

# SCHOOLYARD LEARNING

## Monarch Waystation Location

**GRADES: 1-8** PRIMARY/JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE - SCIENCE

### LEARNING SKILLS AND WORK HABITS:

### ACTIVITY:

1. Introduce what a [Monarch Waystation](https://schools.wrdsb.ca/environmental-education/nearby-nature/monarch-waystations/) is and its purpose:  
<https://schools.wrdsb.ca/environmental-education/nearby-nature/monarch-waystations/>
2. In small groups, have students walk around the schoolyard looking for a suitable location for a Monarch Waystation (if/when approved). This area will need to be sunny for most/all of the day, as the milkweed and nectaring plants grow best in dry soil with full sunlight. It is also important to choose a location that is not used by students. Although the middle of the soccer field might meet the growing conditions of the plants, it would not be a suitable location.
3. Ask students to remember the area that they feel is most suitable, and the reasons for their decision.
4. After giving an adequate amount of time for exploration, have everyone gather back as a class.
5. Ask each group to take the class to the spot they felt would be most suitable, and while there, explain their rationale.

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### TEACHER PROMPTS:

The intention of this activity is to become more familiar and comfortable with your school yard, facilitate student interactions, provide students the opportunity to have input within their school setting, all while helping an endangered species.

### ACTIVITY OPTIONS:

Students could be given a printed map (Google Maps screenshot) of the schoolyard to help them mark locations and make notes.

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Also check out [www.wrdsb.ca/monarchmadness](http://www.wrdsb.ca/monarchmadness) and [www.journeynorth.org/monarchs](http://www.journeynorth.org/monarchs)

