In Our Butterfly Garden
By Irma Ordaz, Social Worker at Greene Elementary and Hamline Elementary

Summary: Students sit in the garden and communicate positive qualities about their classmates and about the garden itself.

Objective: To appreciate our personal good qualities and the qualities that a garden provides its environment.

Grades: K-2

Time needed: 1 class periods; 45-60 minutes

Preparation and Materials Needed:
Walk through the garden space to ensure that it is presentable to your students for this lesson, and locate a place where everyone can sit comfortably.

Procedure:
1.) In-class preparation and moving outside. Explain to students that they will be in the school garden for class today. Students should brainstorm rules and/or best behavior for the garden (i.e. listening, following directions, boundaries, meeting place, etc.).
2.) When outside, seat students in a circle in the garden.
3.) Have each student take their turn to tell the group at least three good/positive qualities about the person sitting on their left. Go clockwise so that each student can take a turn and hear what their good qualities are.
4.) We will then discuss the good qualities that the plants have in this garden. For example: What is a good quality that parsley has in our garden? Answer: it is food for the caterpillars. What is the good quality of dill? Answer: It is a host for butterflies to lay their eggs. So, these are helpful and kind plants to the butterflies and caterpillars.
5.) Give each student seeds or bulbs to plant in the garden.
6.) Students will then help dig into the ground and/or in a flower pot. They will place the seeds and/or bulbs into the dirt.
7.) At the end of the small group, each student will receive a sticker for their participation.