



*Small Steps Towards
a Big Difference*

SOMETHING'S GROWING...

Our monthly e-news updates are designed to share our current success stories that your donations have helped to make possible, because at Something Good in the World we believe that "small is beautiful, but beautiful is not small..." Please visit our website for more detailed information on all of our educational programs and projects: www.somethinggoodintheworld.org.

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www.somethinggoodintheworld.org

Spring into Summer 2018

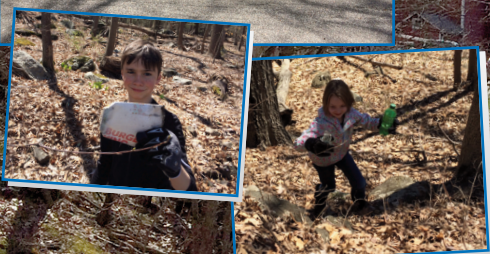
Spring-into-summer is our favorite season at Something Good in the World, because we are nonstop busy with farm-based educational programs for families and children of all ages.

We have so many foundations to thank for continuing to support SGITW's programs this coming year. We have most recently received funding from: [The St. Faith's House Foundation](#), [The Atlantic Philanthropies Director/Employee Designated Gift Fund](#), [The Deupree Foundation](#), [The Jack DeVito Foundation](#), and a family foundation that prefers to remain anonymous, to be able to offer more free workshops and courses for children from underserved areas and high needs school districts. These donations include funding for transportation, which is essential for the children to be able to get to and from the farms to their schools, shelters, and day care centers.

SGITW is also so grateful to local businesses for their partnerships and for their ongoing in-kind gifts, such as [Capelli New York](#) (rainboots, raincoats, and socks for the shelter teens to attend our monthly programs rain or shine), [Hemlock Hill Farm](#) (gleaned vegetables for our Harlem Children's Zone programs), [Rob's Poultry Supplies](#) (for organic, local chick feed for our newly hatched chicks), and as always our farm partners: [Glynwood Farm](#) and [Kitchawan Farm](#), for hosting our farm-based education programs on a daily basis, especially during their busiest growing season!

In this issue of our e-newsletter, we are also happy to tell you about a new partnership this year with the [Ossining High School](#), whose [Walkabout](#) students worked with Something Good in the World towards designing their own school building, gardens, and curriculum. Though the Ossining School District will not be continuing with the Walkabout program after this year, one of their students got so inspired by our [Children's Peaceful Garden](#) design that she worked with Ossining High School teachers to create a Mindfulness Garden in a courtyard at the school! We have been totally delighted to assist the students and teachers with this design, and it was amazing to see how they took up our suggestions and planted a keyhole shaped pollinator garden, a spiraling herb garden, and a wavy woodland garden. In the coming year, we hope to be able to work with OHS students to further expand the garden, as a place for meditation, journaling, peaceful conversation, and quiet contemplation. It is truly an honor to share the sustainable concepts of our Children's Peaceful Garden with schools everywhere.

Read on to find out other ways that donations from foundations, organizations, and individuals have made more of something good possible in the world... ✿





One of our largest programs throughout the year takes place with the [Harlem Children's Zone's Promise Academy II](#) First and Second Graders at Glynwood Farm. 100 children per grade attend our classes every season, to learn how to make healthy choices when it comes to nutrition, and live sustainably and in harmony with the planet.

This spring, First Graders mixed soil and planted heirloom seeds (a gift from Seed Savers Exchange) in seed trays, which then grew in Glynwood's greenhouse (thanks to some TLC from farmer Jarret Nelson). A month later, the seedlings were happily transplanted into our Children's Veggie Garden, which had been previously weeded and strengthened with soil amendments from Glynwood's compost. Nothing is more delightful than sampling the sprouting basil, pea shoots, and kale that one has grown oneself from seed – it seems like real magic! Foraging for edibles is part of the program too, discovering what can be tasted, smelled, and touched along the trails and pathways of a farm is just as much fun as growing food from scratch.



