



Small Steps Towards
a Big Difference

SOMETHING GOOD TURNS 20!

Our seasonal 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 2022

In June 2022, Something Good in the World is celebrating 20 years as a non-profit, charitable, children’s educational organization, under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code! And we want to celebrate with you! If you are on our email list or follow us on Facebook, you already know that we have taken up a daily challenge to post videos and photos of the past 20 years of success stories, which happened because of your participation! Whether you were a student, a parent, a teacher, or a supporter of our programs, we want to hear from you with your stories, photos, videos, and memories.

If you would like to share photos, videos, memories, or stories of your time with [Earth School](#), [Earth School-to-Farm](#), [Turtle Island](#), the [Children’s Peaceful Garden](#), the [Blue Star Youth Movement](#), [Music for Families](#), [Backyard Farmer](#), or [Something Aloha](#) projects, please email these to us or share them with us on Facebook so that we can post them for you.

If your family benefited in any way over the past 20 years, we also invite you to help us celebrate this journey of teamwork and collaboration with a \$20 donation. Why not?! \$1 for every year of the adventure together! If you would like to donate \$20 or more to help us keep offering free programs for children in need in New York and Hawai’i: somethinggoodintheworld.org/donate





Something Good in the World has completed the 2021-2022 school year of programs in Hawai'i (read on in this newsletter to find out more) and we will be very busy in NY for our summer programs! 2022 funding has been received from the Alpern Family Foundation, St. Faith's House Foundation, Kate Svitek Memorial Foundation, Jack DeVito Foundation, and Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots! SGITW will be busy offering our free farm- and nature- and garden-based education programs for Abbott House's refugee youth, Ossining High School students, and Ossining Children's Center kindergartners!

Thank you for all you have done to make these 20 years totally amazing. We hope that you will choose to continue to support our work for another 20 years!... ☺





Something Aloha was in full swing this past winter and spring in Hawai'i, thanks to support from individuals and family foundations who believe in our vision of nature- and farm- and garden-based education for children, teachers, and families. Our free programs were conducted at the [Volcano School of Arts & Sciences](#), in the district of Ka'u on the Big Island. Just to give you a snapshot of the situation for children and families on Hawai'i Island, here are some useful food security facts:

- 85-90% of food is imported.
- Food costs are 81% higher than in the rest of the U.S.
- 36% of residents earn less than a livable wage.
- 11.8% of residents are food insecure.
- 19.5% of children are food insecure.
- 61% of families struggle to afford basic necessities.
- Over 80% of public school students are eligible for free and reduced meals.

(Note: statistics from the [Hawai'i Island Food Alliance](#))

For these reasons, Something Good in the World has focused its programs on helping students to learn how to grow their own food, and how to use the practices of permaculture, including indigenous farming and gardening techniques that are already well known in Pacific Island Agroforestry. Our Children's Peaceful Garden (Ka Mala Maluhia in Hawaiian) design has been adapted to the Volcano environment: high elevation, cool weather, and lots of rain.

Our programs are aligned to meet the curriculum needs of each age group:

Middle School students studied Food Justice this year, learning the reasons why access to safe, healthy food is a human right, and how to move their communities from being a Food Desert or a Food Mirage into a place where everyone can afford to eat what is grown locally. Something Good in the World supported their efforts by donating to the 8th Grade Global Run Project, allowing the students to produce Farm-in-a-Box kits to give away for free at the Na'alehu Farmer's Market.



Elementary School students grew their own edible, teaching gardens, one for each classroom. Kindergarten grew flowers for butterflies and other pollinators, while Pre-K focused on Hawaiian vegetables like sweet potato and taro. First Graders tended their own herb garden, while Second Graders grew root, stem, leaf, flower, and seed vegetables to prove that humans eat all parts of a plant. Third and Fourth Graders focused on medicinal native plants to help restore the environment.

Of course, as we are teaching, we are also playing! The younger children love to include the songs and dances of [Talking Hands](#) [Talking Feet](#) while they work, and the older children love all of SGITW's favorite outdoor games, especially camouflage! Journaling, observing, creating art, poetry – all of this is the approach to learning of the Golden Education Template (GET) method that has inspired our programs for over 20 years.

Our [Envira Pod](#) mobile educational trailer was in use all year to teach about alternative energy systems, but also has offered a space for food preparation, in which we take our produce from local farms and our gardens and turn these into healthy snacks with the children! These have ranged from raw cacao fondue with fresh fruit, to bike blender smoothies, to herb butter made from scratch, to fresh veggies and dip, to herbal teas! We have gotten a big thumbs up for these experiences.

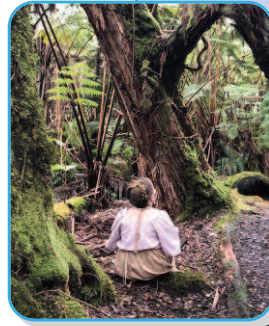
As always, SGITW teaches about food systems and the interconnectedness of all things in nature through a wide variety of hands-on, experiential projects, because everyone learns differently. One day we were creating “worm cake” for compost, while another day students were planting seedlings in eggshells and doing “eggsperiments” to prove the strength of calcium, and on another we were growing “hugelkultur” gardens with seeds in cardboard boxes that create their own soil using nothing but sticks, leaves, weeds, compost, and fertilizer. Learning the source of our drinking water and the need for conservation and prevention of pollution also led us to the oceans, to saving the coral reefs and marine life by preserving the integrity of the soil, delineating pathways for conservation of native plants, and removing microplastics from the beaches and tidal pools. There is so much to do every day, and every age group can help.

We are grateful to all of you who have supported our work this year, and for the past 20 years, and want to ask you to please keep donating to make these free programs possible. SGITW has always had a 360-degree scope of influence, and we believe that everyone deserves learning experiences that are nature-based, arts-integrated, all-sensory, and allow children the freedom to be themselves... ☺

Note from a supporter:

Or... you could donate \$2 per year or \$5 per year. It can be increasingly challenging to find “something good in the world” these days. Barbara and SGITW are creating it every day - tire swings, farm animals, music, EnviraPod, peaceful gardens, happy kids, safe spaces, UN visits... and all on a shoestring. Please support her amazing, tireless, dedicated work as generously as you can! 🍷❤️🌱🐛🐝🌻🌻🌻🌻🌻🌻🌻🌻

- Joan Dalton





PROJECT OF THE MONTH

Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots is honored to award this certificate to
SOMETHING GOOD IN THE WORLD
 for impressive impact on behalf of people, animals and the environment.

*"Every individual matters.
 Every individual has a role to play.
 Every individual makes a difference."
 -Dr. Jane Goodall*

Erin Vera-Orr
 Associate Vice President, Roots & Shoots
 The Jane Goodall Institute

Jane Goodall's
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October 2016
 Date

the Jane Goodall Institute

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We are an **AmazonSmile** participant. Use this interactive link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/175-3071237>. 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:

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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.