

"Where Once There Was a Wood" by Denise Fleming

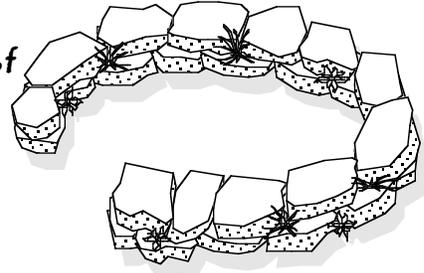
Activities

- * Take field trips to local parks and nature centers. Observe what's been done to encourage wildlife.
- * Invite speakers: naturalists, gardeners, and bee keepers to speak about habitats.
- * Find out what the area was like before your school was built.
- * Draw a plot plan of the school yard backyard or community space. Record the location of buildings, trees, and bushes are. Measure the distances between buildings, trees, etc. Mark north, south, east, and west on the plan. Design symbols for plants, trees, bushes, and flowers.
- * Draw a plot plan of the school yard with improvements for wild creatures.
- * Keep a journal of creatures that are sighted in your area. Record the date and time of the sighting. Don't forget to include bugs.
- * Plant a butterfly garden. 
- * Contact local herb or garden clubs for plant donations.
- * Have a wildflower seed exchange.
- * Donate plants in honor of individuals or occasions.
- * Find out what birds nest in your area. Build bird houses. Contact parents and family members that work in the building trades or have home workshops for scrap lumber.
- * Build a small pond or set up a bird bath. 
- * Set up feeding stations for birds and wild creatures.
- * Have a bird seed drive.

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Activities

* Build a reading circle of large discarded pieces of concrete. Fill the cracks with dirt and plants.



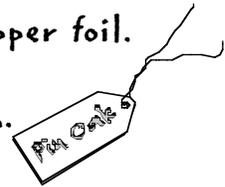
* Conduct classes out of doors.

* Set up an outdoor weather station—You'll need a thermometer, rain gauge, wind sock or weather vane, and cloud charts. Give a daily weather report on the announcements. Keep a record of the weather on a calendar.

* Plan a nature walk route—design a flyer describing what you'll see on the walk.

* Make identification tags for trees and plants by embossing copper foil.

* Purchase nature audio tapes and guide books, or make your own.

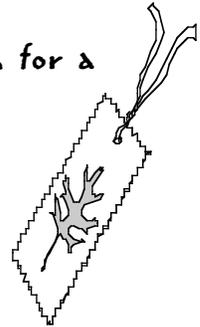


* Photograph seasonal changes in your area.

* Create postcards from wildlife. What would be a great vacation for a raccoon?

* Build a robin's nest with mud and grasses.

* Have a mock nature court—represent animals and people.



* Make leaf bookmarks with clear contact paper—sell bookmarks as a fundraiser. Include slip with information about leaf.

* Clip articles about the environment from magazines and newspapers.