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For Immediate Release: Spectrum School Project Goes International

Spectrum School of Rockford

**Rockford, IL May 5, 2023**

Spectrum School announced today the launch of its international project called ***Empathy for Endangered Animals***. Spectrum School's Student Ambassadors, sponsored by Meg Languages, have each become advocates for an endangered species, designing posters and selecting one organization to which they encourage others to donate to save and protect their selected species. When invited by Meg to design and develop a changemaker project, the students' shared love of animals became the focus of their work.

Students have taken on real-world roles such as media manager, project manager, web-designer, researcher, and graphic artist to promote the campaign. Several have connected with international organizations to support their advocacy. They have also worked with a graphic designer in Argentina, who helped refine their art for their posters.



EFeA Logo and examples of student poster logos developed with the support of graphic artist Jahel Prieto, who lives in Argentina.



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Student posters promote their animal via a **Digital Stuff Campaign**. All donors will be acknowledged on their project website at <http://www.spectrumschool.org/efea>. Slideshows, videos, and each student's poster can also be viewed on the website, as well as details for how to donate and support the campaign.



**Spectrum School Student Ambassadors with teachers**

**Rachel Dewes and Marc Chruszch**

Student Ambassadors have written letters and emails to state, national, and international politicians and leaders to push for stronger laws and enforcement regarding poaching, habitat protection, and pollution. One letter to Senator Dick Durbin said, *"I hope you would want to be part of a legacy where my children's children have more than pictures of endangered species- that they won't go extinct, and that hopefully they will not have to be considered endangered some day."*



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Spectrum provides a school environment with open-ended approaches to learning. It has been a student-centered, inquiry-based school serving Rockford and northern Illinois for over 50 years. Passion projects, interest groups, themed days, and genius hour are all structures that foster student ownership and deeper learning, and have been part of the Spectrum experience for decades.

## **About Spectrum**

*Spectrum students have the confidence to be deeply engaged in learning, work, and communication. They have the skills to think critically and creatively. They understand how to collaborate and know how to ask questions. They can solve problems in a variety of contexts, applying what they know to what they need to do. They care about their communities, humanity, and the natural environment. They work to make a positive difference in the world.*

## **About [Meg Languages](#)**

*Meg Languages is a unique language instruction program that combines a comprehensive interactive platform and regular live virtual instruction from teachers in Colombia and China. Meg launched its Student Ambassador Program in Australia last year and has since invited Spectrum Progressive School of Rockford to participate. Spectrum students have regular zoom conferences with Meg, guest presenters, and other student ambassadors to design, develop, and implement their glocal (local and global) **Changemaker** project.*

## **Media Contacts**

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