

**Environmental Middle School  
Greenspaces Education Grant  
Wildlife Tours  
923610  
December 5, 2003  
Final Report**

**1. Activities**

Ems students monitored sites on a monthly basis during the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 school years. Data was collected at each site (Johnson Creek, Beggars Tick, Tryon Creek, Porch Creek, Willamette Deeis, Smith and Bybee Lake). Students collected data on: air temperature, water temperature, dissolved oxygen content, ph, turbidity, plant communities, signs of wildlife, and human impact. The data was presented to the community partners.

EMS students invited 16 third grade classrooms to an all day Wildlife Tour, which included educational stations related to water shed health. EMS also developed an accompanying curriculum for teachers to use throughout the year. (see My Tree attachment)

EMS families and community partners were invited to educational activities at each of the sites. This activity will continue as part of the education program at EMS.

EMS created a low water nativescape at SE 13<sup>th</sup> and Ivan St with students, families, and neighbors (see attached photos). The lot was constructed with recycled concrete from Clog Pro and compost from both the EMS compost bins and American compost and recycling. Students researched low water use plants and then planted lavender and rosemary. A rainwater catch was also installed.

## 2. Evaluation and comments

### Wildlife Tours

An amazing attribute of wildlife tours is the excitement of the younger students to be learning about animals and their habitats and to be learning from older students. As Claire Valentine-Fossum, an EMS alumni remembered, "My favorite part was to see how excited the little kids were to learn about turtles. And to see how they would race around from each station because they were so happy to be there." The middle school students feel empowered when teaching younger children, and the information they teach becomes important and valuable, beyond that which is learned in the classroom.

The challenges with Wildlife Tours have to do with the logistics of getting all of the equipment out to the parks. The Wildlife Tour kits are large and usually don't ride on the bus with the students, so a teacher or chaperone has to fit them in their own vehicle, and sometimes they do not always fit. This leaves lots of scrounging at the last minute. Also, we only have one set of kits. This makes it hard for a class to practice for their tour when the kits are out on a tour. We have not created a sustainable practice for this yet, so it would be helpful to create one in the future.

### Ivon Street Lot

In the beginning, the Ivon Street lot created a little tension in the surrounding neighborhood. Most of the community was apprehensive about what we were going to do at the lot and how a bunch of kids could make it look nice. Now, after completion, the community loves their new Lavender lot. Many people walk through the garden, sit and enjoy the beauty, and even help weed and water the plants. They feel it has become an asset to their neighborhood.

The only challenges with the Lavender lot have been with the rain barrel and the location. We installed a rain barrel and because it overflowed, the neighbor who had connected it to his gutters disconnected it. We do not know that he is willing to reconnect the rain barrel, but we assume the plants have rooted into the soil enough that they do not need watering anymore. If there were to be a severe drought in the summer, the garden would need watering, and the neighbors across the street would let us use their hose, as they have done before. The second challenge is the location. If EMS moves to a new site next year, we will be further away from the lot and unable to tend to it as often. This year we will try to encourage the neighborhood to take responsibility for the lot and its upkeep.

### 3. See attached

### 4. See attached

### 5. Maintenance Plan of the Lavender Lot

Our project restored/enhanced the Ivon Street lot. The lot is now considered part of the EMS Gardening curriculum. Each student is responsible for a number of service hours in

the school garden. Every year the entire school has multiple garden days where students tend to the needs of the garden. In addition to these summer garden days, there are larger garden days when families and staff participate in the gardens. Three of these occur, one in summer, spring, and fall. It is in all of these gardens days, on top of class time, where the students get their garden service hours. With 230 students needing at least 6 garden hours, the Lavender lot has been well taken care of.

## **6. Acreage and species**

The Lavender Lot is approximately 1/8 to 1/4 acre. Three trees were planted, one White Oak and two Oregon Myrtles. Six forsythia plants were also planted. Approximately 100 to 150 small lavender, rosemary, and thyme plants also made it into the soil at the Ivon Street lot.