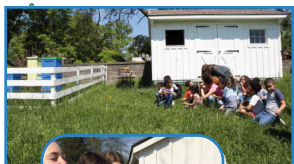
Second Graders learned how to take proper care of animals, and Glynwood's highest rating of animal welfare approval is the best example there is. Everyone loves to feed the horses and the pigs, not to mention petting the baby sheep and goats, and getting to know the cows in the barns. As a culminating event for the students, we follow the water cycle like a treasure hunt, to discover the source of clean drinking water, and to understand how all the living systems at a farm are interconnected. Whether it's the bees pollinating the flowers that eventually lead to apples on the trees, or the animal manure that lends nitrogen to the soil so the apple trees can grow, the children discover that ensuring safe, healthy food and water lasts into the future means supporting sustainable, organic farming now.



By the end of the two-year program, the students understand that they vote with their pocket-books, and as consumers, the choices they make will affect what kind of foods are produced. They also know the source of the products they use on a daily basis, whether it's the sheep's wool for their clothing, or beeswax for candles and skin creams, or herbs for medicinal teas. The students always tell us at the end of the program, that in addition to feeding the animals, their most favorite part is making and eating the foods – although if the truth be told, their top favorite is rolling down the grassy hillsides as part of their free time!



We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Glynwood's beekeeper Rodney Dow, who volunteers to guide our students through the basic understandings of beekeeping, and delights them with honey straight from the hive! This year, Glynwood is hosting SGITW's own beehive, thanks to a grant from the [Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots Mini-Grant](#), and Rodney's generosity of time, energy, and spirit. As part of our grant opportunity, we are starting with a stronger strain of honeybees from Tom Sotiridy's [Bee Improvement](#) in Newburgh, NY. We are truly hoping that the combination of healthier bees and keeping our beehive in a new location, will help the bees to survive our tough Northeast winters. We really want our honeybee apiary to be an example of sustainability!



Look for our [Family Farm Tours](#) and [Backyard Family Farm Skills Workshops](#) at Glynwood Farm every month, and definitely join us for the [Family Food and Farm Day](#) on July 14!



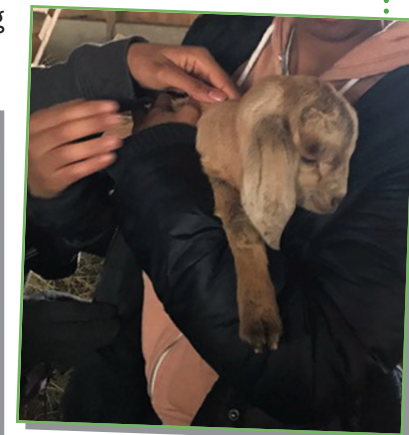
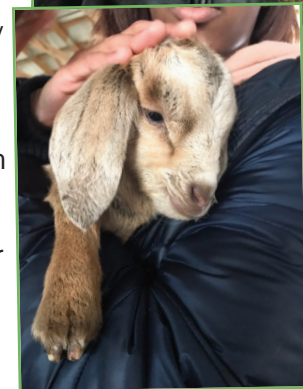


This spring, we were able to continue our win-win-win partnerships with local businesses and foundations to bring shelter children to every farm we work with, as well as to enjoy making pottery related to our projects, and to grow their own gardens at their school.

Because we have been able to work on the shelter's perennial flower garden for several years now, the spring blooms are now so striking and colorful, and it brings to mind the first group of teens who planted these bulbs as a service to those who would come after. The original students knew at the time that they would not be at the shelter to enjoy the flowers, but they smiled when they thought of those who would have their lives uplifted later on. The perennial vegetable and herb garden is also coming into its own, with the guidance of Linsay Cochran from Kitchawan Farm, and every year, the students benefit from learning how to plant, smell, taste, and touch what grows locally and seasonally in our area. They tell us that they intend to have gardens of their own, and will know how to grow plants in a sustainable, organic way.

