

ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY SNAPSHOT

2022-23 HIGHLIGHTS

- Formed a working group to promote environmental awareness in the school.
- Restarted the school’s garden activities. Students sprouted seeds, grew the seedlings in the winter in LED indoor bins, and then transplanting them to the outside garden.
- Built garden beds and converted the entrance lawn into a thriving sensory and herb garden.
- Engaged students in recycling activities.
- Collaborated with the Friends of the National Arboretum on teacher professional development to promote garden activities and share instructional insights into elementary school curriculum.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Sela Public Charter School is the only Hebrew language immersion charter school in the Washington, DC area. Sela is a diverse, growing elementary school and has been recognized by the US Department of Education as a Blue Ribbon School. Sela’s mission is founded on the following four pillars: being culturally innovative, diverse, striving for excellence, and preparing students to become global citizens.



“Sowing the seeds of life in our children, one seedling at a time.”

– Sela PCS teacher

ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PROGRAM

Sela's environmental curriculum revolves around the following themes:

- Pre-K 3-4: Seeds, plants, fruits, vegetables, and garden picnics
- Kindergarten: Seeds
- Grade 1: Adaptation, habitat, and energy from the sun
- Grade 2: Weather patterns, organism survival in habitats, and biodiversity
- Grade 3: Plant and animal classification, nutrition, and the energy cycle
- Grade 4: Solar energy, geology, and energy cycles
- Grade 5: Water cycle, cells, and energy cycles



NEXT STEPS

- Focus on engaging school community in projects related to composting, science fair night, curriculum-based garden activities, and garden club during aftercare.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Start an activity related to environmental literacy.
- Create interest.
- Engage others to help you per their own areas of interest.