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FOR RELEASE: November 4, 2011
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**Ohio EPA Awards Environmental Education Mini Grant
to Outdoor Education Program for Franklin County Kindergarteners**

Ohio EPA has awarded a \$3,796 environmental education mini grant to BrightPath Active Learning LLC, to enrich kindergarteners in Franklin County with outdoor educational opportunities. Ten projects throughout the state were funded for \$42,813.

This grant will provide supplies for students to conduct a stream study and gardening and worm composting activities during all four seasons. Such activities offered by this learning center supplement students who are ready for more than the half-day kindergarten classroom programs offered by many public and private schools.

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund gives out approximately \$1 million each year for environmental education projects targeting kindergarten through university students, the general public and the regulated community. General grants are given for projects lasting up to 30 months and costing up to \$50,000.

Mini grants are available for projects lasting up to 12 months and costing between \$500 and \$5,000. Proposals for classroom projects, conference speakers, and other activities that are eligible under the general grant program are eligible under the mini-grant program, but the application process is streamlined. Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education reserves up to \$50,000 each grant round to fund projects submitted under this program. Just like the general grant program, there are two mini-grant rounds each year, with the next application deadline on Jan. 17, 2012. An electronic letter of intent to apply is due on Jan. 9, 2012.

For more information, contact Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education at (614) 644-2873. Staff is available to assist potential grant applicants who contact the office before the submission deadline. Information also is available [online](#).

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