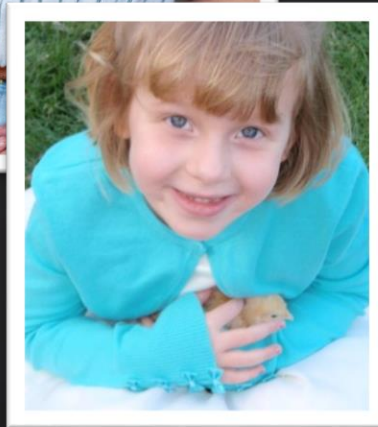
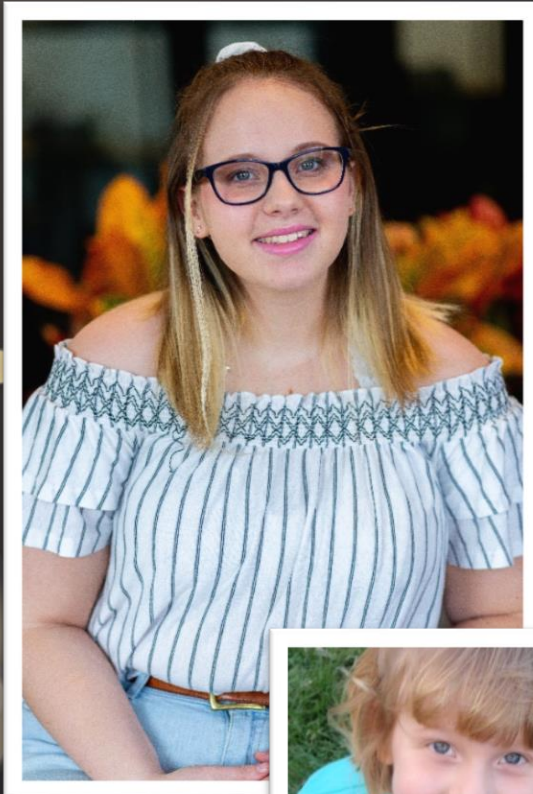




Kendra Mannes

Overland Park, KS



Rethinking Reptiles

Kendra Mannes has been a Girl Scout for 11 years as a member of Troop 146 in Service Unit 679. She is currently a senior at Olathe East High School.

Kendra's Gold Award project addressed the lack of information on the true nature of reptiles perceived as unsafe and how they benefit the ecosystem. For most people, reptiles like snakes evoke a sense of fear, but for her project, Kendra worked to demystify these animals and show the science behind how they benefit our environment and are not so dangerous if treated with respect. She hopes that by changing public perception she can help increase protection of these creatures that have a positive impact on our environment.

Kendra presented at local schools; Walnut Grove, Pleasant Ridge, Regency Place, Bentwood and TLM Childcare about how we can protect snakes. Throughout the process, Kendra was able to use animals from her school to accompany the lessons she developed. She plans to have her project continue by providing her brochures and materials to schools and anyone interested in sharing the information. Thanks to her work, students are better educated about the wildlife around them and empowered to protect them.

Because of Girl Scouts... I have learned how to be a leader and how to create a big project on my own.