

Middle School Native Plant Habitat Garden Restoration Project



The Native Plant Habitat Garden and Restoration Project undertaken by the Environmental and Adventure School with the assistance of Starflower Foundation can serve as a model to help others develop a school-ground natural area. Restoration of the site featured an ecosystem-based habitat garden using native plantings and incorporated certain design features to enhance use of the natural area by wildlife. The objective was to create a permanent, high quality outdoor environmental learning center with trails, seating areas, wildlife viewing areas, monitoring stations and interpretive signage.

Recognizing that both the development of the habitat garden and its long-term maintenance were dependent upon student involvement, an integrated curriculum unit for middle school students was developed using the habitat garden as a core project through which students, parents and staff learn to better understand and appreciate a Northwest native plant community and its value to wildlife and people. The activities provide tools for students to study, develop, monitor, and evaluate a natural area over a long period of time. [See the curriculum unit...](#)

The documents that follow provide a history of the Habitat Garden and Restoration Project undertaken by the Environmental and Adventure School and a roadmap for others interested in restoring a school site with native plants. They include project goals and objectives, planning strategies, and student lessons. Starflower Foundation hopes you find them useful. [See the documents...](#)

Further information may be obtained from the Lake Washington School District Environmental and Adventure School (425)825-1411 or <http://schools.lwsd.org/EAS/>

