



*Small Steps Towards
a Big Difference*

SOMETHING'S EVEN BETTER...

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

☀ Summer 2018

At Something Good in the World, we are so delighted to be able to offer summer farm-based education programs, tours, and workshops during the season when farms are at their best! This summer, we have been honored to lead sustainability and environmental education workshops for college students, family farm tours for all ages, pre-school programs, as well as mini-camps, at both [Kitchawan Farm](#) and [Glynwood Farm](#).

Our "Turtle Island" summer programs in our [Children's Peaceful Garden](#) at Kitchawan Farm were filled to capacity with children ages 6 – 12, and teenage helpers ages 13 – 15. We want to thank the [Deupree Foundation](#) for making it possible for so many children to experience these fully outdoor programs this summer. Because of their generous donation, children who might otherwise have not been able to have access to nature, were able to enjoy art and music, theatre and dance, crafts and farming, 100% in the woods, streams, ponds, and fields of Kitchawan Farm.

We often try to explain why scholarship donations are such a huge win-win for everyone, and we hope to put it across here with a photo collage instead, because the children's happy faces really say much more than words. Essentially, when an individual or foundation makes a donation to our scholarship fund, it makes it possible for families in need to have access to our programs. This is often a situation for a child from an urban environment, who will benefit greatly from being in nature (as all children do), and who would not be able to join in otherwise. While making the program free for the child, or at greatly reduced cost, it also allows the donation to go straight into covering expenses for running the programs. Scholarship donations help us to be able to pay rent and insurance, to cover salaries and materials, all of which have to be in place to make the educational programs possible. When a donation is given to our scholarship fund, it works double time: a child gets to participate for free, and the funding covers all the expenses. We hope that more people will feel inspired to make a contribution of any amount to this fund, so their donation is working twice!

In-kind donations are another way for local businesses to help our students. We are so grateful to [Ben & Jerry's of Mt. Kisco](#), for making the summer even brighter for our Earth as Homeschoolers, as they always kick off the season with a donation of ice cream as a recognition for the students' tremendous community service projects throughout the year. From September through June, regardless of the weather, our teachers and homeschoolers help to care for the Children's Peaceful Garden every day, which includes our famous flock of free-ranging chickens. We also clear trash from local trails, everywhere we go hiking. The children harvest veggies and make





fresh, organic soup for the [Peekskill Soup Kitchen](#) and the [Jan Peek House](#), they glean from local organic farms and help prepare meals with [Second Chance Foods](#) for food pantries, and they visit the elderly residents of the Country House in Yorktown, to sing and inspire conversation and interaction. Without the students and their service, our programs wouldn't be possible. Thank you Ben & Jerry's for recognizing their hard work with this annual gift of sweetness!



Thanks to the folks at Glynwood Farm, you might have seen our educators at the Family Food and Farm Day, leading workshops and guiding tours. Glynwood has been a host for our Earth School-to-Farm programs since 2011, and we are delighted to be a part of their team, guiding local children and families into understanding more about the origins of their foods, and how to make healthy choices. Glynwood is also the home of our honeybee hive, or as we like to call them, our "bees-in-residence." According to beekeeper Rodney Dow, our beehive is a performing like a rock star, and we are looking forward to being able to extract some honey from the hive for our fall tours and tastings. Be sure to register via Glynwood for the September [Family Farm Tours](#) and [Backyard Family Farm Skills](#) workshops.



We also want to thank the [St. Faith's House Foundation](#) for their second annual grant that made it possible for us to bring the [Ossining Children's Center](#) kindergarten class to our farm for workshops to discover life on the farm in the summer time. They got to observe and hold our baby chicks, pump the seesaw, ride the tire swing, taste all the edibles in our gardens, and search for frogs in the pond. One of the greatest aspects of this grant is that it also pays for transportation for the Ossining students. It's important for us to put across how vital this is, because transporting children to the farm for educational programs just isn't possible without this kind of financial assistance, and of course if the children can't get to the farm, well... they can't access the free program! We greatly appreciate that St. Faith's House Foundation understands the need for transportation as part of the program expense, and their generosity makes it possible for the day care children to spend time outdoors with us in nature, every season, all year long.





Lastly, we want to share with you the success story of our new Sustainable Design program for high school and college students. This summer, as part of their studies in Global Environmentalism, students from [Manhattanville College](#) visited our Envira Pod and Children's Peaceful Garden at Kitchawan Farm, to learn about sustainable design. Our theory, supported by architect William McDonough and chemist Michael Braungart, is that the way we design our world – ranging from our homes to appliances to toys – needs to be thought of with the well being and future of our planet in mind. Inspired by concepts from the authors' books, "[Cradle to Cradle](#)" and "[The Upcycle](#)," as well as Alan Weisman's "[Gaviotas](#)," students in our workshop thought about what it means to design everything to be in harmony with the earth's living systems. After discovering our seesaw pump (which pumps water from a spring-fed pond into a rain barrel that goes to a drip irrigation system into our gardens), students realized that "kid-power" is the best renewable energy resource because it's so much fun! They felt the same way about making an organic smoothie, using local and seasonal fruits, on our "[Pedal-a-Watt](#)" bike blender – the result is delicious and nutritious, and the process is totally hands-on (or really, feet-on). Playing with [Uncharted Play's](#) "Soccket" and "Pulse," a soccer ball and a jump rope that each generate electricity, proved not only to be great exercise, but had an immediate and practical application: one of the students' needed to recharge his cell phone and there was an easy way to solve that problem after jumping rope! Our solar-powered [Envira Pod](#) speaks for itself – it causes everyone to want their own "tiny house" on wheels; one that is completely off-grid, has a zero carbon footprint, and is made from eco-friendly materials.



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.