

OWA Pride Garden

OWA is an occupational work adjustment program for 14 and 15 year-old students entering the ninth grade. The students enrolled in this program traditionally lack self-esteem, a sense of responsibility, and self pride. We wanted them to take pride in completing a job from beginning to end and, also, for others to take pride in the accomplishments of the OWA students. This project is of value because it has met the goals of 'pride.' Our students feel better about themselves, and other students and staff are looking at our students in a more favorable light.

Curriculum/State Standard

ITAC Strand 1 - Solving problems and thinking skillfully,

ITAC Strand 2 - Communicating effectively,

ITAC Strand 4 - Working responsibly,

ITAC Strand 6 - Managing resources

Overview.

In a previously unused and unattractive area of our school located outside our OWA program area, the OWA students created an attractive and appreciative reflection garden that can be used by all interested students while increasing the positive image of the OWA students.

Objectives

- The students will solve problems and make decisions in work related situations.
- The students will analyze critical data to guide work activities.
- The students will demonstrate leadership.
- The students will contribute to teamwork.
- The students will demonstrate work ethic.
- The students will implement safety procedures.
- The students will determine resources needed to produce a given product.

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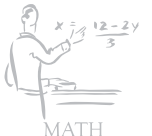
GRADE LEVEL



ARTS



LANGUAGE



MATH

Misc

MISCELLANEOUS



SCIENCE



HISTORY



SOCIAL STUDIES

6

MONTHS

\$1000

TOTAL BUDGET



THIS WINNING LESSON PLAN WAS SUBMITTED BY:

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“OWA Pride Garden” project continued...

Materials

Blue prints, benches, trash receptacle, concrete, plants, shrubs, mulch, sign, hand tools

Readiness Activity

Our students this year were to complete four service learning projects as part of their club activities. In generating ideas for a school service project, the idea to create an “OWA PRIDE GARDEN” was born. We created a rough plan that was perfected by students enrolled in our OWA program. Once our plan was finalized, we were ready to work.

Strategies/Activities

Before proceeding with our garden plans, we needed approval from our maintenance and facilities director. We met with the appropriate people, showed them our blue print, and we were met with approval. Our maintenance department agreed to match the funds offered by the SHOPA Foundation to enhance our garden project.

A time and work schedule was completed to facilitate the project. This schedule included:

- a. design and order sign
- b. border benches and trash receptacle
- c. removal of decaying tree
- d. removal of sod
- e. forming, pouring, and finishing concrete walkway
- f. solicit from local businesses and organizations for shrubs, plants, mulch, etc.
- g. install benches
- h. install sign
- i. plant shrubs
- j. mulch area

Culminating Activity

Our culminating activity was the actual installation of the garden. Although the students did not participate in the pouring of the concrete, they were involved in the implementation of all other phases: planning, designing, digging, tilling, planting, and mulching the garden area. Our completed garden was the culmination of our physical labors.

Evaluation

Students were evaluated by the physical completion of the project and by keeping costs within the budget. Although difficult to measure, we also attempted to gauge the students' ability to take pride in a job well done.