



Cobb County Green School Initiative Annual Report 2022/23

The Cobb County Green School Initiative is a cooperative effort between Cobb County Water System, the Cobb County Parks and Recreation Natural Resources Unit, and Keep Cobb Beautiful. The initiative was designed to recognize Cobb County schools who demonstrate a commitment to environmental education. To qualify as a Green School, a school must have at least 5 teachers receive Green Classroom designations, by completing 5 lesson plans or projects in each classroom that help students learn about and protect the environment.

20 schools received Gold status designation, with at least 15 green teachers:

Addison Elementary, Baker Elementary, Bells Ferry Elementary, Blackwell Elementary, Cheatham Hill Elementary, Compton Elementary, Davis Elementary, East Side Elementary, Ford Elementary, Frey Elementary, King Springs Elementary, Lewis Elementary, McCall Primary, McCleskey Middle, Murdock Elementary, Nickajack Elementary, Shallowford Falls Elementary, Timber Ridge Elementary, Tritt Elementary, Vaughan Elementary

6 schools received Silver status designation, with at least 10 green teachers:

Bullard Elementary, Chalker Elementary, Clarkdale Elementary, Daniell Middle, Simpson Middle, Still Elementary

5 schools received Green status designation, with at least 5 green teachers:

Austell Elementary, Cooper Middle, The Garden School of Marietta, Hillgrove High, Keheley Elementary

In total, 31 schools received Green School a designation for the 2022/23 school year. These designations represent the work of 517 teachers who taught a total of 2,585 lessons and reported 3,213 hours of environmental education for 29,548 students.

Green School Updates

Dear Participating Teachers and Administrators:

Thank you for participating in the Cobb County Green School Initiative and becoming a certified Green Teacher for the 2022/23 school year! The green lessons that you provide to your students help shape them to become individuals who better understand how and why we should make choices that protect our natural resources and diverse environments. Whether it be through your creative lessons, field trip planning or your realization that kids need and thrive in nature, your work is profoundly important and this initiative recognizes you for your outstanding efforts.

Earning a green school designation takes teamwork, coordination and dedication. The Initiative would like to recognize your school's Lead Green Teacher (designated in this report with an * next to their name) with extra appreciation. Your lead teachers take on the task of coordinating applications and activity log submissions while providing encouragement to reach the goal of becoming a designated green school. It is because of their ongoing leadership throughout the school year that the Green School Initiative is successful.

Congratulations to all of our 2023 green schools and teachers! Thank you for continuing the legacy of the Green School Initiative! **Watch for exciting changes coming to the initiative for the 2023/24 school year, including a new PLATINUM level, new ways to count your lessons and a more autonomous way to for school leads to track lesson submissions.**

Green School Signs:

Each school that earns a Green School designation receives a driveway sign or a new blade announcing your Green School level and year. We hope you use these signs to proudly display your achievement and dedication to Environmental Education. This year the Green School signs will be delivered in mid-May at the same time as the window cling for each Green Teacher from your school.

Thank you for continuing the legacy of the Green School Initiative! Have a restful and fun summer and we'll see you next year!

Green Lessons in Action



*After listening to the story, "A Mole Finds Hope", students at **McCall Primary** planted bulbs representing their own "Seeds of Hope".*

*3rd Graders at **Addison Elementary** engineered prototypes designed to prevent soil erosion in rivers.*





Learning through Gardening at Ford Elementary

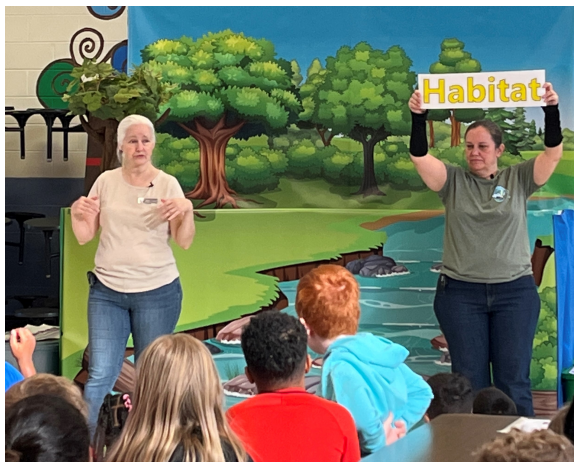


Ford Elementary 2nd Graders made seed bombs out of wet soil and wildflower seeds and then planted them in their wildflower garden.

