2017-2018 Champions for Learning Grant

Where the Wild Things Are…Insect Life Cycles in Third Grade!

**FOLLOW US on TWITTER! See the videos of our GRANT PROJECTS! @LoerzelA or AngelaLoerzel**

What was done with my students:

We cultivated a lively butterfly habitat for Monarch and Painted Lady butterflies. Our butterfly garden provided our classroom with opportunities throughout the school year to learn about the life cycles of several insects including monarch and painted lady butterflies. Students became amateur entomologists as we raised dozens and dozens of butterflies and closely observed them as they progressed through metamorphosis. We learned about various insect mouths and how they are adapted to their particular modes of feeding. We studied ladybugs and other insects that are beneficial to our school garden and were excited to release a thousand ladybugs into our garden to protect it from harmful insects. Severe weather in 2017 damaged the Mexican jumping beans population but we are hoping to also finish up the school year with multiple enrichment activities centered around the life cycles of the Jumping Bean Moth.