



Directed by Mrs. Keen, the music teacher, students sing songs from different countries.

Read to Feed

By: Staci P. and Angel M. Liberty Students



Fourth grade students locate countries on a map during their library period.

LIBERTY students participated in the **READ TO FEED** program to help feed families around the world. Kids drew fliers and put them up all over the school to show everyone why it was so important to join the program. Next, every student got pledges from neighbors, family, and friends for each page they read. The money the school raised bought goats and other animals that can produce food to eat and sell. Students worked very hard, raised a lot of money, read a bunch, and helped many families. In addition to reading and collecting money for the Read to Feed program, the art, music, and library teachers geared their lessons toward the “Read to Feed” theme. To culminate the program, parents and teachers organized a reading sleepover with the theme “Reading to Change the World.” As a result of this project, the students learned about different countries, used several Lifeskills, and had fun!



GEORGE EARLE SCHOOL PRESENTS:

MIGHTY ACORNS at the STEWART W. MATTIX PRAIRIE

The **Stewart W. Mattix Prairie**, established for environmental education for the School City of Hobart, is a 22 acre area which is located on the George Earle School property. It is being restored to the prairie, oak savanna, and wetland that once dominated the local landscape. The Mattix Prairie is the field site used by George Earle School’s 4th and 5th grade students and teachers for the Mighty Acorns Program.

The mission of the Mighty Acorns Program is to foster a personal connection to nature through stewardship. Since fall of 2000, George Earle School and the Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center have collaborated to provide students with service learning interactions with the ecosystems on which all life depends. As the school year unfolds – fall-to-winter-to-spring – students help restore a natural area to ecological health. Mighty Acorns classes participate in three seasonal field trips. Students explore the prairie and act as stewards doing activities such as seed collecting and planting. Repeat visits to the prairie to monitor the results of their work strengthen the students’ connection with nature. The students are also eligible for a weeklong summer camp that caps off the Mighty Acorn year.

In addition to The Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center staff, Sandy O’Brien, a botanist and parent, regularly volunteers her expertise and time monitoring the Stewart W. Mattix Prairie and the Mighty Acorn Program. She manages the controlled burns needed to restore and maintain as much of a myriad of native plants and animals as possible for biological diversity.

The community is encouraged to visit the Stewart W. Mattix Prairie, 400 N. Wilson St., Hobart. Please call the school office, 942-7263, for directions and information. The following web sites provide useful resources:
 Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center www.nps.gov/indu/learning/programs.htm
 Mighty Acorns Program www.mightyacorns.org