2nd Graders collected leaves for the "Leaf Safari" lesson.



5th graders recorded data and journaled changes and observations of their hydroponic plants. Data collected included water and pH levels as well as levels of nutrients in the water.



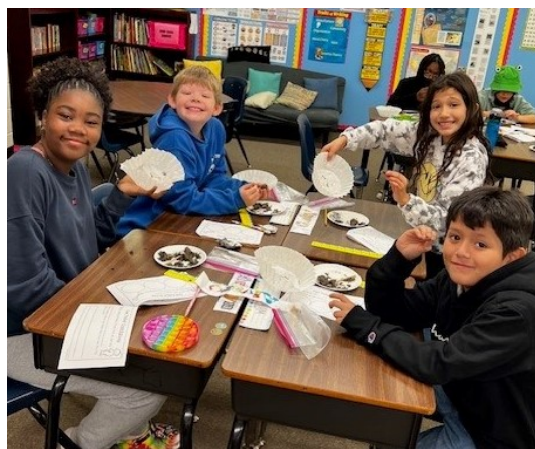
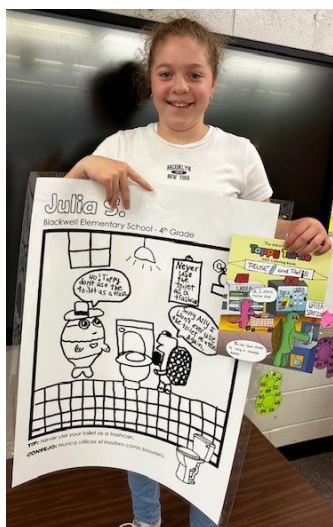
Bells Ferry 3rd Graders learned about biodiversity through the Brooke & Branch Puppet Show.

(Below) **Cheatham Hill 5th Graders** picked up trash around their school grounds while cleaning their garden beds to prepare for spring planting.





Both Kindergarten and 3rd Grade lessons at **Chalker Elementary** included cleaning out and growing a garden. 3rd graders learned about animal habitats through a field trip to the **Chattahoochee Nature Center**. (below)

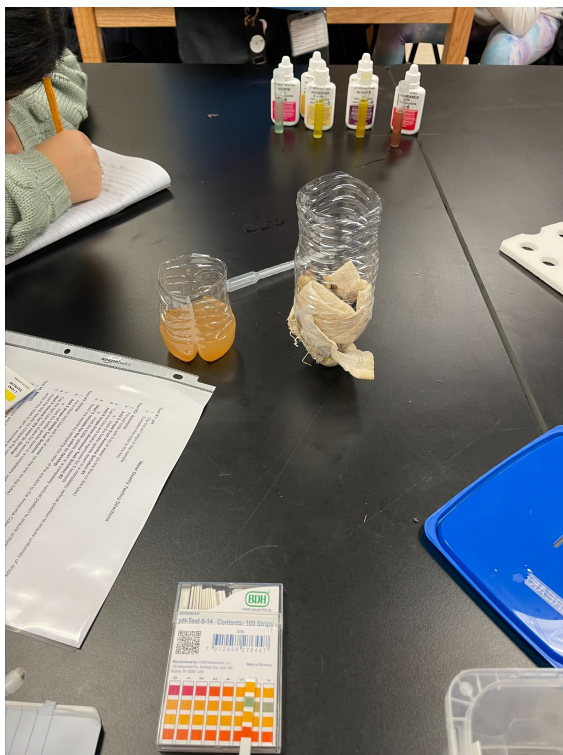


Green activities at **Blackwell** included entering the Cobb Water coloring book contest, dissecting owl pellets, and an in-house field trip with a local meteorologist.





*The County PARKS Natural Resources Unit taught students from **Davis and Still Elementary** about keeping our watersheds clean and healthy. Green lessons included a river activity, pet waste relay and the characteristics and diversity of the EcoRegions in Georgia.*



*The Georgia Aquarium education staff taught **Cooper Middle** 6th graders the steps for filtering water.*



Green School Partners

The Green School Initiative partners (Cobb County Water System, Cobb P.A.R.K.S. Natural Resources Unit, and Keep Cobb Beautiful) presented a variety of lessons to students this year, including PARKS' third grade Georgia series, Water System's Ecosystem's and Adaptations, Brooke & Branch Puppet Show, Adopt A Stream, Snakes of Georgia and Their Adaptations, Filtration Station, Monarch Life Cycles, and KCB's Adopt a Mile program.

