

Mrs. L. Miller's Second Grade
Williamson Elementary School

We are a second grade class at Williamson Elementary in Williamson, NY. Our rural town is located about 25 miles east of Rochester on Lake Ontario.

Our class had 4 squares of life and we worked in groups of 4. We compared our data with data from South O'Brien Elementary School in Primghar, Iowa. We chose their school because they also had 4 squares. Each group took one of their squares and wrote a report comparing the data.

Square 1 Final Report (Grace, Martie, Noah, Will)

We are Square 1 and we are comparing our data to Flowerbed 5 at South O'Brien Elementary in Primghar, Iowa. Our squares were different in many ways. In our square we had 3 small spiders and 2 grasshoppers. They had a tiny black bug, a fly and a cricket.



We also had different kinds of plants. In our square we had a dark, green bush and Flowerbed 5 had lots of flowers. (We think that's because their square of life was a flowerbed.) They also had a leaf, red berries, seeds, mushrooms and an Evergreen tree.

Now we are going to tell you about the different non-living things in our squares. In Flowerbed 5, they had a bird bath, wood chips, 2 wrappers, a nail, some water, a spider web, a tag, cotton, soil and a brick. We had a green piece of plastic, Styrofoam, a small, white feather, a plastic bag, a small piece of clear glass and mulch.

Here are the things that are alike in the 2 squares. We both had ants and bees. There was grass and weeds growing in both squares. There were rocks in our squares, but they were different sizes.

We learned that different places have different things. It was fun learning about a new place.

Square 2 Final Report (Anton, Claire, Ryan, Sarah)

Square 2 compared their information to Flowerbed 2 from South O'Brien Elementary School in Primghar, Iowa. We found that our squares were mostly different. There were only four things we both had. They were a fly, soil, an ant, and rocks. The rocks were different sizes.



Our square had 4 leopard frogs and a ladybug. They had a dead cricket, a caterpillar, an Asian beetle, a spider and spider eggs. They saw a bumblebee. The plants in their square were different than ours. They had sedum shoots, mushrooms, moss, white aster plants, fungus, seeds and clover. We had a pink hydrangea bush, crab grass and a dandelion.

Except for soil and rocks, we also had different non-living things. We found a plastic bag with 3 rotting grapes, black mulch, small cigarette butt, a stick and a piece of chewed, red gum. They had railroad ties, bird poop, an ant hole, wood chips, spider web and a wrapper.

We think the living things were different because South O'Brien Elementary School is in a different state than ours. We had fun learning about a square of life in Iowa.

Square 3 Final Report (Colton, JD, Joey, Nate)

We are comparing the living and non-living things we found in Square 3 to the things found in the Rock/Log Area at South O'Brien Elementary. We both had weeds and clover. We didn't have any non-living things that they had.



The living things we had were different kinds of flowers, a leopard frog, a black cricket, 2 flies, a tan spider and a bee. They had berries, moss, leaves, and mushrooms. The animals they saw were 7 gray birds, Asian beetles, spider eggs and 3 lady bugs.

The non-living things in the Rock/Log Area were a hollow log and a spiral log. (We are wondering what a spiral log is.) They also saw a broken gate, rocks, a wet bench, mud, pieces of metal, a spider web, bird poop, and a wrapper. We think it was a wet day when they looked at their square of life. In our square we found a skeleton of a frog, piece of foil, mulch, piece of chewed, pink gum and a large, red flower pot.

We enjoyed learning about their square of life and comparing it with ours.

Square 4 Final Report (Abby, Bayana, Cole, Kyle)

Our group, Square 4, compared our information with the Circle Flowerbed in Primghar, Iowa. We had 4 things in common. We both had ants, a dead insect, a tree and sticks. Our square had a dead bee and a maple tree. Their square had a dead fly and a Northern Red Oak tree.

There were lots of different living and non-living things in our squares. They had 5 Asian beetles, a fly, a spider, a caterpillar and a sparrow. They had different plants than us. They had creeping phlox, 5 hostas, clover, and moss. They also had acorns and some red berries. We had a maple leaves and some grass.

The different non-living things in their square were mulch, a wooden bench, a spider, bird poop, a statue of a praying girl, a cocoon, and some wood chips. We had some small stones, 2 pieces of silver, bent metal, a white bird feather, a Rice Krispy wrapper, a small piece of plywood and soil.

That ends our experience of comparing our square of life to one of South O'Brien's squares of life.

