SUMMARY

The Jordan Creek Greenway EnviroMentor program was developed in order to enable high school students, especially those involved in environmental studies or environmental clubs, to work with elementary and middle school students with similar interests. Throughout this program, students from Allentown Central Catholic High School and Parkland High School were presented with programs about the ecology of the Jordan Creek Greenway, which was then shared in presentations with mentored elementary school students.

CHALLENGE

The EnviroMentor program aimed to bring together students of different ages and demographics together in appreciation of the environment. Parkland High School, a suburban school, and Allentown Central Catholic, an urban school, provided a diversity of participants in these programs. By allowing elementary and middle school students to observe and learn from high school students, a “feeder” program is established wherein young students gain an exposure to nature, increasing their likelihood of choosing an environmental field of study or career. This program allows students to become comfortable with the natural world and gain role models, improving stewardship of the environment and learning to work together for a common good.
SOLUTION

Multiple programs were implemented with high school students in order to increase knowledge of ecology and benefits of the Jordan Creek Greenway. These students were brought to the Greenway in order to develop a deeper understanding of its place in the community. High school students shared with elementary and middle schoolers during field trips and final presentations.

RESULTS

- Presented two programs to Allentown Central Catholic High School
- Presented seven training programs to Parkland High School
- Conducted a greenway-wide bus trip for Parkland High School students
- Conducted a field trip for Allentown Central Catholic High School and Sacred Heart School students
- High school students gave final activities presentations to mentored elementary school students

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