

THE PAINTBRUSH PRAIRIE NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 1994 A Chronicle Of The Indian Boundary Prairies Of Markham, Illinois Vol. 10, No.2

GENSBURG ♦ PAINTBRUSH ♦ SUNDROP ♦ DROPSEED

MIGHTY ACORNS SOW SEEDS FOR PRAIRIE PRESERVATION

Markham Park Elementary School students were among the first participants in the Nature Conservancy's new *Mighty Acorns* education program. A story on page 4 describes how the program was implemented while the student comments below demonstrate the program's powerful effect on these fortunate fourth graders.

Comments from students:

We saw fungi and ferns and my favorite thing was rolling in the grass.

--- Eric Blackhawk

I learned that some animals can't live out of the prairie. Some plants can't live out of the prairie either.

--- Saleha Meah

I learned how prairie dogs dig holes and about hawks and other huge birds.

--- Heather Hulme

I saw the grass blow like the sea waves.

--- Wamiq Ansari

What I learned at the prairie is that it is not a place to litter or kill bugs or drive your car or bike through.

--- Michael Wrobel

I want to go back because I want to see more of the prairie. I want to learn more about the grass, flowers, and insects.

--- Dominique Dudley

We saw bird and rabbit and deer footprints. We saw rabbit scat too!

--- Ann Pool

I think it is important for the children to have hands-on experience in relationship to their bookwork. It brings some people to realize what there is in the world and right in their own backyard.

--- Mr. Frank Adrejko, Parent Chaperone

You know when I get older I will be a leader of Sundrop Prairie. That way I can teach the kids like you taught me.

--- Courtney Slaughter

I used to think that electronics were cool. But now that I saw nature I like it better.

--- Saleha Meah

We even learned that you have to burn the prairie for it to reproduce.

--- Laura Villa



1994 PRAIRIE PHOTO

Support the Prairies
Decorate the Den

Support the Markham Prairies with a donation of \$25 or more and receive an original 8 x 10 color photograph by nature photographer Tim Burke. In this stunning spring scene taken on Paintbrush Prairie, the warm yellows and golds of Indian paintbrush and hoary puccoon are set against the verdant green of a cool moist morning.



Parent chaperone, Mr. Frank Adrejko, and his group enjoy their lunch on a crisp October day on Sundrop.

INSIDE:

- ♦ GEORGE B. FELL
- ♦ VOLUNTEER AWARDS
- ♦ ILLINOIS PrairieNET
- ♦ PRAIRIE CRITTERS
- ♦ EARTH DAY '94
- ♦ BASEMENT BUGS
- ♦ SPRING BIRD COUNT
- ♦ SUMMER CALENDER