Sand Lake Park

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 would’ve never known about the hairy woodpecker, downy woodpecker, 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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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.

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

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

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