



Mrs. Jennifer Martin

Bartow County Schools, White Elementary School

“Garden-Based STEM”

STEM Classroom Lesson

For the past two years, Mrs. Martin has used garden-based STEM projects with her ESOL students to help them gain confidence, language, science, and math skills. Students were presented with problems concerning pest control, overgrowth development, pollution, erosion, and pollination issues to explore and problem-solve. The garden-based STEM project grew beyond Mrs. Martin’s ESOL students and became school-wide. After students researched plants that would benefit a butterfly garden, students were able to design and develop a large butterfly garden that butterflies would stay in during each part of their life cycle; because of this project the school participated in the Georgia pollination census.

Impact Initiative

In conjunction with her garden-based STEM projects, Mrs. Martin co-sponsors the Warrior Sprouts Garden Club. This club of third through fifth-grade students meets before school and keeps the grounds of the garden ready for the school to enjoy. This club has been crucial in forming partnerships with local master gardeners and the UGA Extension Office in Bartow County. Mrs. Martin also serves on the White Elementary School’s STEM sub-committee and helps her colleagues develop STEM lessons for their classrooms.