Green School Teachers 2022/23

Addison ES - GOLD

Carolynn Stoddard
Carley Mehall
Cathe Simonson
Charlene Piper
Cheryl Shore
Debbie Burdett
Elizabeth Keith
Emily Miller
Hayley Cady
Heather LeCroy
Jennifer Hanson
Kelly Durgin
Mandi Westbrook
Megan Wagers
Morgan Allen
Sherreen Bahr
Stacy Pitts*

Austell - GREEN

Amber Bevins
Dannell Custred
Heather Chancellor
Jennifer Hunker
Penelope Weber
Stephanie Quakenbush
Whitney Sutherland*

Baker ES - GOLD

Ashley Taylor
Brandy Kirby
Courtney Hardin
Debbie Chrzanowski
Earla Reece
Elizabeth Stanley
Emiley Myslicki
Jana Phillips
Janene Edusei
Kandi Tutterow
Lindsey Geiger
Liz Schneider
Loren Kelly
Margarita Encinas
Meagan Hannah

(Baker continued)

Meg Hagan
Melissa Allen
Melissa Jankowski
Melissa Kitzrow
Michelle Burns
Monica Wright
Stephanie Shamblin*
Vickie Garcia

Bells Ferry ES - GOLD

Allison Pannell
Alyssa Winnett
Cindy Maner
Dana Stassen
Julie Montague
Kaitlin Robinson
Kandis Lewis
Kim Sigsbee*
Kimberley Samuel
Kristy White
Marcie Sherer
Monna Sears
Randa Burden
Theresa Bass
Valerie Wisniewski
Will Tyler

Blackwell ES - GOLD

Alina Ferrier
Amy Chapman
Elisabeth Chandler
Ginger Frierson
Gracy Griffith
Hannah Weber
Jennifer Waldmann
Kathryn Collins
Laurie Bradford
Laurie Wheeler
Mary Pope
Melissa McKeegan
Patti Griffith*
Rachel Hicks
Tiffany Crofford

Bullard ES - SILVER

Bobbie Valenzuela
Ellen Adams
Ginny Coalson
Hannah Muhlbauer
Heather Clark
Jennifer Rogers
Jennifer Skaggs
Kaitlin Oden*
Kim Oden
Tracy Prator

Chalker ES - SILVER

Ashley Bellamy*
Cynthia Adam
David Lamb
Jennifer King
Karen Kraeger
Laura Pitner
Marcie Donaldson
Michelle Sessions
Sara Vogel
Sarah Goodwin
Stuart Ogburn

Cheatham Hill ES - GOLD

Amy Webreck
Baily Knapp
Becky Grove
Becky Peninger
Brittany Duckworth
Cindy Wagner
Deanna Bishop
Erin Flynn
Gina Gullo
Heba Khan
Joni Mullinax
Jonna Way
Julie Traylor
Karyn Caldwell
Kasey West
Katelyn Balunek
Kathleen Gresham
Kelly Smartt

Green School Teachers 2022/23

(Cheatham Hill continued)

Leigh-Ann Hull
Leslie Riccard
Marcie Jelenevsky
Roxanne Spinks*
Sara Holcomb
Tessa Whitus
Tracey Northington

Clarkdale ES - SILVER

Cristin Moulton*
Kaitlin Denhart
Kali Bredeson
Kettly Mallebranche
Laura Werren
Lindsey Browning
Melissa Cousley
Sheila Lade
Sontikka Mitchell
Unique Duffy
Vivian Reeves

Compton ES - GOLD

Alexis Huber
Amanda Paccione
AmandaWhitaker
Anglea Martin
Anna Haddon
Ashley White
Bernadette Buonocore*
Chesney Bromm
Christine Ballentine
Donna Heetland
Elizabeth Evans
Emily Pearce
Emily Wolfrum
Jamie Clark
Jessica Sellers
Katheryn Gonzales
Katie Yates
Katlyn Kauffman
Lauren Bolton
Lauren DeBruyn
Lauren Wills

(Compton continued)

Leah Rousey
Lindsay Sexton
Lisa Leiva
Madison Wilkes
Patrick Stevens
Rachel Foltz
Sharon Harmon
Shea Buehler
Tara Harris
Valerie Walcott
Victoria Knowles

Cooper MS - GREEN

Brittany Swann
Crystal Mast*
Daniel Harbert
Geoff Gillie
Nicole Dancause

Daniell MS - SILVER

Ammu Nair
Frances Hebb
Kanika Nolasco
Kerri Hirsch
Kimberly Hunt*
Lacey Sallee
Marianna Foxwell
Melinda Atkinson
Stephanie Lentchner
Susan Cronin

