



Harns Marsh Elementary

Launch Into Learning

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Cynthia Hernandez
Principal

Jason Peters
Assistant Principal

Jared Wallace
Assistant Principal

Dear Melissa and your team at “Ding” Darling Wildlife Refuge,

Thank you for taking the time to not just educate the students at Harns Marsh Elementary, but to bring the refuge to them at their school in Lehigh Acres. Being from a low-income, Title 1 school, this is something that is truly appreciated and something that most of these students will never have an opportunity to experience first-hand.

From the time the students stepped outside of the school and were greeted by the friendly staff and the brilliantly illustrated trailer, their routine day at school was instantly transformed. The students were able to explore the residents of a gopher tortoise burrow, spent time in the estuary discovering the animals who lived there, and were able to investigate the mangrove creatures who call that habitat home.

All lessons did an outstanding job of aligning to the state standards, and the instructors who implemented the lessons did a terrific job focusing on the important aspects related to each grade level. The friendliness and knowledge of the staff allowed the students to open up and they were eager to ask questions about the material presented.

This experience is one that the students are sure to remember and take with them for years to come. After all, how often are you able to touch a sea turtle shell?!

Thank you again for the opportunity you were able to share with the students at Harns Marsh Elementary. We look forward to having you visit again in the near future!

Sincerely,

Rob Morrison

Harns Marsh Elementary

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