.93 (batteries, plaster of paris, animal track stencils, bear claws, bear skull, puppets, bird station id cards)

1

Project Staff-

Sarah Taylor, Coordinator
Jill Howdyschell, AmeriCorps
All six teachers and parents.

How The Project Relates to the Greenspaces Program -

This project helped connect students to salmon by understanding that what they do in their daily life at school effects salmon. It also gave students a greater appreciation of their local parks and greenspaces. This project hoped to connect students who might not otherwise have the opportunity, be connected to nature.

What worked / What Didn't Work -

This worked great! Our students learned so much and loved giving the tours. We plan to keep doing this every year. Any school could do this and we would be happy to help show someone how.

Advice For Project Managers-

We often overlook our best resource - student energy, time and enthusiasm. Try to look for ways to include them in projects. You are investing not only in that project but in those children who will grow up to be responsible citizens in our city.

Monitoring and Maintenance Plans-

We just need to keep our tour boxes nice and clean and in order. We need to keep empowering our kids to create new stations and to work in the community. We need to keep reaching out to other schools.

Accurate Count of Numbers and Species of Trees and Shrubs -

We gave away over 250 trees and shrubs to other schools to use in their naturescaping projects.

DOCUMENTATION MUST BE ATTACHED FOR ALL COST

| | Description of Services or Materials Purchases | Cost or Cash Value (cash, in-kind materials & services; volunteer labor) | Request for Reimbursement from Metro* |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| PERSONNEL COSTS Volunteer hours are valued at \$5.50 per hour. Attach time sheets or receipts for both in-kind and reimbursements. | | In- Kind Staff 10 staff x 24 hrs 240 hrs x 5.50 \$1,320.00 | 0 |
| MATERIALS & SUPPLIES Briefly describe. Attach receipts for both in-kind and reimbursements. | | Boxes for salmon stations and supplied | \$465.00 |
| EQUIPMENT RENTAL Briefly describe. Attach receipts for both in-kind and reimbursements. | | none | u - |
| PROFESSIONAL or OUTSIDE SERVICE(S) Briefly describe. Attach receipts for both in-kind and reimbursements. | | none | |
| TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT REQU | ESTED: | | |

^{*}Reimbursement cannot exceed more that 50% of total project cost or more than total cash outlay and all must have a 1:1 match.