## **7. Products**

“My Tree” third grade curriculum

Site Monitoring Photos

Site Monitoring curriculum goals

Photos of the Lavender Lot with Map of the photo point locations

Letters to the neighborhood surrounding the Ivon Street lot

Attachment of Wildlife Tours video

Journal pages from EMS students’ service learning folders

# Environmental Education Grant Section C: Project Budget

Category	Grant Request	Matching Funds	Matching in Kind	Expenses
<b>PERSONNEL</b>	<p><b>Total = \$750</b></p> <p><b>Community Wildlife Tours Coordinators</b> (Funds Will be used to pay an hourly rate for EMS teachers to coordinate weekend WT events for the communities around their sites) = <b>\$550</b></p> <p><b>Teacher Workshop Coordinator</b> (funds will be used to pay an hourly rate to coordinate weekend teacher workshops) = <b>\$250</b></p>		<p><b>Total=\$6000</b></p> <p><b>EMS staff – 10 teacher, \$25/hr. for 20 hrs = \$5000</b></p> <p><b>Administrative Support - \$25/hr for 20 hours = \$500</b></p> <p><b>Americorps Vista staff – 3 Vistas funded by Corporation for National Service</b></p>	<b>\$696.08</b>
<b>VOLUNTEER LABOR</b>			<p><b>Total = \$12,480</b></p> <p><b>EMS students and parents</b></p> <p><b>Wildlife Tours; 4, 4hr events w/ 30 volunteers/event @\$6.50/hr = \$3,120</b></p> <p><b>Naturescape</b> (includes Abernethy) 4,2 hr work days/mo for 6 mo x 30 vols/day @ \$6.50/hr = <b>\$9,360</b></p>	
<b>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</b>	<p><b>Total = \$300</b></p> <p><b>Naturalists</b> (Funds will be used to pay professional naturalists to teach during site monitoring visits) = \$300</p>			<b>\$298.00</b> (Habitat Training)
<b>MATEIRALS AND SUPPLIES</b>	<p><b>Total = \$1,125</b></p> <p>Funds will be used to purchase environmental education resources for Wildlife Tour stations and to give as starter kits to teachers at participating elementary schools. Example: binoculars, water quality testing kits, insect nets, etc.</p>	<p><b>Total = \$320</b></p> <p><b>Portland Nursery – Donation of Native plants for the Naturescape = \$250 (pending)</b></p> <p><b>Native Plants of the Northwest (Wallace Hansen) – Donation of native plant seeds for the naturescape= \$70 secured</b></p>	<p><b>The Ivon St. lot (worth about \$30,000)</b></p>	<p><b>Tools = \$153.10</b></p> <p><b>Compost = \$85.00</b></p> <p><b>Photos = \$9.98</b></p> <p><b>Food = \$12.65</b></p> <p><b>Rain barrel = \$126.00</b></p> <p><b>Lavender, rosemary, thyme = \$516.00</b></p> <p><b>Trees = \$15.00</b></p> <p><b>Total = \$817.73</b></p>

<b>RENTAL FEES</b>				Truck rental = \$114.63
<b>INDIRECT / OVER HEAD COSTS</b> Not grant eligible				
<b>CONTINGENCY</b> Not grant eligible				
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Total = \$500</b> <b>Transportation</b> – Funds are needed to transport EMS and Sitton elementary students to Smith and Bybee lakes for site monitoring visits and Wildlife Tours; 5 buses @ \$150 ea. = \$500			<b>Non-reimb student transport = \$495.70</b> <b>Bus tickets = \$447.00</b>
<b>Local Meetings/Staff Development</b>	<b>Total = \$250</b> <b>Teacher Workshops</b> – Funds will be used to host 5 workshops for 50 educators, refreshments \$40/wkshp for 5 workshops = \$200, printing and publishing \$50 = \$250			<b>Total = \$942.70</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>= \$2,925</b>	<b>\$320</b>	<b>\$48,400 / \$18,400 (without lot)</b>	<b>\$2869.14</b>

**The Environmental Middle School  
Site Monitoring  
2001-2002**

**Goals:**

1. To develop, in students, a sense of place which includes stewardship and curiosity.
2. To study biology and life sciences in the natural world.
3. To develop site monitoring skills. To develop water quality monitoring skills.
4. To observe seasonal changes.
5. To record changes in pictures, words and graphs.
6. To understand the impact humans have had and continue to have on the site.
7. To understand what ways humans are working to protect the area.
8. To share with other students, teachers and parents the information gathered at the site.

**Assessment:**

1. Each class will present information about their site at morning meeting 3 times during the year. Slides, overheads, video, speeches should be part of the presentation.
2. Each student should be able to demonstrate an ability to test a water sample and interpret those results.
3. Students will have an individual record of the information he or she gathered.
4. Classes will present site information at the service-learning night in June.

**Additional Activities:**

1. Meet with the "Friends Of.." Group or the governing agency for that site.
2. Take you buddies to the site or another elementary classroom.
3. Have a Saturday morning parent or family visit.
4. Plan a service-learning project at your site.
5. Research the site at the library.

February 8, 2002



Dear Neighbor,

This is just a note to let you know that volunteers from the Environmental Middle School and Friends of Trees will be working on the Ivon St. lot tomorrow (Saturday) from 9am - 1pm. Friends of Trees is planting trees in the entire Hosford Abernethy neighborhood, and we've ordered some drought tolerant trees and other plants to go in our low water use demonstration garden that will be planted early this spring. You're welcome to drop by to visit or to help with the planting!

If you have any questions please feel free to call us at 503.916.6490.

Take care,

Allison Hornor

Allison Hornor

AmeriCorps\*VISTA at the Environmental Middle School

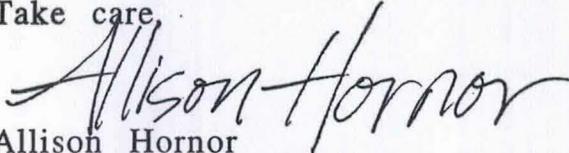
March 1, 2002 Dear Neighbor,

This is just a note to let you know that volunteers from the Environmental Middle School will be working on the Ivon St. lot tomorrow (Saturday) from 9 -11am. We're still working on removing trash, old bark and morning glory weeds from the lot. We're also adding some compost to get ready for planting.

