For the decade I have been an Early Childhood Educator, in addition to the decade before that when I was the stay-at-home mother of 4 active boys, I have had the privilege of watching Talk About Trees in action. Mrs. Mason-Ruud and her staff provide an invaluable service to educators and students. Talk About Trees has helped children as young as 3 years-old learn the value of our forests and the amazing and unique ecosystems that we treasure here in Oregon. The Talk About Trees team has been instrumental in introducing both the concept and practice of Stewardship to thousands of young Oregonians. The hands-on experience that Talk About Trees offers fosters a deeper, more meaningful connection than any classroom lesson or video could hope to engender. The program is engaging, relevant and long lasting.

As the Executive Director of one of the largest preschools in the state, I have witnessed firsthand the joy, wonder and sense of ownership children have when Talk About Trees empowers them with the knowledge and experience of forest stewardship. Ever conscious of the scarce resources they are using, Talk About Trees manages its finances and supplies sensibly and sustainably. Both their mission and operational model are excellent and deserving of our support. I encourage you to continue funding these valuable, well-researched, professionally administered, hands-on, fundamental programs.

Thank you for your consideration, Crystal Gwyn Executive Director Childswork Learning Center