



2018 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School  
Missouri Honoree  
W. W. Keysor Elementary



2nd Grade students tagging Monarch butterflies in Project IDEA's rain garden area.

Keysor is a public school in the Kirkwood District in St. Louis. It has 19% of its students in reading, writing and math intervention groups, 12.8% with an IEP and 11.5% receiving FRPL. A major milestone of their sustainability efforts was the creation of the



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Project IDEA (Imagination, Discovery, Exploration, Adventure) outdoor learning landscape. Keysor Nomination

- Sustainability - In 2012, students surveyed the school's solid waste and found 13 bags of trash were sent to the landfill each day. By sorting cafeteria waste into recycling, composting and landfilling categories, they reduced landfill waste to 2 bags a day.
- Health - Within Project IDEA's vegetable garden beds and three indoor Tower Gardens, Keysor staff and students nurture organic produce. Each grade level is responsible for the seeding, maintenance and harvesting of their garden beds and Tower Gardens. Vegetables, fruits and herbs are enjoyed for snack, lunch and community experiences throughout the school year.
- Learning - Students work within their Writing Workshop to create persuasive letters for their families and community centered around reducing waste, especially single use items like straws.

[Keysor Elementary School's Nomination Form](#)