



## OUTDOOR CLASSROOM CASE STUDY # 3

**Bay Head Elementary School, 145 Grove Street  
Bay Head, NJ 08742 (732-892-0668) Lead: Joyce Cowen**

This small school located on the barrier island in northern Barnegat Bay installed two separate garden/habitat areas on the school grounds. Both areas are located behind the school. On opposite sides of the playground. The first sight was assessed, inventoried and mapped and the soil was tested. Butterfly bush, wildflowers (including milkweed) were planted. The second site is a plot of natural vegetation which will be left predominantly undisturbed and will include an area for student instruction and observation.

### The \$ Thing:

- The grant from OCSCD was used to purchase kids gardening equipment, soil test kits, a potting table and binoculars. The total amount was \$671.84. The PTO purchased garden and nature books for a total of \$100.00. The school also received donations totaling \$100 from a local garden center and hardware store.



The 8th graders prepared the site for planting. The 6th and 7th grade students worked on the undisturbed site (the bog area.) All students in the school became involved in the project!

A Committee was set up to oversee this project. It included—Joyce Cowen (school librarian/technology instructor), Mrs. Cardillo (Board of Education member), Mrs. Ellen Tweed (6,7,8 Science & Math Teacher), Mrs. Lotrecchio (Kindergarten Teacher), Frank Alecko (Maintenance Engineer), Jill Holland (School Secretary), Mrs. Winnie Applegate (past president of Seaweeders Garden Club of Bay Head & Mantoloking), and Mrs. Cheri Crowl (Principal and Superintendent).

Such a team approach ensures success!



*Each of the 110 students at Bay Head Elementary painted their own rock to decorate the butterfly garden!*

### Newsletter Spotlight

- Small student body (110 students) allows for whole school involvement.
- Students used the habitats created for multidisciplinary instruction.
- A workshop was held for teachers to infuse areas of music, art, language arts, and technology using the outdoor classroom.



*Adding a bench or two provides a place to rest and contemplate!*