

Agriculture and Natural Resources Awareness Mini-Grants Report

Project Title: **Beulah Elementary School Agriculture and Natural Resources Awareness Gardening and Agriculture Program.**

Name, title, mailing address, telephone number, and email address of each faculty member contributing to this project, with the contact person's name in **bold print**:

- UF IFAS Escambia County Extension
 - **Kay Brown**, 4-H Agent IV, kdb@ufl.edu
 - **Libbie Johnson**, Agriculture Agent I, libbiej@ufl.edu
 - Dorothy Lee, FCS Extension Agent II, dcllee@ufl.edu
 - Pam Allen, EFNEP Extension Agent IV, pha@ufl.edu
 - Carrie Stevenson, Florida Yards and Neighborhood Agent I, ctsteven@ufl.edu
 - Andrew Diller, Sea Grant Agent I, apdiller@ufl.edu
 - Beth Bolles, Horticulture Agent II, bbolles@ufl.edu
 - Lamar Christenberry, County Extension Director, lamarc@ufl.edu
 - Roger Elliott, 4-H/Livestock Agent, rmel@ufl.edu

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Community or agency partners, their role with the project, and the name and affiliation of each partner:

- UF IFAS Escambia County Extension faculty members will serve as workshop coordinators, presenters, and curriculum developers
- Escambia County Farm Bureau Federation by providing volunteers to help with programs and program activities throughout the year.
- Escambia County Master Gardeners, led by **Beth Bolles**, will assist by serving as educators during with horticulture and gardening projects and classroom activities...
- Escambia County 4-H volunteers, led by **Kay Brown** and **Roger Elliott**, will serve as educational facilitators and group leaders during certain learning activities.
- Beulah Elementary PTA volunteers, led by **Joyce Power** will serve as coordinators, educational facilitators and group leaders during certain learning activities.

Project Activities

Educators from the various cooperating agencies provided clinics and gardening experiences to youth at Beulah Elementary School. This educational program offered educational, recreational, and leadership activities in a supportive and creative environment. Major emphasis focused on a variety of gardening experiences and agriculture and natural resources hands on activities, classroom activities and workshops, The Escambia County Extension Service contributed to programs that teach agriculture and natural resources.

Lesson topics will include the following: Agricultural, Horticultural, Gardening derived from Florida's products, Identifying, Understanding, and Conserving Florida's natural resources. Major emphasis was focused on different types of gardening, especially butterfly gardens.

Recipients/benefactors of the awareness program: Youth aged 5-12 years.

This project provided agricultural, horticulture, and natural resources programs, activities, field days, and gardening projects showcasing Florida's abundant natural resources. Collaboration will include a number of agencies, including UF IFAS Extension, Escambia County 4-H'ers, Escambia County Farm Bureau Federation, Escambia County Master Gardeners and Beulah Elementary School PTA.

Deliverables:

- Curriculum developed for the Agriculture and Natural Resources Awareness Mini-Grants detailing success stories, project activities, and outcomes.
- Development of several types of gardening experiences at Beulah Elementary School. One traveling display to be exhibited at District faculty meetings, professional association meetings, and multi-state idea sharing workshops.

Outcomes:

- 143 youth gained an understanding of agricultural, gardening, and natural resources products from Florida and how those products are used in their daily lives. Developed curriculum, program planning and design, garden designs, and develop displays for program areas. Post tests showed 90% learned new knowledge and skills.
- 143 youth gained knowledge, skills, and awareness of local natural resources, gardening, and the role that each individual plays in being stewards of the environment.