Thanks to the ongoing generosity of Agi Shah at [A Maze in Pottery](#), the shelter children also had the chance this spring to make their own pots, and plant these with seeds, to be able to take with them when they return home or to a foster home, as a reminder of what they learned with us. Agi truly inspires the children to find joy in their artistic creations, and we are forever grateful to her for the gift of her time, energies, and materials.

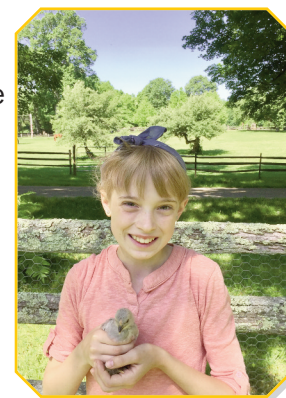
We have to admit that the shelter students' most memorable program is visiting the animals in the barns at Glynwood - there's just no getting around the fact that interacting with the horses, donkeys, cows, pigs, sheep and goats is everyone's favorite!





To close off this newsletter, we have to thank the [Whole Kids Foundation](#) for making all of the programs in our Children's Peaceful Garden possible this spring! From the free-ranging chickens to the greenroof coop to the pop-up greenhouse to the perennial woodland, pollinator, edible, medieval, native tree, bulb, and bee-friendly gardens, we could not have succeeded without the funding from Whole Kids Foundation.

Our farm-based Earth as Homeschool programs took place at Kitchawan Farm all year long, and in the spring time, nothing makes us happier than pumping the seesaw, riding the tire swing, planting seeds, and watching our mama hens hatch their chicks. We are constantly aware of how lucky we are in this part of the world to have a situation where children can be safe and healthy, and can learn how to change old habits that brought on the current world situation, and become part of a mindful future where human beings find the solutions to the problems they once created... ✿



[Earth as Homeschool](#) farm-based education programs are open for registration for the 2018/2019 school year! To the right is a letter we received recently from an Earth School alumnus, who now attends the University of Colorado at Boulder:

Dear Barbara,

You and the way you have taught me has been the most beneficial thing in my life. I always appreciated it but it was really not until I got to college that I realized you shaped my worldly view and to have passion for the things I am interested in. You sparked my love for history, government, injustice and politics, and I am so happy every day learning things that I am actually interested in, and I can attribute that to you. I am eternally grateful for you and the person you have shaped me into. You may not realize it, but you have a huge impact on people and I wish everyone was as lucky as I am to be impacted.

-Anya Jillson-Neuwirth, age 19



Project of the Month:

<https://www.rootsandshoots.org/projectofthemonth2016>



We are an [AmazonSmile](#) participant. Use this interactive link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-3071237>.

Donors, volunteers, employees, and friends can bookmark this link so all their eligible shopping will benefit Something Good in the World!



You can also follow all of the current news and events of Something Good in the World on Facebook!

To Donate Visit: <http://www.somethinggoodintheworld.org/donate/>

The following people donated their time, energy, and creative skills to the production of this newsletter:

Layout & Design: Sherri Young Writing: Barbara Sarbin
Editing: Elizabeth Colquhoun Artwork: Mark Siegel
Photography: Barbara Sarbin and Verki Santana

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of Something Good in the World is to provide a safe and enhancing environment wherein children may be promoted to achieve their highest potential in learning and development, and to prepare them toward becoming responsible human beings ready to take on the challenges of life.

We are committed to upholding a genuine value for humanity, and are steadfast in our dedication towards creating a new and better template for education in the 21st century, that integrates nature, the environment, and the practices of sustainable living.



We welcome your letters and responses! Please feel free to write to us any time by e-mail: somethinggooditw@aol.com, or by regular mail: Something Good in the World, Inc., 624 Croton Avenue, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567.