

2021 Prize Winners

Kindergarten - 2nd grade

1st place

Bridget Geiser's Class From Hilton Elementary School



Focused on protecting and creating habitat for monarch butterflies.

Engaged local authorities and political figures in a campaign to have them sign the National Wildlife Federation Monarch Pledge. Distributed milkweed seeds with instructions on creating a pollinator habitat and created educational presentations that they shared with their community. Worked with local community leaders to build monarch butterfly gardens in their area. Worked with the Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative and an Emmy Award-winning film director to create an educational movie to share with their community. Invited to present at the Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative Symposium in August 2021.

2nd place

The Califon Cooperative Project's "Fruit Bat Tamarins"



Focused on creating habitat for local wildlife and removing spotted lanternfly egg sacks.

Connected with a naturalist in their county and attended several presentations about local wildlife issues. Created animal habitats including four brush piles, 13 bird houses, and 12 mason bee homes, which were made of used mugs and then sold in a local coffee shop to raise money for Save the Golden Lion Tamarin. Created and distributed 400 spotted lanternfly egg sack removal kits.

3rd place Bullock School's "Go Green Team"



Worked to educate their community in both English and Spanish.

Created a bilingual storyboard video that was shared to their social media platforms. Signed up with their local gas and electric companies to become a PowerSave School. Made special light switch covers encouraging energy saving and distributed to all classrooms in their school. Shared their message in a local newspaper.

3rd - 5th grade

1st place

Cumru Elementary School's "Cumru's Little Tamarins"



Encouraged their community to eat local and worked to change policy to protect native wildlife and the golden lion tamarin.

Sold coupons to a local ice cream shop and raised over \$600 for Save the Golden Lion Tamarin. Took a trip to a local farmers market and discussed why eating local is important for the community. Invited PA State Senator Judy Schwank to visit them and discuss environmental policy. Create education resources for their school and community. Reached over 17,000 people.

2nd place

Quarry Hill Elementary School's "The Funky Monkeys"



Focused on recycling paper waste and reforesting habitats.

Worked with local pizza restaurants to place stickers on the boxes detailing how to properly recycle them. Started a GoFundMe and rented out books from their homes to raise money. Raised over \$1,300 for Save the Golden Lion Tamarin.

3rd place

Olson Middle School's "Mighty Monarch Mates"



Worked to turn their region into a "pollinator's paradise."

Introduced a culture of conservation to their small town in southern NJ where this type of project typically would not garner support. Distributed milkweed seeds to members of their community and worked with local leaders to plant milkweed in nearby parks and on school grounds. Created educational videos and stations to spread their message throughout the community.

Honorable Mention

Universal Institute Charter School's "Monarch Superheroes"

Wrote letters to local and national public figures about monarch butterfly conservation.

The letters detailed the importance of pollinators and the threats they face, as well as encouraging local action and policy change. Connected with State Representative Joe Hohenstein who will met with the students to discuss creating a butterfly garden in their city. Wrote a book to share with the school of poems and information on the monarch butterfly.

6th - 8th grade

1st place

Red Lion Area School District's "Girls 4 Greatness"



Worked to reinstate recycling collection service in several townships in their region.

Used social media to get residents in the affected townships involved. Residents tallied up their recyclables to show how many recyclable items

were being sent to the landfill. Also surveyed residents in affected townships to see if they would use a recycling service if reinstated. Compiled their data and are working to schedule a meeting to present it to the waste company.

2nd place

Holland Middle School's "HMS Habitat Heroes"



Focused on protecting local pollinators and raising awareness.

Worked with a local farm to sell honey to community members to raise funds to create pollinator habitats and bird houses. Raised \$350 to fund the building of a pollinator garden. Construction and planting will begin soon.

3rd place

Octorara Intermediate School's "Penguineers"



Focused on reducing plastic bag waste in their community.

Designed and sold reusable tote bags as well as stickers. Funds will be donated to an organization working in Humboldt penguin conservation. Created a variety of educational materials and wrote a letter about Humboldt penguin conservation for their local newspaper.

9th - 12th Grade

1st place

Julie Ryan's Class of Haddon Township High School



Worked to offset their school's carbon emissions from the 2019-2020 school year.

Partnered with Tree-Plenish to sell trees to be planted around the community. Held a planting day and invited members of the community and local stakeholders to participate. Shared their campaign on social media and in the local newspaper. Profits from the sales were donated to Tree-Plenish to help reforest areas in the United States. Impacted almost 23,000 people.

2nd place

Carmen Lynn, Melissa Buker, and Maureen Maxwell's Class of Maple Shade High School



Focused on educating their community on single-use items.

Presented a variety of reusable and biodegradable options for lunch trays and cutlery to their School Board. Designed and sold reusable tote bags, tshirts, and sweatshirts to raise money. Created educational resources that could be accessed online. Held a socially-distant movie night on their football field to raise money. Partnered with LAMAR Advertising to create a digital billboard that was seen by 5 million people. Money raised was donated to Philadelphia Zoo to adopt a golden lion tamarin.

3rd place

Michael Keenan's Class of Northern Burlington County Regional High School



Spread out in the community to complete a trash cleanup.

Collected 14 large trash bags of litter. Held a fundraiser to purchase plants to increase biodiversity and absorb fertilizer runoff before it reaches a local pond. Held a virtual science-themed trivia night.