Outdoor Classrooms

Educators have long recognized the value of outdoor classrooms in the motivation of students. A study that compared a control group of 3-5 grade students in a tradition science classroom setting to an experimental group in an outdoor classroom showed that the experimental group scored significantly higher on a science achievement test. (Taken from an article written by Debra Shapiro, in the National Science Teacher Association Reports January 2006.) An outdoor classroom can be used by teachers of various disciplines including sciences and non-sciences.

Schools with outdoor classrooms:
Central High School (facing N 5th Street), Grand Forks, ND
Schroeder Middle School 32 Ave S, Grand Forks, ND
Central Middle School, 1827 Bygland Road, East Grand Forks, MN

Grand Forks Parks as outdoor classrooms:
Japanese Garden - Sertoma Park, 3300 11 Ave South
Arboretum – Sertoma Park, 3300 11 Ave South
Pocket Parks – downtown
Independence Park (designed for the handicapped),
5 Ave South & South 12 Street
Native Prairie Garden – Lincoln Park, 13 Ave S & Belmont Rd
Rock Garden – University Park, 2300-2500 University Ave
Soaring Eagle Garden – Behind UND Chester Fritz Library,
3000 University Ave

www.gfparks.org

The Greater Grand Forks Greenway
2200 acres of outdoor classroom
http://www.grandforksgov.com/greenway/index.html