We took the Okanagan WaterWise Challenge!

Mrs. Van Ziffle’s Grade One and Two Class of Ellison Elementary School Vernon, B.C.

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We are a class of 21 grade one and two students at Ellison Elementary School in Vernon. We are very fortunate to have a wetland area and a creek close to our school. These areas were the focus of walking field trips as we learned about the value of wetlands and provided the venue for us to complete two of our challenges.

Our video and this booklet show how we completed three sections of the H2O Bingo Challenge:

a) Visit a wetland. Tell us the value of these special places. Send us a selfie of you and your class at the wetland.

b) Watch a film about water. Write a short review and send it to us!

c) Do your own ... creek clean up. Send us a picture of how much garbage you collected. What was the most interesting thing you found?

In the video, there are three sections showing how we completed the three challenges. Each section has a short puppet play showing a Red Winged Blackbird family musing about what the children are doing and learning. All of the students were involved in the puppet plays either as puppeteers or as voices.

This booklet shows the creativity and the co-operation of the children as they learned about and grew to love our wetlands and the flora and fauna that rely on this precious habitat.
Part A

We visited the wetlands behind Fulton Secondary School, a short walk from our school. Look at the front cover of this booklet to see our selfie! We engaged our senses and wrote about what we saw, heard, smelled and felt. Back in class we added descriptive words to our writing. We also illustrated our pages and painted pictures about our experiences.
Walking to the wetlands.
Bullrushes With Light on top's
the Sweet sound of Bird's
the sweet smell of water
the sweet air that I cake
the fuzzy Bullrushes

I like to hide in the Bullrushes and look at the crede
The wetlands. The fish need the water to live in.
The wetlands prevent flooding. I see the Red Winged Blackbird.
At the wetlands it always rains.
At the Wetlands

I see bulrushes with light drawn
Red wing black bra
I smell good air
I taste
I feel Cod woat

The animals hide in the bulrushes. I see the Red Winged Blackbird.
At the wetlands. 18th April 2017

I had a good time today, everyone!

Anthony B.
I see the red wing blackbird at the wetlands.

I had a good time.
At the Wetlands

Kaiden

I see

I hear

I smell

I touch

the Bullrushes

the Red-winged Blackbird

the Bulrushes
I love the Wetlands.
At the Wetlands

I see people with light brown.

I hear birds whistling.

I smell the air.

I taste it.

I feel the water. They are rough and fizzy.

I saw a duck at the wetlands.
At the Wetlands

I see a yellow pencil
I hear a shiny red black bird
I smell the smelly water
I taste fluffy bulrushes

This is us with our bulrushes.

Josh
2017 Thurs 5th day 20th April
I love it so quietly at the wetlands. I see the red-wing blackbirds with their @. I smell sweet air. I feel rough wood.
I see fish and a dragonfly.

Love you

The fish need the water to live. At the wetlands.
Part B

We watched the “Magic School Bus Gets Swamped” video. In this video Carlos needs to learn about the value of the wetlands to prepare for a debate at City Hall. This calls for a field trip in the Magic School Bus with Miss Frizzle and the other children in her class. Besides learning what a fabulous habitat the wetlands are for many plants and animals, they learn how the wetlands act as a sponge to clean water and slow the flow of water. After the debate and an exciting storm where the wetlands are seen to prevent flooding, the City leaders decide to keep the wetlands and build a mall somewhere else.

Here is what the Ellison students were saying after the video:

The wetlands are important because:
- so many animals live there
- the animals hide in the bulrushes and the water
- it helps stop flooding
- they help clean the water
- it is a very good habitat for the animals that live there
- the fish need the water to live in.
- Marshmallow plants can only live in the wetlands.
- some plants need the wetlands.
- some plants need the wetlands.
- Some animals and birds are red-winged blackbird, marsh hawk, frogs, tadpoles, mosquitoes, beavers, fish, dragonflies, ducks, muskrat, and turtles.
Part C

On our first walk to the wetlands we were sad to see so much garbage there. We were determined to go back to clean up as much as we could, so a week later we did return armed with gloves, garbage bags, nets, and lots of enthusiasm dodging thunderclouds and raindrops. What a surprise it was to us to find most of the garbage gone! Someone else got there before us. We’re glad to know there are others who care. The next day without rain we set out on another mission—this time to the creek area behind Ellison School. There we cleaned up a lot of garbage and found some interesting items. The most interesting items were a shoe, a ball and a water bottle! Here are some pictures of our quest to clean up our waterways.
Finding Some Interesting Things

Even some Treasures to take home.
Look at all the garbage we picked up!

We love our earth!
We love our water!
We completed our H2O Challenge!

Ellison Grade One / Two class with our EA, Mrs. Graham.

We are WaterWise Wetland Warriors!