

One Stream at a Time 8th Grade Project

Goal: to improve the quality of the Willamette watershed and increase awareness of how everyone can make a difference in our environment

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Disney Planet Challenge 2012

- DPC encourages students to learn about a local, environmental issue by researching, investigating, and then acting to improve the current conditions.
- Through this project, our class utilized resources in addition to the textbook to learn about our Willamette River and developed a plan to improve the condition of the watershed we all rely on.
- As a result, we earned 6th place in the Nation and 1st place in the state of Oregon!

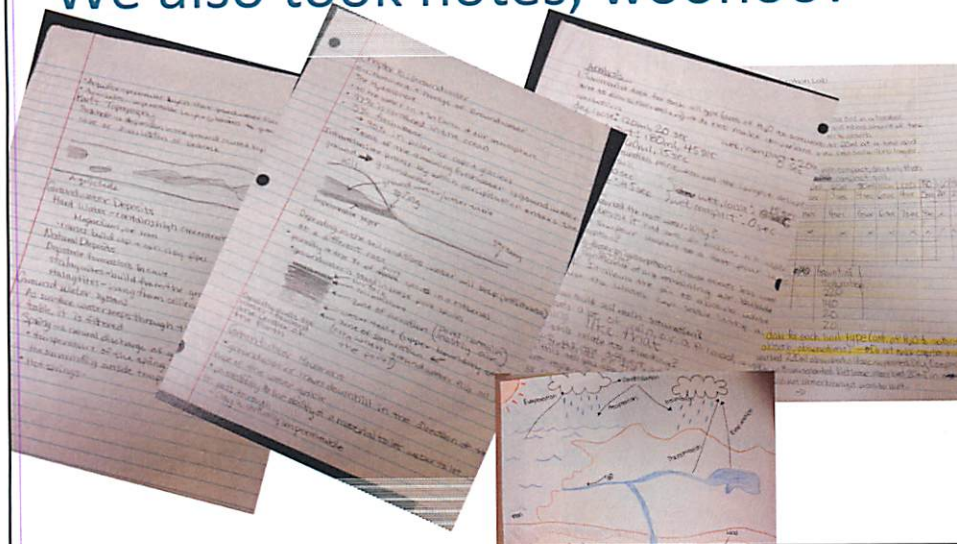




Back in the classroom . . .

- Matt Donohue from the Oregon DOJ taught us about the Clean Water Act and our role as citizens
- SOLVE presented information about current projects on the Willamette and what we could do to help
- Students prepared brochures, newspaper contacts, garden guides, videos, a website and bulletin announcements to share our project's message with the community
- A group of students presented our project to the school board
- Another group presented information about the water cycle and our project to Swegle Boys and Girls Club

We also took notes, woohoo!



Our New Native Plant Garden Area



We discovered the area needed quite a lot of work before we could begin installing a garden. Several weekends were spent removing grass, picking up trash, and hauling debris out of the ditches. We were blessed with many parent and staff volunteers helping.



Our new garden is a place for learning

Students engaged in inquiry investigations about macroscopic organisms, pH levels, ground cover, erosion, composting, and more. Each year, 8th grade students will design and conduct further inquiry investigations in the stream and garden areas.



Where we go from here:
Five-year plan
Garden Stewards
Host classes and perform
labs with them
Garden expansion
More publicity to encourage
others to clean our water
Continue to work to improve
our environment

Making a difference ONE STREAM AT A TIME!



TWL: Make a plan first, be part of your community, patience, be prepared, wear gloves, work with what you have, teachers work a lot, WE CAN MAKE AN IMPACT

Standards

Science Standards

- 8.2E4 Analyze geologic, climatic, environmental, and life form change over time
- 8.3 Scientific Inquiry: investigation of natural world based on observations and science principles
- 8.4D.1 Define a problem that addresses a need
- 8.3S.2 Organize, display, and analyze relevant data
- 6.2L.2 Explain how organisms in an ecosystem interact
- H2.E4 Evaluate the impact of human activities on environmental quality
- 7.2E.3 Evaluate natural processes and human activities that affect global environmental change

- H2.L2 Explain how ecosystems change in response to disturbances and interactions. Analyze relationships between biotic and abiotic factors
- H.3S.2 Design and conduct a field study, make observations about the natural world
- H1.E2 Describe the structure, function, and composition of Earth's geosphere

English Language Standards

- 8.SL.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions
- 6-8.RST.3: Follow multi-step procedures
- 6-8.WST.4: Produce clear and coherent writing
- 6-8.WST.5: Develop and strengthen writing by planning, revising or trying a new approach
- 8.RL.7: Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums