

# Sand Lake Park

# MAKE OVER



Sand Lake Elementary Meets Sand Lake Park  
*A Community Project by Sand Lake Elementary 6th Grade Immersion*

## Connecting kids and community to their local place through:

- improving the physical aspects of the park
- increasing usage among students and staff
- increasing knowledge of park flora and fauna among students, staff, community
- getting kids outside
- teaching stewardship

## What are folks saying about our project?

"I have really enjoyed what you have taught the 6th graders this year. You are doing an excellent job teaching them about their local environment. My co-workers have also expressed their appreciation for teaching the importance of being a steward to their environment."

~ Parent

"A group of sixth graders from your school recently gave an excellent presentation at the Sand Lake Community Council regarding the state of Sand Lake Park. I was impressed with their presentation."

~ Alaska Herpetological Association

"My favorite part of this project was taking our Chitose Japan visitors on a tour of Sand Lake Park"

~ Student

"Without going in our park this year so much, I probably I would've never known about the hairy woodpecker, downy wood pecker, or the chick-a-dee. Getting to see their home was spectacular!"

~ Student

## "We Did It" Checklist

- Officially Adopted Sand Lake Park
- Mapped out park trails for online digital map
- Led tours through Sand Lake Park for various audiences
- Surveyed teachers and students about park usage
- Graded park with Anchorage Park Foundation Report Card
- Built and placed 8 nest boxes
- Collected trash park wide for spring clean up
- Presented findings to Sand Lake Community Council, Schools on Trails, PTSA, Anchorage Park Foundation, Anchorage Parks and Recreation
- Ordered new entrance sign

For more information about this project or to find out how you can get involved, please contact:

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# We Need Your Help! Let Us Know Which Projects YOU Can Help With!

## Build Outdoor Seating or Learning Labs



Take a seat, stay awhile,  
Try to find a seating style,  
A stump, a log, any things fine,  
As long as you can fit your behind.

## Clean Up Green Space



I live in a boreal forest,  
My muscle like branches are the sorest,  
Touch my bark it's paper thin,  
I am lucky no one has carved my skin.

## Replace Signs



Once I was happy and clean,  
And then some people got very mean,  
They didn't like what I had to say,  
So they felt the need to give me a spray

## Add Restrooms & Dog Stations



Where can I go  
To sit and get low,  
My bladder can't wait much longer,  
The desire is getting stronger.

## Repair Dock



I still float on my back,  
But with a crack,  
My hollow poles are not places for trash,  
Every piece leaves a gash.

## Additional Future Sand Lake Park Improvements

- Add wildlife-proof resistant refuse cans
- Increase classroom use and education of park
- Create outdoor education kits with binoculars, microscopes, thermometers, metronomes, tape measures, compasses, nets, slides, laminated guides, flora and fauna guide books
- Create flora and fauna interpretive signs as learning tools for park visitors
- Fix pathway cracks and holes
- Continue to build community partnerships