



Dear Garden Club,

I wanted to thank you for your support with our “outdoor classroom” idea for the Clarkston Early Childhood Center. Our staff and students have been very excited to clean up and create this awesome learning environment for our students. So far with your grant we have been able to get “outdoor discovery” backpacks with binoculars, insect nets, tweezers, thermometers and magnifying glasses. We were even able to purchase some non-fiction text for the building to share. We started by asking the children what tools they would like for outdoor exploration...as you can imagine the list was very long at first. As the year progressed and we spent time outdoors the students narrowed down the list to what we were able to purchase so far. Our students are interested in getting some “child size” gardening tools and even creating a garden space. It is my hope that we can still make this happen before the end of the year. Some of our students and their families participated with IMPACT day this spring to help clean up the grounds so hopefully I can continue to build on this momentum. It is our philosophy as early childhood educators to go with and foster the thoughts and ideas of the children. We are currently making decisions about our pond area and how to move forward with it’s clean up. We recently found out that the school district does not own the property as it is actually owned by the township. Our Superintendent, Dr. Rod Rock is heading communication with the township on this matter and figuring out if we can work together to enhance this spot. I will continue to keep you updated on our work. Thank you very much for your help with our project so far.

*Sincerely,
Katie Woodworth
Young Five Teacher
Early Childhood Center*

A few snapshots of your support in action...











