

Putnam Soil and Water: Kindergarten Programs

The following programs are for designed kindergarten classes and align to the state standards. All materials are provided and programs are free. If you don't see something you would like, let me know and I will see what I can work up. To schedule a program email Bonnie Brooks at bonnie.brooks@putnamcountyohio.gov

Kindergarten - K.LS.1: Living things have specific characteristics and traits. *Observe nature in a variety of ecosystems. Design and plant a pollinator garden.

K.LS.2: Living things have physical traits and behaviors, which influence their survival.

Understand the science of the natural world around them in greater depth by using scientific inquiry.

1. Worms: What are the special characteristics of a worm? Read a book and check out the organisms in the worm bin with 1000 x's magnifiers. What do worms do when they are in the light? Do they fall off our finger when we hold them? Why not? How can they live in a dark bin? Children will take home a coloring page. Extension...Can they find these organisms in the soil outside? – give children digging tools to play with.



2. Animal Tracks: Read a book on identifying animal clues. Students then observe animal feet and note the similarities and differences between them. Why do some feet have webs and others fur? Why do some have big claws and other feet are long? Students then use plaster-of-Paris to make their own animal track to take home. If time allows, we will go outside for a nature walk to look for tracks or evidence of animals.



3. Recycling: What's recycling? Sort trash in a relay race. How to make new stuff from old stuff – pants from 2-liter bottles, etc. Make refrigerator magnets from recycled paper. Kids will paint on another day and take home. Extension: See how many things you can reduce, reuse and recycle in the classroom.



4. Monarchs and Milkweed: Release some milkweed floss and seed from milkweed pods and learn about the wonderful milkweed plant. Are butterflies like people? We will find out when we turn one of the students into one. We will finish by planting a milkweed seed for children to take home. Can their seed grow into a plant to feed Monarchs? Extension: Plant some flowers or seeds outside. Do they see butterflies or other new bugs over time? (cause and effect) This program should be scheduled after the end of October.

