

Dr. E.W. Coffin School

A Wordsearch of Dr. Coffin's ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS in Review

In 1993 the Sun Circle was built featuring a SUNDIAL designed to show the correct time at Calgary's latitude. The hawk shows us to read the upper surface when the sun is riding high in the prairie's summer sky. The ground squirrels on the base remind us to read the underside of the sundial when the winter sun rides low in the Southern sky. The GNOMON points to Polaris, the North Star.

1995 saw Dr. E. W. Coffin School adopt the WHISPERING WOODS where ASPEN trees quiver in the wind. This was done through the City of Calgary's ADOPT-A-PARK program.

The MILLENNIUM playground was built by our school community during the autumnal EQUINOX, September 2001 – one week after the World Trade Centre attacks. The U. of C. wrestling team helped to level and spread pea gravel for its surface.

In the Spring of 2004 our school used leftover SANDSTONE boulders to create the Prairie Amphitheatre with its mountain view.

From Spring 2004 to Spring 2005 our school community rescued PRAIRIE plant and grass species from a N.W. development site (Stoney Trail). We try to keep INVASIVE species, like Brome or dandelions, out. ("Weeding Wednesday Bees"). We call it our Centennial NATUREGROUND.

In Spring 2005 due to all our environmental projects (especially the NATUREGROUND) we won an Alberta EMERALD Award for environmental excellence in the

category of school/classroom project. The City of Calgary also won an "Emerald" for its low emission street lighting initiative.

In 2006/2007 work has started on the interpretative signage for our Natureground and Whispering Woods.

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FIND: SUNDIAL, GNOMON, WHISPERING WOODS, ASPEN, ADOPT-A-PARK, MILLENNIUM, EQUINOX, SANDSTONE, PRAIRIE, INVASIVE, EMERALD, NATUREGROUND.

Registration is ongoing at Dr. E. W. Coffin Elementary School. For a tour of our school or more information, please call our Principal, Juane Priest at 777- 6190.

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