



Illustrating Eco-Initiative projects (clockwise from top left) third graders Bethany Hutchings and Betty Gibbs color cloth napkins. Grace Steele shows her Earth Shelter house. Sabrina Shih's project is a 'bio-mimicry' of a lily pad. Kindergarten students Natalie Traudt and Alexis Kalafala color items in a food pyramid. Lisa Goldstone and Jack Tellerday show their "green" home. *Photos by Curtis Schmidt*

Rhinebeck students learn through Eco-Initiative

The Eco-Initiative, a collaborative effort between the Cary Institute of Ecosystems Studies and the Rhinebeck Central School District, held an open house last Wednesday evening at the Chancellor Livingston Elementary School.

The initiative was made possible through funding from the Rhinebeck Science Foundation. Through the Eco-Initiative, Rhinebeck students learned to

view their school as an ecosystem in an effort to create a more sustainable school community.

During the program, the students were able to reduce waste significantly and became aware of many opportunities to do so both at school and in their homes.

Additional areas covered included nutrition, energy use, Green Dream home projects, water use and preservation, bio-diversity education and horticulture.