

Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd Graders Plant Trees for Future Generations

Slanesville Elementary School, Slanesville, WV, continues to make a difference for the environment, the students, and the community. Students in K-2nd grades participated in the PHLOW Plant-a-Tree program this fall. Slanesville already installed a rain garden and planted trees at their school through the PHLOW program in Spring 2014.



One-hundred-twenty students participated in an education day on October 1st. Students read the book "We Planted a Tree" by Diane Muldrow and discussed the many resources we get from trees and how they help the environment. Students then identified the leaves, trunk, branches, seed, flower, roots, and bark of the tree using a picture for visual aid. Students spelt each word outloud as a class as they wrote the name on their tree activity sheet. Students finished class by being able to color the tree image.

Planting day took place on October 22nd. Students, teachers, and parent volunteers worked together under the instruction of Cacapon Institute staff to assist in planting twelve native shade trees around the community walking trail and soccer field adjacent to the school. Each of the six classes were spilt into two groups and rotated on a thirty-minute timeslot to plant a tree. By the end of the day, the six classes had planted all twelve trees.

These trees will play a vital role in the environment. They will provide much needed shade for the walking trail, absorb excess water that pools in the area,



increase habitat for wildlife, and provide an overall increase of aesthetics for the area. Students will watch these trees grow as they continue their education in Hampshire County.