Davis ES - GOLD

Alison Doremus
Cassidy Lawson
Jennifer Bartlett
Joan Muzyka
Kathleen Gochnauer
Kathy Belongia
Kenzie Winther
Kimberly Olson
Kristen Stegall
Lara Quigg
Laura Welch

(Davis continued)

Lisa Gay
Megan Brent*
Molly Henson
Nancy Parsons
Nora Sanders
Patty Abel
Sara Green

East Side ES - GOLD

Anna Tow
Janell Bankhead
Jennifer James
Jennifer Schrader
Jessica Morelli
Katherine Jentink
Kawanna Alderson
Kelly Anderson
Lara Walker
Lindsay Kidd
Lisa Kiel
Miranda Guy
Molly Cushing*
Samantha Criscuolo
Sarah Armer
Tess Field
Vicki McDonald

Ford ES - GOLD

Alia Gillie
Ashley Hyde
Ashley Miller
Bonnie Fleming
Bonnie Pratcher
Bryana Blount
Chrissy Garrison
Claire Cyr
Cynthia Edwards
Elizabeth Cunningham
Emily Connaughton
Erica Pitts
Fran McMath
Heather Henslee
Heather Henson

Green School Teachers 2022/23

(Ford continued)

Ilie Strauts
Isabel Rivera
Jessie Scheiwe
Kaila Apodaca
Kaley Lynn
Kathleen Blankenbecler
Kimberly Kunst
Kristi Crimm
Libby Mitchell
Linda Campisi
Maria Lippelt
Michelle Vance
Molly Foster
Paige Bastuba
Rebecca Goodman
Shaleen Kappel*
Shirley Trammell
Tiffany Leguizamon

Frey ES - GOLD

Ashley Sherman
Carol Nikin
Casie Downey
Denise Orr*
Dina Asher
Elizabeth Gulley
Gina Shumpert
Joanna Vaughn
Julia Rutledge
Kim Sanders
Marianne Massey
Megan Willis
Randi Genesi
Sarah Hurley
Shonda Evans
Susan Silvers

The Garden School of Marietta - GREEN

Cole Gainey
Fatima Bagheri
Gaby Farrokhi
Hayley Rothenberg

(The Garden School of Marietta continued)

Kim Gleichweit
Matan Tsufim
Melissa Murray*

Hillgrove HS - GREEN

Allyson John
Cecily Crowder*
Christina DeLeon
Ian Lindsay
Rhoda Owolabi

Keheley ES - GREEN

Allison Johnson
Anna Glidden
Brandy Medlin*
Jessica Pelski
Katie Biello
Michelle Bramlett
Michelle Yoo
Stephanie Lawson
Susan Wolfgang

King Springs ES - GOLD

Ashley Anderson
Carolina Carreno
Casey Hannaford
Chelsea Whitesell*
David Spence
Emily Atkins
Hannah McAlpine
Jennifer Ford
Kristen Nysewander
Lauren Prandy
Mary Bencina
Michele Bice
Pamela Wilfred
Rebecca Kritz
Roslyn Anderson
Sarah Voelkel
Selena Lodge
Susan Denney

Lewis ES - GOLD

Andrea Crouse
Carol Rothrauff
Christina Thomson
Heather McIntosh
Holly Kirkpatrick
Katie Roberts
Leah Ward
Lisa Fries
Lorianne Jenkins
Pam Huber
Patricia Dalglish
Rebecca Roberts*
Ryann Henderson
Sandra Smith
Stephanie Fuchs
Stephanie Furgerson

McCall PR - GOLD

Amanda Smith
Angela Vasquez
Cassandra Martinelli
Elizabeth Chaney
Erin Ciaccio
Helena Lofton
Jordyn Lopez
Juliana Beck
Kelli Stagich
Lori Webber
Maureen Perry*
Melissa Powers
Melissa Usrey
Tiffany Chauvin-Kalfus
Valory Stopzynski

McCleskey MS - GOLD

Anita Shaw
Annette Simpson*
April LaRue
April Staropoli
Hannah Kerlin
Heather Hafner
Jenna Gerry
Jennifer Skelton

Green School Teachers 2022/23

(McCleksey continued)

