



A Brief History of Water Palooza



2015 – Pershing East Magnet School, Chicago, IL



The 3rd annual Water Palooza education event took place at John J. Pershing East Magnet School. 800 elementary and middle school-age students from Pershing and five other Chicago schools took part in the daylong event. Students visited 18 booths representing 15 organizations from Chicago and around the country where they learned about the value of water and how to become stewards of their own water environment. Representatives from the 4th Ward Alderman's office were also in attendance to interact with the students and share information regarding what is happening in the Ward as well as information on the area's water and environment.

2014 (Multiple Sites) – Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary, New Orleans, LA (3rd – 5th grades)



The 2014 event featured a school assembly which included speakers from the City of New Orleans, Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, Global Green, and WEF. Speakers talked about where water goes, how rain barrels work, green projects taking place in the community, and a 'No Dumping' medallion design contest for the students. Students at the assembly helped kick-off Water Palooza 2014 by leading all 300 attendees in a water cycle song.

2014 (Multiple Sites) – Lusher Charter School, Lower School, New Orleans, LA (Kindergarten – 4th grades)

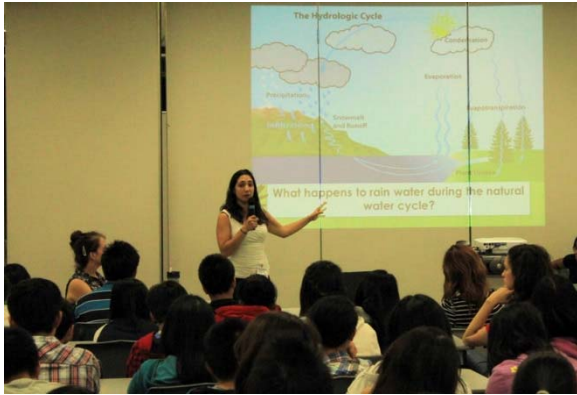


The Water Palooza education fair saw over 500 students take part in 13 booths run by 12 different organizations. The most popular stop was the water careers photo booth. Here, students were able to learn about jobs in the water sector, dress up as a water professional, and have their photo taken. First graders also painted barrels that were donated to the school after the event.

“Thank you so much for bringing Water Palooza to our students. The feedback from our community was very positive and I hope that you will consider us in the future. Your volunteers were well organized and had everything they needed for their stations. In addition, they interacted well with our children, which made this event a huge success. Please extend my appreciation to your organization and to anyone else who was involved in bringing this opportunity to our students.”

-Sheila Nelson, Principal

2013 – Haines Elementary School, Chicago, IL (1st – 8th grades)



Nearly 700 students from Haines Elementary got to see and interact with 10 different organizations in 2013. Booths focused on water conservation, protecting the water environment, and how our actions interact with the water cycle. The 2nd grade students kicked off an assembly for the 7th and 8th grade students with a song and dance on the water cycle before learning about what green infrastructure is and how it works.

2010 (Public Outreach Event) – Lower 9th Ward, New Orleans, LA (3rd – 6th grades)



A total of 12 organizations hosted booths featuring water and sustainability related interactive activities in the area adjacent to the WEF Community Service Project site. Approximately 100 children attended, taking a passport to each booth and receiving a stamp or sticker indicating which booths they were visiting. Before leaving, the children were able to turn in their books to receive a pin commemorating their participation in the event.