



SOMBRERO MARSH

Program Highlights 2008-2009

Thorne
Ecological Institute



Thorne's Sombrero Marsh Program, made possible through partnership with Boulder Valley School District and Boulder City Open Space, is always exciting, often unpredictable, and sometimes kids' first up-close experience with wildlife and ideas about ecology and conservation. New curriculum meets 4th grade science standards through stations that focus on birds, the importance of wetlands, water pollution, and plant adaptations. Recent letters from students best describe the experience at the Marsh, "I especially loved catching bugs in the water. I'm going to try that at a lake 2 blocks from my house." Another wrote, "Thank you for showing me all the beautiful birds. I am very glad the Marsh was cleaned up."



It's a huge highlight when Oak Thorne catches live birds for the kids to listen to their heart beats and touch their feathers.



We believe that learning to quiet down and just watch nature is one of the greatest gifts we can give children today.

Teachable moments at the Marsh include catching garter snakes, tadpoles, Tiger Salamanders, and even a huge spider that crawled out of my back pack!!



Thank you BVSD,
Open Space, and other
partners for making the
Sombrero Marsh Program
possible!

When time permits, kids play "Migration Hopscotch" to learn first-hand about the importance of wetlands to migratory birds.