Jeri Henry
Jessica Clark
Joe Musick
John Powell
Kimberly Nelson
Mary Nobles
Paula Lilly
Paula Whittle
Samuel Darby
Samuel Foster
Stefanie Keenan
Tiffany Benincosa

Murdock ES - GOLD

Amanda Overholt
Catherine Marcellus
Christy Garvin
Dianna Tatham
Heather Frazier
Jennie Dang*
Jennifer Kelly
Jennifer Pitts
Kayla Eidson
Margaret-Ellen Laettner
Megan McRoberts
Nicole Rothlisberger
Rachelle Wasik
Rebecca Wahl
Rosemarie Gondek
Sara Falis
Shelbi NeSmith
Susan Cochran
Vanessa Choate

Nickajack ES - GOLD

Allison Williams
Amanda Schmidt
Amy Karp
April Mitchell
Ashley Borland
Brittani Dennis
Jennifer Robinson

(Nickajack continued)

Jessica Milovich
Karen Harrison
Katharine Ladd
Kimberly Carren
Kristine Matthews
Lelia Weathers
Lindsey Hamburg*
Melissa Maikos
Pamela Cooper
Rachel Harris
Rachel Terrell
Renee Felix
Sushmitta Kumar
Trish McNally
Yinia Baumhover

Shallowford Falls - GOLD

Allie Benton
Allison McCord
Amy Alfonso
Brandy Kleeman
Catherine Mills
Elizabeth Miller*
Jamie Nichols
Jessica Hood
Julia Belvin
Julie Bannister
Kaitlin Wilson
Kresta Kaplowitz
Lisa Bobbitt
Meagan Flores
Michele Provost
Pamela Jenkins-Sanford
Sarah Ziskend
Stephanie Burns
Taryn Purvis
Tracy Brandenburg

Simpson MS - SILVER

Austin Smith
Bhavna Chokshi
Christopher Whiting

(Simpson continued)

Dana Tindall
Emilie Rose*
John LaMarca
Jordan Rogers
Kelli Clendenin
Kerri Waller
Kristi Stilz
Melody Doss
Susan Woyce

Still ES - SILVER

Amy Meyers
Bridget Purdy
Iashelle Joiner
Julie McFarland
Lynn Duhn*
Mer Lasko
Miatta Smith
Nichole Williams
Samantha Ellison
Suzanna Lyle

Timber Ridge ES - GOLD

Brittany Swann
Catherine Murray
Danielle Schenk
Elizabeth Hauenstein
Heather Curry
Heidi Wolff
Jason Walter
Judy Osborne*
Laura DeGaetano
Lindsey Vickers
Melinda Butler
Niki Turco
Rachel Cohen
Staci Carper
Tammy Langosch

Tritt ES - GOLD

Allie Carrier
Allison Walker

Green School Teachers 2022/23

(Tritt continued)

Amanda Smith
Amber Woolley
Anne Wender
Beth Blick
Carla Teuchert
Catherine Tommasello
Charis Swift
Cristy Ames
David Eichler
Emily McElwain
Heather Garrett
Jennifer Dino
Jennifer Herman
Joey Guinta*
Kathryn Mitchell
Kelly Smith
Kim Lamphere
Laura Cervi
Lauren Cook
Melody Swierski
Michelle Moffett
Nicole Foote
Sarah Gardner
Savannah Miller
Tara Borowiec
Terri Stone
Tina Love

Vaughan ES - GOLD

Allison Monroe
Ashley Mushegan
Brooke Melton
Carianne Good
Carol Baker
Cory Babcock
Deborah ReDavid
Devin Gunning
Elizabeth Glass
Hollie Peterson
Jason LaBroad
Jenna Bullis
Jennifer Deck
Jennifer Everson

(Vaughan continued)

Jimmi Hale
Julie Chow
Kate Murray
Kathryn Pritz
Kathy Dwornitski
Katie Baggott
Kellie Connors
Kim Horn
Kirk York
Linda Wills
Liz Sikes
Mark Campoli
Megan Koch
Megan Peterson
Michelle Fowles
Nicola Boone
Nikki Morgan
Phil Buben*
Sara Bruce
Stacie Brock
Tamara Estes
Tracie Perkins
Tracy Sieracki

**denotes the lead contact*



*3rd Graders from **Shallowford Falls** learned about watersheds and preventing non-point source pollution through an Enviroscope model.*

*Students from the **Garden School of Marietta** grew and harvested their own food, turned garden scraps into compost, cleaned up their schoolyard creek and learned to feed the farm animals on their campus.*

