



## Frisch's Outreach:



## Project Gr. (1-3)

(Kids Initiating Change In Nature)

## Extensions

### At a glance

This program will show students how they can contribute to the well being of living things.

### Goal

This program is designed to increase understanding of what living things need to survive.

### Objectives

1. Students will be able to name four things all living things need to survive.
2. Students will investigate and identify needs of living things within their home, classroom or school.
3. Students will co-operatively use decision making skills to generate an action plan to address identified needs.

4. Students will co-operatively activate their plan.
5. Students will assess and reflect upon their accomplishments.
6. Students will share and demonstrate their success with others.

### Theme

People, plants, and animals can co-operatively sustain a healthy environment.

### Sub-themes

1. Plants, animals and people both need healthy environments.
2. When living things enjoy a healthy habitat people benefit from a healthy environment.
3. People can directly affect habitats.

### Academic Standards

<p>Ohio Academic Content Standards – Science</p>	<p><i>Grade One</i>  Life Sciences – 1  Scientific Inquiry – 1,2  <i>Grade Two</i>  Life Sciences – 1,2,3,6,7  Scientific Inquiry – 2,3,5,6</p> <p><i>Grade Three</i>  Life Sciences – 6  Scientific Inquiry – 6</p>
<p>Ohio Academic Content Standards – Social Studies</p>	<p><i>Grade One</i>  People in Societies  Cultures – 1  Citizenship Rights &amp; Responsibilities  Participation – 1  Rights &amp; Responsibilities – 2,3,4,5  Social Studies Skill &amp; Methods  Obtaining Information – 1  Thinking &amp; Organizing – 2,3,4  Community Information – 5  Problem Solving – 6</p> <p><i>Grade Two</i>  People in Societies  Citizen Rights &amp; Responsibilities  Participation – 1  Rights &amp; Responsibilities – 2, 3  Social Studies Skills &amp; Methods  Obtaining Information -1  Thinking &amp; Organizing – 4  Problem Solving – 6</p> <p><i>Grade Three</i>  People in Societies  Citizen Rights &amp; Responsibility  Participation – 1,2,3  Social Studies Skills &amp; Methods  Obtaining Information – 2  Thinking &amp; Organizing – 3  Problem Solving - 6</p>
<p>Kentucky Academic Content Standards – Science</p>	<p><i>Grades Primary through Grade 4</i>  SC-E-3.1.2; SC-E-3.1.3;SC-E-3.3.2;SC-E-3.3.3</p>

Kentucky Academic Content Standard – Social Studies	<i>Grades Primary through Grade 4</i> Social Institutions SS-EP-2.2.1 Interaction Among Individuals & Groups SS-EP-2.3.1 Human Environment Interaction SS-EP-4.4.1 SS-EP-4.4.2
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## Background

Nature and children are intrinsically linked. Healthy child development is greatly enhanced when children spend time in the natural world. Opportunities in nature allow children to self actualize, develop empathy, and realize that they are part of a larger, wondrous community.

In today’s world, educators are keenly interested in actively connecting their students to our world. However, educator, David Sobel, wrote “If we want children to flourish, to really feel empowered, let us allow them to love the earth before we ask them to save it.”

Immersion in “nature close by” can be an effective way to allow children to experience, investigate, and appreciate nature in their home, classroom, or school. Natural place based learning can empower learners to take an active role in their own investigations. Collaborative learning can develop higher level thinking skills, problem solving, communication skills, teamwork and creativity, information literacy and action planning. Effective experiential learning strategies in many content areas can be utilized.

While investigating and experiencing nature students may recognize a need or want to contribute toward encouraging other people to spend time in the natural world that is close to them. Young learners can make a difference in their homes, classroom, or school. By investigating, identifying a need, creating a plan, activating the plan and

Title (X-X): Extensions

then reflecting on and assessing their success, students will begin their journey toward self knowledge, empowerment and realizing the value of collaborative learning. They can make that first all important step toward placing a high value on what our natural world has to offer to us, individually, and to our communities.

\*\*for ideas and guidance on Project Learning see the **Extensions** portion of this document\*\*

## Vocabulary

*action* – the process of doing something in order to achieve a purpose

*assess* – to look at carefully; to judge or evaluate it

*assessment* – a judgment about something

*collaborate* – to work together

*conclusion* – a decision made or the part that brings something to a close

*demonstration* – a presentation to others to show how something works

*evidence*- something that gives a sign or proof of a truth

*goal*- something that you want to achieve

*habitat* - the place or environment where a plant or animal lives

*investigate*- to carry out a detailed examination in order to find out about something

*reflect*– to think about carefully

## **Extensions**

### **Nature Based:**

<http://www.arboday.org/kids/kidsDif.cfm>

<http://education.audubon.org/tips-bringing-nature-classroom>

<http://www.fws.gov/cno/conservation/schoolyard.cfm> school yard habitat projects

<http://generationon.org/kids/what-do-you-care-about>

Learning Channel

[tlc.howstuffworks.com/family/nature-projects-4-kids.htm](http://tlc.howstuffworks.com/family/nature-projects-4-kids.htm)

[http://library.fws.gov/Bird\\_Publications/house.html](http://library.fws.gov/Bird_Publications/house.html)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife service has a free pamphlet online for bird projects.

National Wildlife Federation (NFW)  
Schoolyard Habitats Program

[www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor.../Schoolyard-Habitats.aspx](http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor.../Schoolyard-Habitats.aspx)

National Wildlife Federation

[NWF.org/kids/Ranger-Rick.aspx](http://NWF.org/kids/Ranger-Rick.aspx)

Project Feeder Watch

[www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw/index](http://www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw/index)  
( classroom data gathering)

Project Wild

[Projectwild.org](http://Projectwild.org)

### **Not Exclusively Nature Based:**

<http://www.kidactivities.net/post/Community-Service-Ideas-for-Kids.aspx>

## **Resources**

Broda, Herbert, Schoolyard Enhanced Learning: Using the Outdoors As An Instructional Tool, Stenhouse Publishers, 2007.

Louv, Richard, Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature Deficit Disorder. Algonquin Books, 2010.

Sobel, David, Place Based Education: Connecting Classrooms and Communities, Orion Society, 2004.

### **Websites:**

Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden  
[www.cincinnati-zoo.org](http://www.cincinnati-zoo.org)