

Beach Elementary School



Community Partners

- Whitwam Construction, Inc.
- Keene Lumber
- Lowe's
- Wesco
- The Bird House
- Muskegon Conservation District
- Bruce DeVries
- The Peabody Family
- Parent and Community Volunteers

Project Overview

We created the "Beach Backyard". Our students worked diligently to construct habitats using resources they found in the surrounding area, like branches, leaves, twigs, and logs. In addition, the students made bird feeders to help supplement the food source for native birds. We used recycled plastic bottles and used pine cones with peanut butter for our bird feeders.

Once the snow melted, we worked with Keene Lumber and Whitwam Construction, Inc. to assemble and install 8 benches for our outdoor classroom. Keene Lumber donated all the wood for the benches and 55 tool belts for each student.

Lowe's donated 30 cedar boards and hammers for us to use to construct our bird houses. John and Tammy Peabody pre-

pared the wood and got everything ready to assemble the bird houses. The kindergarten students worked with high school students, parents, and board members during the assembly process.

On April 22nd, Beach School celebrated Earth Day by having a school wide campus clean up. Each class was responsible for a particular portion of the campus. For example, some classes and volunteers pulled bushes, planted flowers, raked up debris, spread mulch, and cleaned our flower beds.

Finally the students created a butterfly garden using native plants.

Throughout this project the students had a voice. They were able to generate and implement ideas to create our wonderful "Beach Backyard."

Beach Elementary 2013-2014

School Year Team:

- 52 Students
- 3 Teachers
- 2 Classrooms
- Kindergarten and 3rd Grade

"I am proud of our benches because we all worked so hard together on them."
~ Brittlyn, 3rd Grade

"My favorite part was making bird houses with my dad." ~ Reese, Kindergarten

"I like the habitats because we made places for animals to live." ~ Pascal, 3rd Grade

"This was my first time building a bird house, it was awesome!"



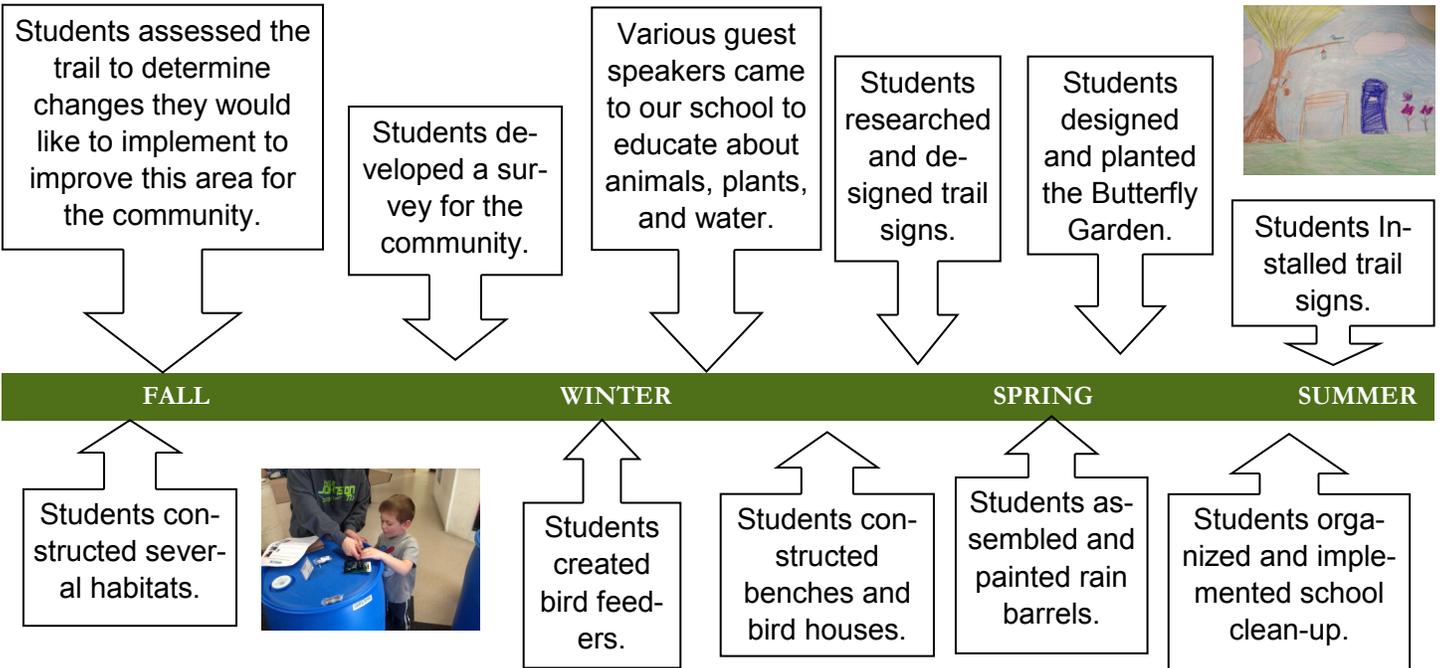
Everyone worked as a team to build "The Beach Backyard"





The Beach Backyard

2013-2014 Project Timeline



- Skills learned:**
- Leadership
 - Communication
 - Decision Making
 - Collaboration and Team Work
 - Plant and Animal Adaptations
 - Human's Positive and Negative Impacts on our Environment
 - Groundwater Pollution Prevention

