



Students Grow Native Trees to Engage their Nature Education

Ninety students at Jefferson Academy participated in the PHLOW Growing Native program and tree potting project this spring. Cacapon Institute worked with lead teachers to provide both classroom education and hands on conservation with the school's kindergarten through fifth grade. Cacapon Institute led students in



four one-hour classroom education lessons to engage students in age-appropriate discussions about watersheds,

pollution, and the role trees play in healthier streams. Students also investigated the ability of forest buffers to protect streams. Lessons complimented Jefferson Academy's nature-based education and commitment to improving their school and communities.

Fourteen species of native tree whips were planted in pots and added to Jefferson Academy's new Grow Out Station. All 160 of these saplings will grow in the fenced station for a year until they are ready to be planted on campus and throughout the student's communities at the conclusion of next school year.

The Growing Native program is teaching students about the



critical importance of having trees in our communities to reduce the amount of pollution entering our



streams, provide oxygen, and create habitat for wildlife.