

**Contact**

Amy Hughes, Project Coordinator
Keep Loup Basin Beautiful
Email: amy@keeploupbasinbeautiful.org
Tel: 308-346-3393

November 19, 2017

Keep Loup Basin Beautiful Visits Calamus Kids Pre-School for “E” Week!

“E” week at Calamus Kids Pre-school in Burwell is an “E”xciting, “E”xceptional, and “E”ducational week where the classes get to learn about an important “E”nvironmental component when Amy Hughes, KLBB Project Coordinator, visits to talk about “E”ntomology!!! Mrs. Hughes spends 30 minutes with each class talking about what Entomology and/or an Entomologist is and does.

The youth get to see first-hand preserved insect specimens that Mrs. Hughes has collected over the years. Many of the youth are amazed at the number of insects and ask a ton of questions in regards to what each insect is and also comment on which ones are their favorites. The butterflies are always a hit with many youth being able to identify the Monarch butterfly right away!!!

This school year Mrs. Hughes brought along a special surprise for the youth. The youth got to see and keep a Monarch caterpillar and watch it go through the caterpillar to chrysalis to adult butterfly stages. Mrs. Hughes provided lots of plant material to make sure that the caterpillar fed well until it was ready to enter the chrysalis stage which lasts approximately 10 days. The youth got a surprise at almost exactly 10 day when the male Monarch emerged in his beautiful orange and black coloration. A release event was scheduled in the afternoon when the weather was warmer so that the Monarch could start his long journey south for the Winter.

Mrs. Hughes enjoys sharing these experiences with youth as the knowledge of environmental stewardship is so important for a long, healthy, and functional ecosystem. The youth today are our future and getting them started in the understanding of all that our environment possesses and how to properly care for it is important.

Teachers at Calamus Kids Pre-school always say that ““E” week is one of the kids favorite week. They talk about it for days and weeks.” This comment makes Mrs. Hughes day because it means she is doing her job and planting a seed!!!

Anyone interested in educational activities regarding the environment and its care is invited to call the Keep Loup Basin Beautiful Office at 308-346-3393 to set up a presentation time!! We would love to help educate anyone interested!!!

Keep Loup Basin Beautiful (KLBB) is grant-funded through the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) and Keep America Beautiful; and is a project of the Loup Basin RC&D Council that

promotes litter prevention, waste reduction, recycling, and beautification. KLBB serves thirteen counties in central and north-central Nebraska. For more information about KLBB's education programs, email KLBB at info@keepploupbasinbeautiful.org, visit www.keepploupbasinbeautiful.org, or like them on Facebook. Contact the Loup Basin RC&D office (308)-346-3393 or stop by the office at the Loup Rivers Scenic Byway Interpretive Center, 330 South Highway 11 Burwell, Nebraska.

###