

OUR Schools

Environmental STEAM Education





Environmental STEAM Education

At OUR Schools, we believe that investing in the STEAM (*Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math*) and environmental education of our youth is essential to building a sustainable future where all of our resource needs are provided by clean production and efficient use.

We provide environmental STEAM education to elementary and middle schools around Maryland. Through assemblies, in-school activities and classroom residencies, teacher trainings, family STEAM nights, and community impact challenges, we have reached over 40,000 students, 9,000 families and 70 schools with our message of sustainability.

WHAT WE DO

Through 5 part grant programs, we educate and inspire all members of the school community how they can work together towards healthier and more sustainable communities, and then connect them with business partners to provide actionable solutions.

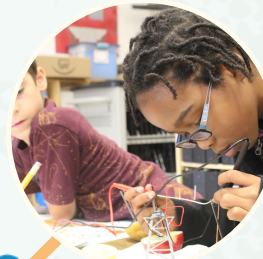
Assemblies

Two assemblies featuring skits, acrobatics & live music to educate and inspire students towards STEAM & environmental sustainability



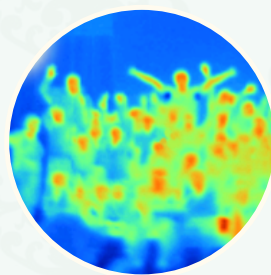
Lesson Plans

Hands-on STEAM challenges lead by teachers to promote critical thinking and problem solving to real world engineering challenges



STEAM Night

An evening of STEAM activities that students and parents do, both together and separately, all focused around family learning and at-home impact



Teacher Trainings

One hour professional development to train and educate teachers with the resources they need to inspire their students



Community Impact Challenge

Take home classroom competitions focused around community action - Connected to community partners as fundraisers and sponsors

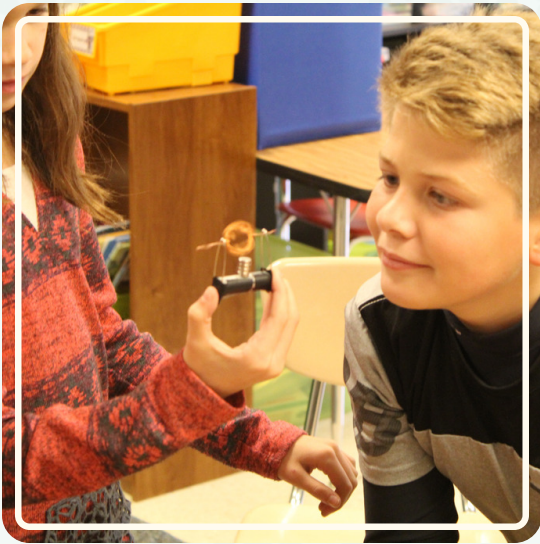


OUR Future is only as
strong as those who will
inhabit it



OUR STORIES

All of our programming features hands-on interactive learning experiences for every student, and we provide all necessary supplies, training, and support to ensure schools are fully engaged in environmental learning and fulfilling their Green School Certification. Three different grant programs are awarded through a competitive application process. In the last two years, 37 different schools have applied.



In Spring 2017, Wellwood International students engineered renewable energy solutions to help reduce fossil fuel dependence. Some built electric motors to improve our transportation and others built coin batteries to store and transport solar energy



In Winter 2018, Freedom Elementary students all grew their own hydroponic microgreens and hosted a family dinner for their parents, where they all learned about food sustainability and STEAM-based solutions to food security



In Fall 2017, Lyons Mill students used creative writing to learn about sustainable waste, while they partnered with Savers on a community wide donation drive. In one week, families donated over 3,200 pounds of goods, raising \$570 for the school

A background image showing three students in a classroom setting. Two girls and one boy are focused on a project involving white PVC pipes, green fans, and red and blue wires. The boy in the foreground is wearing a blue shirt and is looking intently at the project. The girls behind him are also wearing safety goggles and are working on similar setups. The background is slightly blurred, showing classroom shelves and decorations.

OUR Results

- Impacted over 40,000 students 3-5 times
- Impacted over 9,000 families 1-2 times
- Assisted 42 schools become Maryland Green Schools Certified
- Implemented community fundraisers resulting in over \$7,000 for school green/STEM clubs
- In a program with Sherwood Elementary
 - - 92% said this program increased their interest in STEM & environmental literacy
 - - 89% increased their interest in STEM careers

WHAT SCHOOLS ARE SAYING



"The kids loved it, the teachers loved it, the parents loved it. It was such an integral part of our year. So worth it."

- Dina Brewer | Principal at Sherwood Elementary

This was exactly what we needed to help our school become Green School Certified. It jumpstarted everyone's excitement in environmental learning and laid the foundation for us to become a Green School.

- Allie Deveraux | Teacher Waterloo Elementary

We were amazed to see how excited the kids and parents were about this program.

