

SJAM'S ECO-TEAM
SCHOOLYARD GREENING
PROJECT

An outdoor classroom

WHAT IS AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM?

“Outdoor classrooms bring learning to life. An outdoor classroom is a space that brings learning outside. It's becomes a gathering place for teachers and students and provides an opportunity to integrate nature into your school grounds. By giving students the opportunity to get outside and experience nature, they can bring learning to life.”*

*Building outdoor classrooms: A guide for successful fundraising

PHASE ONE – MAY 13, 2017



SJAM @sjamps · May 13

Our [#outdoorclassroom](#) construction is underway! Our students will benefit from this new learning space! [@YRDSBEcoSchools](#) [@SJAMEcoTeam](#) [#YRDSB](#)



PHASE ONE – COMPLETED – MAY 17, 2017



SJAM Eco-Team @SJAMEcoTeam · May 13

Look what's happening @sjamps today! So excited for our new outdoor learning space!

pic.twitter.com/5fiVyJTplf

BENEFITS OF OUTDOOR LEARNING

- Improved mood and happier students
- Enhanced appreciation of the outdoors
- Increased retention rate for subject material
- Improved learning experience for tactile and experiential learners
- Familiarity with and appreciation for nature
- Building stewardship skills for the environment

HOW WILL WE USE OUR OUTDOOR CLASSROOM?

“An outdoor classroom can be used for subjects beyond environment, science and geography. All classes can be taught outside and should be encouraged among all teachers at your school. Focus on cross-curricular studies.”

**Building outdoor classrooms: A guide
for successful fundraising*

- **Arts** - nature provides an inspirational starting point for many creative projects/work
- **Music** - organize an outdoor drumming circle or create music based on the sounds of nature
- **Math** - take students outside to do hands on math activities such as measuring, then meet at rocks to record, document and share their learning
- **Literacy** - take students outside to sit and draw/write or read a book independently
- **Community Building** - take students outside to sit on rocks and read a story, conduct a sharing/community circle
- **Mindfulness** - have a break from everyday stress and connect with nature, and their peaceful surroundings
- **Recess** - provides a space for students to sit and socialize
- **Classroom Kits** - our hope is to create classroom kits of clipboards and magnifying glasses that teachers can sign out to use to support their outdoor learning

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS!

OUR CONTINUED PLAN...

PHASE 2

Student workspace



Photo courtesy of Royal Roads Public School

*Building outdoor classrooms: A guide for successful fundraising

THANKS TO MS. LEBLANC
FOR LEADING THE SJAM ECO TEAM –
AND FOR THE YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO THE
OUTDOOR CLASSROOM PROJECT!



HUGE SHOUT OUT TO OUR
SJAM SCHOOL COUNCIL WHO RAISED \$10,000
THIS YEAR THROUGH FUNDRAISING EFFORTS
TO HELP PAY FOR OUR NEW OUTDOOR CLASSROOM!

