



OUTDOOR CLASSROOM CASE STUDY # 15

George J. Mitchell Elementary School K-2
950 Route 539
Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087
609-296-7131

The George J. Mitchell School is located on the edge of the Pinelands. The school is surrounded by woodlands on three sides (as reported in 1994). Although a school for very young children (grades K-2), the staff and students were highly motivated to create a wildlife area and outdoor classroom in their courtyard.

The \$ Thing:
Melissa Beykirch & Susan Woods applied & received a \$500 grant from OCSCD in 1994.

MITCHELL SCHOOL
WILD SITE



Newsletter Spotlight

Project Objectives:

1. The students will participate in the planning of a wild site through discussions and discovery lessons of native foliage, insects, birds and other animals.
2. Through activities involving ecology, geology, erosion, & conservation, the students will learn to maintain and understand an ecological system.
3. The students will assist in the creation of a wild site that will attract wildlife including birds, non-destructive insects, and small animals.
4. The students will assist in the nourishment and sustainment of a succession area in the courtyard.
5. Within three months after completion, we expect to observe a 23% increase in the wildlife inhabiting the courtyard.
6. At the conclusion of the first marking period in the 1995-1996 school year, it is expected that at least 30% of the teaching staff will be utilizing the wildlife enriched outdoor classroom.

