



## ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY SNAPSHOT

### 2022-23 HIGHLIGHTS

- Developed a new partnership with Nature Forward. This program supports students in grades K-5 with hands-on learning experiences with environmental focuses.
- Launched the Langley Conservation and Recycling Club. Students in pre-K through grade 5 recycle in their classrooms and hallways. Students have also started to pick up litter around the school grounds.
- Weekly opportunities to visit the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) Lab engaged students in hands-on learning within units of study that follow Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and the Engineering and Design Process.
- An ongoing partnership with FRESHFARM's FoodPrints program gave students the opportunity to plant and harvest from the school garden. Students took what they harvested and cooked healthy meals. This opportunity helped students discover new and healthy ways to eat and help the environment.
- Received a RiverSmart Schools grant from the Department of Energy and the Environment, which facilitates a collaboration with parents and teachers to plan and implement improvements around the school to reduce the impacts of stormwater runoff on the school and community.



“Participating in the environmental literacy program has made an impact on students and staff. We are continuing to build our STEM program and focusing on environmental issues. Students are encouraged to explore environmental issues through units of study developed by teachers and through our partnership with FRESHFARM’s FoodPrints. The environmental literacy program will continue to be an integral part of helping Langley Elementary foster caring and resilient problem-solvers.”

– Jennifer Wehner, School-wide Enrichment Model Teacher, Langley Elementary

## ABOUT THE SCHOOL

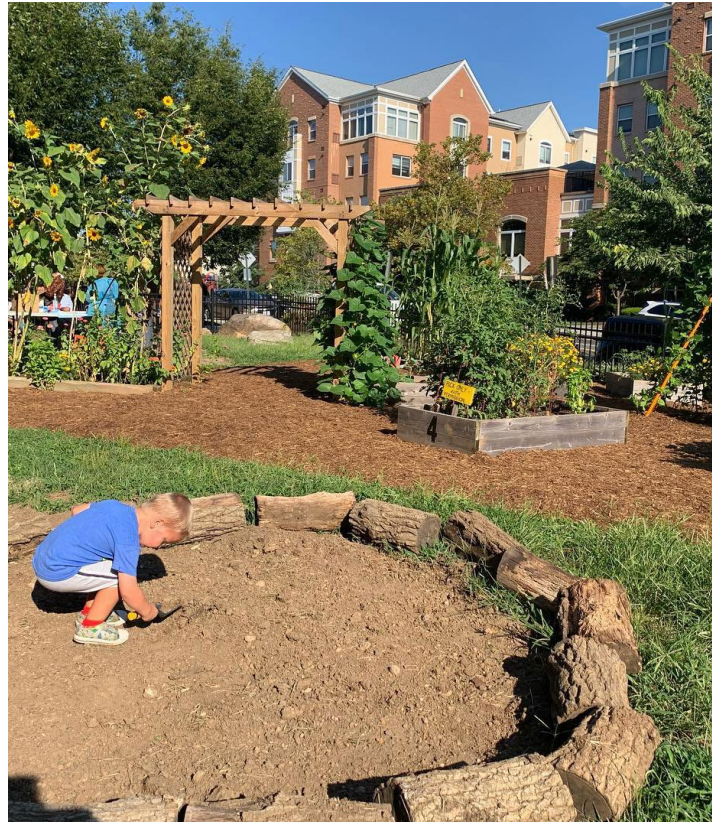
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Langley Elementary School is the home of the Langley Tigers, where students learn to be resilient problem-solvers and thinkers through rigorous and joyful learning experiences. Located in Ward 5 in the Eckington Neighborhood, Langley is a Title I school that serves approximately 350 students with a wide range of talents and abilities in pre-K 3 through grade 5. Currently, the school is in the process of establishing its STEM program. Students in all grades receive weekly hands-on lab and exploration using the NGSS and the Engineering and Design Process. Learning is facilitated through a schoolwide focus on data-driven instruction and hands-on exploratory projects, which enables students to experience rigorous content through collaboration with stakeholders and local partnerships. Staff believe that with an abundant amount of care and support, Langley scholars can achieve at the highest levels.

## ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PROGRAM

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As Langley establishes its STEM-focused instruction, the environmental literacy program has helped enhance and implement environmental literacy standards with new partnerships. Nature Forward has engaged students in grades 2, 3, and 5 with lessons on erosion, water quality, and reduce and reuse resources. The program also includes the continued participation with FRESHFARM's FoodPrints program and beginning composting with Veterans Compost, plus learning how to maintain and incorporate worm bins to teach environmental standards.



## NEXT STEPS

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- Continue to build Langley's STEM program with partnerships that support real-world connections and field trip experiences.
- Develop a STEM Framework that will extend and enhance STEM programming.
- Seek out STEM professional development that focuses on STEM best practices opportunities for new and returning staff and educational aides.

## LESSONS LEARNED

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- Educate all stakeholders about the impact of environmental literacy in elementary grades at the beginning and throughout the school year.
- Create a team of teachers, administrators, parents, community members, and students that are all bought into the vision to support planning and events.

