

Project Description

As Alameda County's Green Child Care fellow, I supported child care programs across the County in establishing effective waste sorting systems and promoted children's environmental health.

- The Green Child Care Program lives within the Early Education Department and works across Alameda County to educate preschool age students on the 4Rs and to prepare teachers to advance green education within the classroom.
- This fellowship position has been in place for 8 years. During this time fellows have worked with over 155 sites, trained over 1,220 teachers and staff members, and educated 6,360 children ages 3-5 on green practices and waste reduction.
- This position is unique in that it encompasses many different roles:



- Rocky the Recycling Raccoon and Litter Red Riding Hood** – During student lessons and classroom trainings, I used these child friendly characters to explain the basics of waste, including the 4Rs and landfill basics.
 - Waste Assessments and Teacher Trainings** – I conducted assessments to inform sites on areas of improvement and trained teachers on how to reduce waste and implement ongoing environmental education for their students.




ALAMEDA COUNTY
GREEN CHILD CARE

This **free** program educates children and staff on waste management

What we provide...
Waste audit and waste assessment
Recycle and compost bins, as well as signage for the classroom
Teacher and staff trainings
Classroom lesson
Follow up visit

For more information, contact Lexi Oliva at
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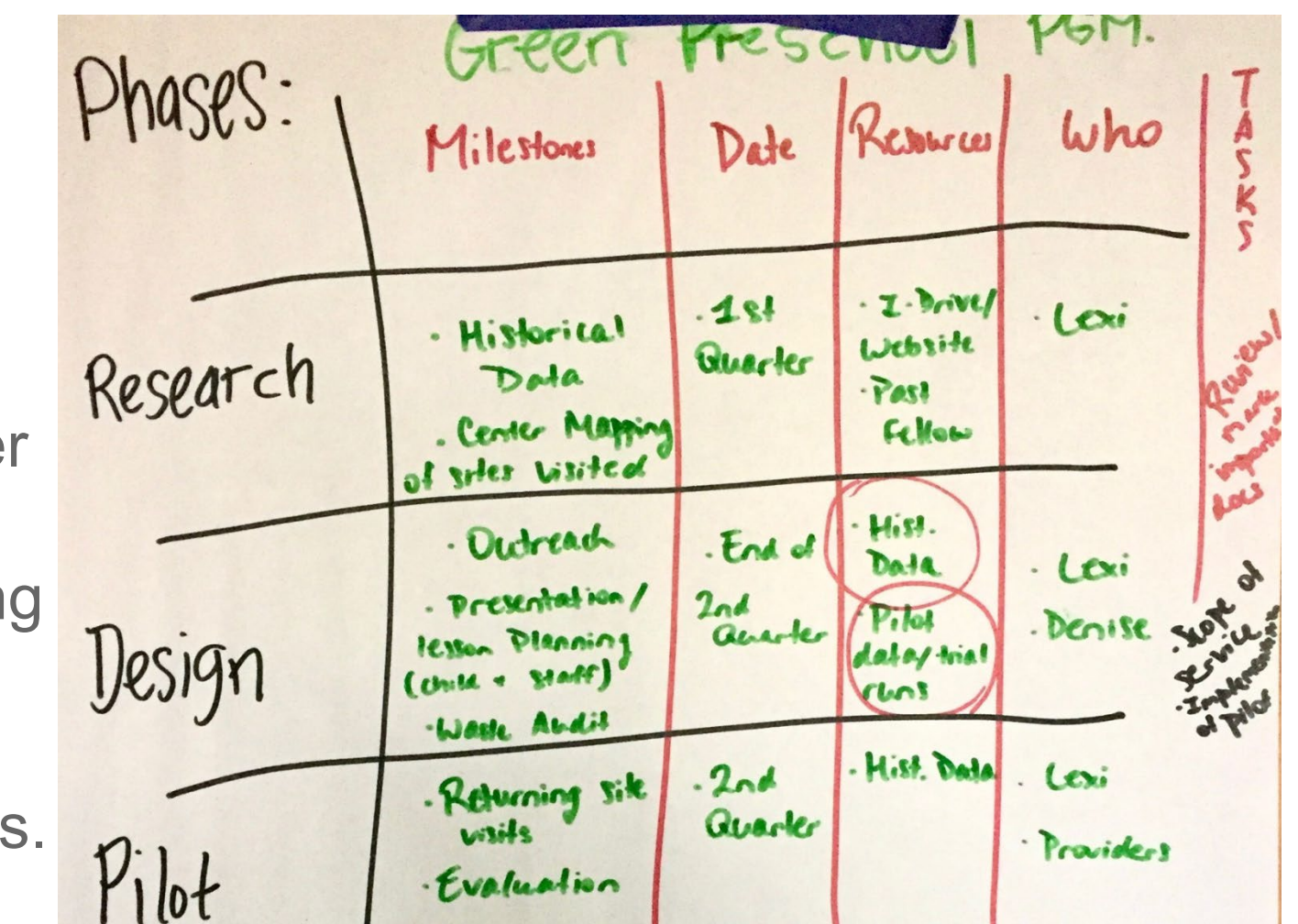
Achievements /

Creative Map Outline:

- See figure to the right

Media and Outreach:

- I developed numerous handouts to reference during presentations and had a monthly newsletter with an audience of over 350 contacts.
- Challenges and shifts due to COVID-19:** Leading up to Spring 2020, I conducted outreach to incorporate new sites and hoped to capitalize on Earth Day 2020 to advance waste reduction efforts. However, due to COVID-19, my outreach and trainings had to come to a halt.



Phases:	Milestones	Date	Resources	Who	TA S K S
Research	- Historical Data - Center Mapping of sites visited	- 1st Quarter	- Z-Drive Website - Post Follow	- Lexi	Research Data Input
Design	- Outreach - Presentation/ Lesson Planning (with + staff) - Waste Audit	- End of 2nd Quarter	- Hist. Data - Pilot data/ trial runs	- Lexi - Denise	Start of Pilot Implementation
Pilot	- Returning site visits - Evaluation	- 2nd Quarter	- Hist. Data	- Lexi - Providers	

Key Outcomes and Lessons

Key Takeaways:

- Throughout this term I have found that an effective tool for educating not only children, but adults as well, is through storytelling. Thus, my trainings for students and teachers used stories such as Rocky the Raccoon to evoke a sense of responsibility.

Results:

- Oct. 2019-Feb. 2020:** I expanded the program network to engage with 10 facilities, 5 of which were new. I held 11 presentations and taught 134 children and 45 teachers/staff members in a variety of settings.
- Conclusion:** The shelter in place order affected engagement and outreach. During the months I was able to meet with sites, I shared curriculum best practices that could last well beyond this year and educated the next generation on ways that they can make difference at an individual level.
- Following this crisis, I would hope to continue to engage with new contacts and establish relationships with sites eager to set up proper waste sorting.

