## Exciting News for 3rd Graders:

# Learning About South Carolina's Ecosystems with a Special Grant!

We have some fantastic news for our 3rd grade students! Thanks to a generous grant from the South Carolina Wildlife Federation and Dominion Energy, our students are about to embark on an exciting journey to explore the unique ecosystems of South Carolina. This opportunity will allow them to connect with their environment like never before—and it's going to be a blast!

### Hands-On Learning: Nature Up Close

With this grant, students will dive into the wonders of South Carolina's diverse ecosystems—from its lush forests to its vibrant swamps and coastal areas. What makes this learning experience even more exciting is that it will be hands-on! Students won't just be reading about nature; they'll be exploring it in real life, engaging in interactive activities that bring science to life.

Imagine your child getting their hands dirty while planting native plants, studying local wildlife tracks, or conducting simple experiments to better understand how ecosystems work. These activities will help them grasp important scientific concepts in a way that's fun, memorable, and directly tied to the world around them.

#### A Special Guest Speaker: Learning From the Experts

As part of this amazing program, our 3rd graders will also get the chance to hear from an expert in the field! In the spring, a special guest speaker will visit the class to share their knowledge about South Carolina's ecosystems and the importance of conservation. This is a rare opportunity for students to ask questions, get inspired, and learn from someone who is passionate about protecting our natural world.

#### Why It Matters

Not only will this grant help students gain a deeper understanding of their local environment, but it also fosters a sense of responsibility and connection to the world they live in. These young learners will come away with the tools and knowledge to make a difference in protecting the beautiful ecosystems of South Carolina—and beyond!

We're excited about all the wonderful experiences ahead and can't wait to see how this grant helps our students grow into thoughtful, curious stewards of the environment. Stay tuned for updates on their hands-on adventures and the guest speaker event in the spring!