Lakeview Elementary School - Action Plan
Monroe County Community Schools
Bloomington, IN

I hear, I forget.
I see and hear, I remember.
I see, hear, and do. I understand.
    - Old Chinese Proverb

BACKGROUND

Recent studies document that children are gravitating away from outdoor experiences and towards a virtual indoor reality. In an attempt to engage children in recreation activities and nature-based learning, Lakeview Elementary hopes to revitalize a nature trail that was utilized in the past to provide students, families and friends with the opportunity of an outdoor-interpretive learning trail.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE – GOALS

Engaging children and visitors in recreation and nature-based learning through an interpretive nature trail open year-round. Provide visitors with a self-guided brochure in which to interact with their natural surroundings at their own pace and/or with the company of others. By connecting children and adults with hands-on experience, meaningful and lasting connections with nature are developed as well as connections with each other.

The target audiences for the Lakeview Elementary School interpretive trail include: all students, faculty and staff, parents, and near-by residents.

Visitors to the interpretive nature trail will have opportunities to:

- learn about their natural surroundings
- spend time with friends and family
- experience hands-on applications
- exercise their mind and bodies
- enjoy the outdoors!
INTERPRETIVE THEME

General Theme

The general theme for the interpretive trail is “Wildlife Habitat”. Two sub-themes will educate and provide hands-on experiences with visitors.

Sub-Themes

- **Natural Habitats**
  This sub-theme will provide an array of natural habitats that exist in nature and can be witnessed throughout the proposed interpretive nature trail.

- **Man-made Habitats**
  With dwindling habitats, this sub-theme will educate children and adults on the options available to provide habitat for wildlife. By providing students with an opportunity to have hands-on experience in constructing man-made habitats, such as building bird boxes, a sense of accomplishment and connections with family and the outdoors are formed.

KIOSK APPLICATION

In order to facilitate the interpretive nature trail, a kiosk with maps and brochures is proposed. Also, numbered posts will exist throughout the interpretive nature trail and correspond with the interpretive guide located at the kiosk.