



## Sunshine Coast Community Foundation YOUTH SCOOP announces 2008 Granting Cycle

*Youth SCOOP is pleased to announce that it is now accepting grant applications from youth organizations for youth projects on the Sunshine Coast.*

We thank Sue Lamb of the Halfmoon Bay Community School for telling the story about one of the projects funded by a Youth SCOOP grant in 2007 and the benefits that resulted from that grant:

"As you walk up the short forest trail from Westwood Road to Halfmoon Bay Community School, look up. Set in the trees are two wooden bird houses, waiting to be home to a family of nuthatches, wrens or chickadees this spring. These birdhouses, along with five others, are part of a project funded by Youth SCOOP, the Youth Organization of Philanthropy sponsored by the Sunshine Coast

Community Foundation. The project is called, Life in the Trees, an idea brought to fruition by the Halfmoon Bay Community School Ecokids."

"In spring of 2007 our school applied for a \$500.00 grant from Youth SCOOP to design, construct, maintain and observe a variety of bird houses to be established on the school site. The goal was to increase environmental awareness by attracting native birds and observing their needs and habits. With support from local biologist Annette Clarke of the Woodpecker Awareness Program, we began our project in September with a group of grade 4 and 5

students. Annette guided us through the process of identifying appropriate sites and the design of the birdhouses. She identified the species we might expect to see and the types of food they may prefer. The students enjoyed building the houses together and this winter the seven potential homes were installed by our maintenance staff here at the school."

"A feeding station was also established near three of the homes, and in clear sight of our grade one and two classrooms. Dried cranberries were placed in the feeder as our first offering. The berries disappeared in short order! We look forward to the spring

when we hope to see those birds stopping by to feed and hopefully nest in the houses in the trees nearby. Two houses are attached to our gymnasium wall to attract swallows, another familiar bird in our area."

"This past week we were privileged to have the Youth SCOOP students and their mentor, Sam Adams, visit our school and check out the project. They are a wonderful group, committed to making a positive difference in the world. Three of the six youth had attended Halfmoon Bay Community School, and remembered the many projects done through Greenstar. Two of the group had been founding mem-



Back: Posing with one of the bird houses, Youth SCOOP Matthew Hewitt, Luke McQuaid, Ellen Green, Sam Adams (Youth Advisor), Sharli Clayton and Quinn Runkle. Front: HB Elementry School Ecokid, Darienne Hunter.

bers of Ecokids at Halfmoon Bay. It was a pleasure to hear the impact such projects can have on how we view our school experience. It is clear these are lasting memories that shape our thinking and actions."

"Halfmoon Bay Ecokids are thrilled to be able to work with the Youth SCOOP and would like to thank them and Annette

Clarke for all their support and for allowing us to move forward on this delightful stewardship project. This will be a lasting memory for all students involved."

***The deadline for grant applications is April 30, 2008 so please go to [www.sccfoundation.com](http://www.sccfoundation.com) to apply for a Youth Scoop grant, and for more granting information.***