



## Felicity-Franklin Science Club hosts Earth Day Family Fest

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By Kellie Geist-May • [kmay@communitypress.com](mailto:kmay@communitypress.com)

The Felicity-Franklin Elementary School third- and fourth-grade Science Club, with a little help from their teachers, put together a family event aimed at keeping the Earth green.

The Earth Day Family Fest was May 5 and gave visitors a chance to learn about six environmentally-sound topics including water conservation, recycling cell phones to save gorilla habitats, composting and vermiculture, replacing natural resources, saving trees and reducing energy usage.

"We did this to help make the public more aware of how we can better protect the planet and how easy it is to do things that make our planet a better place," said Brenda Greene, a third-grade teacher and Science Club advisor. "The kids did a wonderful job explaining all the stations. Our goal was to have them be ambassadors for the Earth and they definitely were. It almost makes me cry I'm so proud of them."



About half the members of the Felicity-Franklin Science Club, which is for third- and fourth-grade students, attended and presented the Earth Day Family Fest Thursday, May 5. Front row, from left are: Hailey Belt, Ellie Hoog, Nichole Mounce, Elijah Bowling, Riley Pinger, Devin Cummins and Hanna Badgley. Middle row: Gabe Proffit, Mallory Taulbee, Sierra Crawford, Cheyenne Cummins, Hannah Hahn, Kylie Belt, Morgan Legner, Thresa Perkins and Summer Taylor. Back row: Holly Goodpastor, Tessa Debell, Caitlyn Caskey, Jaylin Meece, Nathaniel Buckler, Tyler Wright, Bryttin Bullock, Jared Hamilton, Emma Lewin and Brenda Greene. (Provided)

Greene and sixth-grade science teacher Holly Goodpastor work together to lead the Science Club and help them put on the Earth Day Family Fest. The two are students in Miami University's Global Field Program master's program.

"That program is all about taking your local community and having them be leaders in the world community. Within the science club, we're trying to get the kids to see that their actions do make a difference here in Felicity and around the world," Goodpastor said. "The event went really well, the kids were great and we got a lot of positive feedback."

Greene said the Science Club is going strong with about 50 total and 28 active members. The kids have even adopted a motto they wanted on their T-shirts and door hangers.

"The saying is 'We must remember that one determined person can make a significant difference and that a small group of determined people can change the course of history.' And let me tell you, that's what those kids did at the Earth Day Family Fest," she said. "We had at least 100 people come."

This work was supported by Earth Expeditions, a global conservation and education program supporting university courses, degree programs, and collaborative projects in

Africa, Asia, Americas and Australia, from Miami University's Project Dragonfly and the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden.

For more information, visit [www.EarthExpeditions.org](http://www.EarthExpeditions.org).

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A group of Felicity-Franklin students presented a station about water conservation during the Earth Day Family Fest Thursday, May 5. From left are: Gabe Proffit, Jaylin Meece, Emma Lewin and Hannah Hahn. (Thanks to Brenda Greene)



This group of Felicity-Franklin students put together a station to educate Earth Day Family Fest visitors about the importance of protecting animal habitats. From left are: Cheyenne Cummins, Thresa Perkins, Summer Taylor and Caitlyn Caskey. (Thanks to Brenda Greene)

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