

Reeths-Puffer Elementary

Building a Bridge Between RPEL and Riverside Park

Community Partners

- Judy Clarke-Ochs (Neighbor)
- ABC Supply
- Reeths-Puffer High School Theater Department
- Joel Darling
- Jeremiah Johnson/Advanced Green Architecture
- Radio Juniper
- Muskegon Township
- Family Resource Center
- RPEL Parents
- Dr. Peterson
- and many, many more!

Student Learning Outcomes

The purpose of our project was to build a bridge between our school campus and the neighboring Riverside Park. We divided our goals by grade level.

The Kindergarten students worked to improve the school courtyard. They started by doing a general clean up. Then they added bird feeders, bird houses, bird baths, and hope to restore an existing pond in the near future. They are also considering adding another rain barrel to this area to prevent flooding under an entry way. Kindergarten students also planted sunflowers and will use the seeds to feed the birds in the courtyard.

First grade classes worked to clean/maintain the blue-bird nesting boxes. They also planted fruit trees on the RPEL campus. They worked to maintain the flower boxes over at Riverside Park (pansies in early spring, marigolds over the summer).

Second grade undertook the task of designing and building a shed for the school's Community Garden. This shed will house tools such as a lawn mower, rototiller, wheelbarrow and much more. It also has an attached Farmer's Market stand. Families in need will be able to visit the stand on Tuesday's in the summer and fall and receive fresh produce. The shed, along with the market stand, will also have a rooftop garden. Second grade also maintained the Butterfly Garden at Riverside (weeded, put in additional plantings, added mulch).

Third/Fourth grade organized a Riverside Park Clean-Up prior to Earth Day. The clean-up occurred on Earth Day (April 22) and involved students from our building and the high school. In addition to that, they also made door hangers that brought awareness to improvements we are working to make at Riverside Park. They also built a website on wolf facts for kids for the National Park

RPEL

2013 - 14
School Year
Team:

- 100+ Students
- 5 Teachers
- 5 Classrooms
- Kindergarten through 4th grade





Learning Objectives:

- The learner will learn to understand the Great Lakes Watershed and how our daily activities affect our watershed.
- The learner will make long lasting connections to the Reeths-Puffer Community.
- The learner will become part of a community of stewards – citizens who see a community need and know how to work together to meet needs, help others, and strive to make the world a better place.

2013-2014 School Year Project Timeline

