

## Planting trees, singing songs mark Earth Day

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Aaron Royster/Miner

Cerbat Garden Club members (left to right) Lynda Goldberg, Sandie Womack and Virginia Hunter plant a tree at Manzanita Elementary on Earth Day while fifth-grade students look on.



JC Amberlyn/Miner

KINGMAN - Students at Manzanita Elementary utilized Earth Day to celebrate Arbor Day.

With the help of the Cerbat Garden Club and the [University of Arizona](#) Cooperative Extension, Cindy Burden's fifth-grade class planted a tree on Wednesday at the campus.

The class was chosen after fifth-grader Kylee Bolton's Arbor Day poster beat out six other schools in Kingman.

"I thought it was really, really cool because I'm a good artist and my mom supported me on it," Bolton said.

This is the second year in a row Burden's class produced the winner for Kingman. Last year's winner was selected as part of the state Arbor Day calendar.

Burden combines the poster contest with a yearly recycling program.

"These kids will then grow up appreciating the environment and working to protect the earth," Burden said.

While Bolton's poster wasn't selected to represent the state on the national level, there is a possibility her work can be chosen for the state calendar. The decision on the state calendar won't be made until the end of the year, said Nina Brackett with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension.

Brackett contacted all local schools to participate in the poster contest, with nearly 60-percent participation from more than 500 students she made presentations to since January. The contest was open to fifth-graders across the nation. "This is my busiest time of the year," Brackett said. She will lead Earth Day and Arbor Day activities at Kingman schools today through April 30.

Left: Eagle Academy in Golden Valley celebrated Earth Day with several activities. Upper grade level students developed displays and activities for K-5 grade level students, involving lessons on wildlife, gardening and other subjects. A tree-planting was planned for the end of the event, led by Howard Holmes, whose family donated the tree. Barbara Kuzma and Angela Caudill helped put on the event with help from other school staff. University of Arizona Extension donated an insect display. Here, Adrian Santa-Rosa dissects a barn owl pellet (somewhat like a cat's hairball but with bones in it) as other students watch in Kuzma's eighth-grade science class.

Right: The Jazz Blazers, sponsored by Mary Reiman, sing a song Wednesday morning at Hualapai Elementary during an Earth Day celebration at the school. Kingman Mayor John Salem and several business and community leaders were present to talk to the kids about ways they can help the Earth, including recycling. The event was put on by Rosemary Neil.