



February 2, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to verify that teachers at the **Lakeland School** participated in the [NCTAF's STEM Learning Studios](#) program- a year-long series of environmentally-related professional development sessions for the 2013-2014 school year.

During the summer of 2013, NCTAF facilitated three full-day professional development sessions with the grade 4 and 6 teams. These sessions focused on Project-based Learning (PBL) in environmental and earth sciences, as well as supported collaborative teamwork and cross-curricular design with outside content experts. Teacher teams continued to meet with NCTAF staff for monthly design sessions at the Lakeland School for 2013-2014. These after-school professional development sessions supported the ongoing development of [real world environmental learning opportunities for students](#) that were aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The sessions featured the participation of outside content experts from the UMBC Peaceworkers, graduate students from Johns-Hopkins University, and a landscape architect.

Project Focus: Grade 4 Sustainable Ecosystems

How does the weather impact plant growth and food supply?

Team Member	Content Area	Grade Level
Ashley Smith	Science/Soc St	4th
Marissa Knaus	ELA	4th
Katie Poist	Math	4th
Caryn Horrigan	ESOL	4th & 5th

Project Focus: Grade 6 Human activities can change the environment in ways that affect the planet's health

How can urban gardens impact human and environmental health? NCTAF Blog

Team Member	Content Area	Grade Level
Karen "Rennie" Watson	Earth & Space Science	6th
Lisha Veney	Special Ed	5
DeVera Miller-Maxwell	ELA	6 and 7
Beverly Coe	Math	6th and 7th

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Glass, PhD
Director, Learning Studios Evaluation