

Hands of the Future, Inc.

Hands of the Future, Inc is a non-profit organization dedicated to connecting children to nature. We do this through two programs, Junior Nature Club and Living Schoolyards. Junior Nature Club is in its fourth year and has grown from 12 children the first semester, to 148 children so far this year. It is an afterschool program offered at Celery Bog Nature Area and presents various environmental topics to children in a fun and hands on way. We currently have three age groups that meet on different nights, PK - 2 grade, 3 - 5 grade and 6 - 8 grade. Living Schoolyards is finishing up its first year of working directly with area elementary schools. We go to them, work with teachers and students to help create pockets of nature on school grounds and teach environmental education lessons. This is very hands on for the students and we are helping them create their vision for the outdoor areas. We have three schools involved this year, Klondike Elementary (first grade), James Cole Elementary (fifth grade) and Happy Hollow Elementary (fifth and sixth grades). We have three posters we used at a community presentation in February; one that describes our overall organization, one that is about Junior Nature Club and one that is about our Living Schoolyards program. There are lots of pictures to demonstrate what we are doing and why it is working. Thank you.

www.hands-future.org