- Glen Messier | Principal Mechanicsville Elementary

They're learning valuable information which they can then apply to theirs and their family's everyday lives, and gaining an awareness that provides a stepping stone for them to become a generation seeking out better choices for our environment and making them a habit.

- Susan Langley | Teacher Forest Ridge Elementary

"This will be one of the things kids remember in 10 years, because they had a hands-on opportunity to experiment with tools they don't normally have access to."

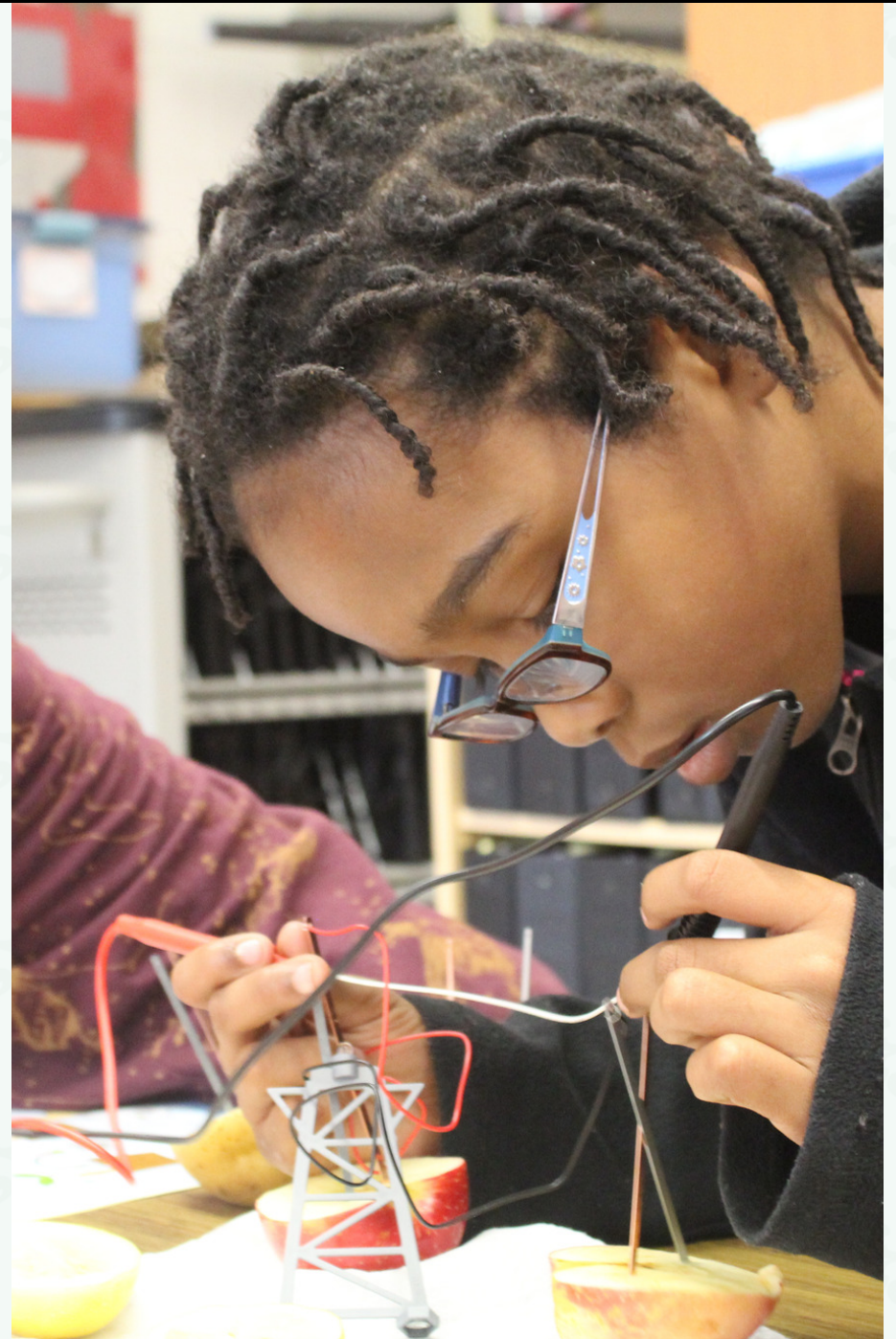
- Lora Wallenstein | Staff Development at Sherwood Elementary

Every Tree begins with a STEM

In the past two years, we've made a profound impact on the communities of 16 elementary schools, planting seeds of environmental vigor that will grow through the lives of over 9,000 students and 2,500 adults. Their newfound excitement and understanding of how small behaviors and investments compound to have exponential effects will have immeasurable outcomes on our environment.

This combined with a passion towards STEAM-based careers and sustainable solutions *needs* to be one of the lasting legacies of OUR children's generation.

We have all the tools, content, and network in place to impact 20 new schools, 12,000 children, 4,000 adults next year alone. We just need the investment to make that happen.



THANK YOU

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