



Podcast Discussion Guide for Instructional Staff



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EPISODE 005

Topic: *All Things Green* (<https://bit.ly/3fzdbnV>)

Guests: Dawn Chehab & Joshua Garrett, Millennia Gardens Elementary

Suggested Discussion Questions:

- Dawn and Josh were part of a team of teachers that wrote a grant application that, in their words, had a lot of crazy stuff in there. Has anyone here wanted to try something but thought it was too crazy or too involved?
- The number of green activities that these teachers lead at their schools via their ECO Club is large, did this interview make you want to try some more recycling or environmental activities here at our school?
- An overnight camping field trip with 4th & 5th graders is quite ambitious, but the learning opportunities and the results with their students were quite amazing. Is there a big field trip you've wanted to do that you think would resonate with our students? Let's talk about those ideas and maybe we can find a way to make something happen.
- Millennia Gardens ES is Title I and Josh talked about how his students often lack experiences that non-Title I students get. He said the experiential aspect of the field trip and some of their other activities took a few weeks to come out, but they have seen marked development in their students. What resonated with you during that part of the conversation?
- The ECO Club makes a point of bringing parents into the lessons and the club, and making sure they build bridges with those parents. What do you think our school could do better at reaching out to our parent population?
- John Wright talked about the importance of closing learning gaps through enrichment instead of just remediation, and Dawn illustrated that power with the heartfelt story she shared. What are some of your ideas for improving enrichment opportunities for struggling learners or students with behavioral issues here at our school?
- Were you impressed with the idea of keeping Flash on the MGES campus?

- The ECO Club is an after school club, but they've seen many academic results. Did anyone think of ways to embed some of our after school activities into our classrooms?
- Millennia Gardens Elementary did invest in professional development for their teachers as a result of the after school ECO Club activities. Is there a specialized type of PD opportunity you all would like to research and see if it's something we'd want to do here?
- Aside from the green lessons, Dawn, Josh and their team also embedded math, budgeting, public speaking, writing and research. Are there some existing activities here that we could use as a springboard to do the same?
- They gave some great advice to other teachers looking to write a successful grant. Did that give any of you some ideas?
- I'm going to ask the same question John asked Dawn and Josh: if funding and master schedule were not barriers, what is a great idea you would want to do?

Related Materials:

[Everglades Foundation \(https://bit.ly/2UWYstz\)](https://bit.ly/2UWYstz)

[National Agriculture in the Classroom \(https://bit.ly/3m3Wy6a\)](https://bit.ly/3m3Wy6a)

Common Sense Education: [After-School Enrichment Programs and Clubs \(https://bit.ly/2KGtwfr\)](https://bit.ly/2KGtwfr)

Afterschool Alliance: [Starting an afterschool program \(https://bit.ly/3l3gODG\)](https://bit.ly/3l3gODG)

FLDOE: [Fun Florida Field Trips \(https://bit.ly/2J5jl3d\)](https://bit.ly/2J5jl3d)

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