Every Wednesday from 2-4 we have gardening at the school and there is a good chance that we'll be working at the lot as the weather gets nicer. And finally next Thursday March 7th we're renting a truck to remove the last full load of yard debris.

If you have any questions, ideas or concerns, or would like to join us on a work day please feel free to call us at 503.916.6490.

Take care,



Allison Hornor

AmeriCorps\*VISTA at the Environmental Middle School



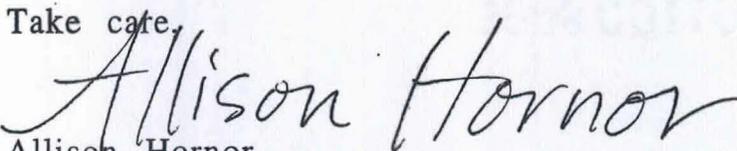
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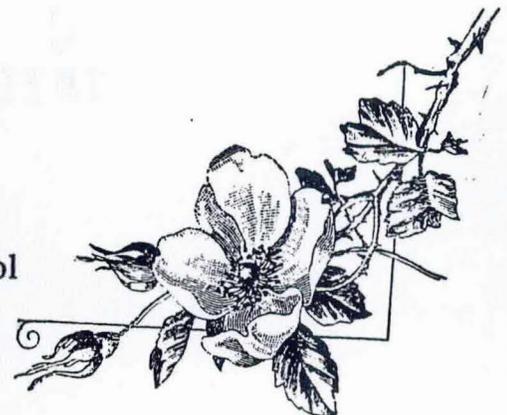
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Allison Hornor

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# Life Tours

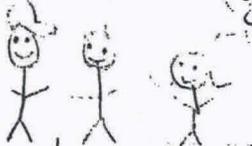


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nc....

Time to switch



TIME TO SWITCH



After the rest  
of the stations



Wow. It's a bear TRACK? Lets look for more

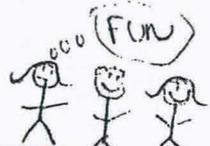


COOL

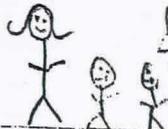
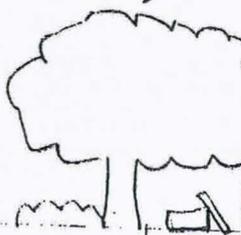
Time to play a game



Here's the Rules.



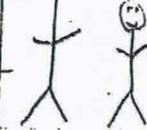
We're going to the Bird Station



BIRDS?

What does a bird say

tweet



Yes, it's a bird

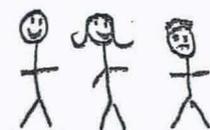


Here's a log that a beaver chewed

We're going to Beavers



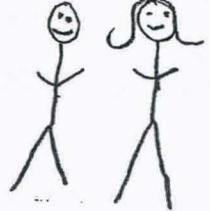
Wow!!



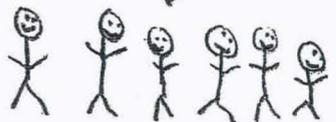
Time to Switch to Frogs!



Bye



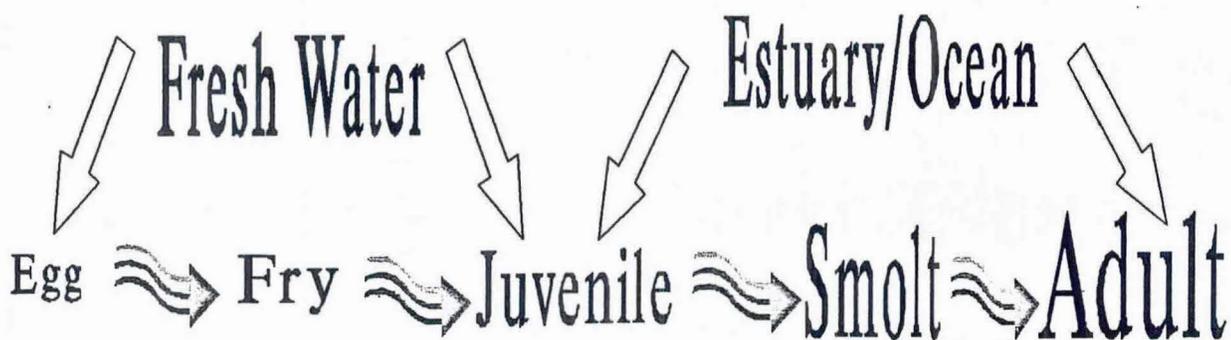
BYE. Thank YOU



# Wild Life Tours

Today my class did their wildlife tours at Sitton School. I helped run the salmon life cycle tour with Holly V. and Ryan V..

In the wild life tour we talked about a salmons life cycle and played a game that showed that not all salmon live to make it to the ocean.



For wildlife tours, we went to Alberta  
Park. I was in the Salmon group.

In our group we taught mostly about the  
interesting life cycle and tough obstacles  
the salmon face. The kids were good  
and asked good questions. They really  
liked the egg game.

At the end the kids said well that  
they learned. A lot of kids said still  
about salmon and I was glad they were  
learning about it.

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