

# Into the Field

Environmental Education

Distance Learning Resources

Issue 1: Introduction



Hello educators,

This is the first issue in a series of resources created by Osprey Wilds to support EE educators in the distance learning environment. Each issue will focus on a different type of teaching resource, and below you will find an example of the types of supports we are compiling. We will strive to offer quality Environmental Education resources for all school levels through a variety of media. Long term, we plan to update these resources with new tools and best practices, housing them on the Osprey Wilds Charter Schools website.

## ONLINE AND INTERACTIVE MATERIALS

**Different schools will have different distance learning plans and teaching tools, and access to the internet will be an important resource for students and teachers alike. We will compile resources in this category that can be created for independent lessons--without uploading, printing, or requiring materials other than a web browser. Some examples of resources to be included in the Online and Interactive Materials issue would include:**

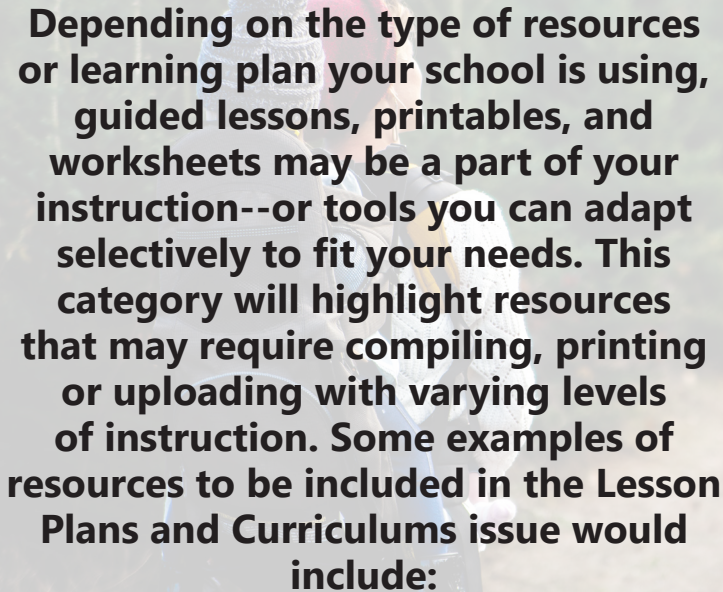
### **TED-ED**

This is a free, online tool that teachers can use to create self-guided lessons based on selected videos. Once you've selected a strong video, take a few moments to create content questions for students, provide further resources for learning, or prompt 'discussion' questions. This tool is best suited for students that can read well and independently navigate web pages. [Here](#) are the existing lessons in the category "Our Changing Climate".

### **MINNESOTA'S CHANGING CLIMATE**

This is an interactive program developed by Climate Generation. Use this tool with students who can navigate a website and independently follow prompts for the activities.

# LESSON PLANS AND CURRICULUMS



Depending on the type of resources or learning plan your school is using, guided lessons, printables, and worksheets may be a part of your instruction--or tools you can adapt selectively to fit your needs. This category will highlight resources that may require compiling, printing or uploading with varying levels of instruction. Some examples of resources to be included in the Lesson Plans and Curriculums issue would include:

## **THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION BUTTERFLY LIFE CYCLE LESSON**

**(K-2; 3-4)**

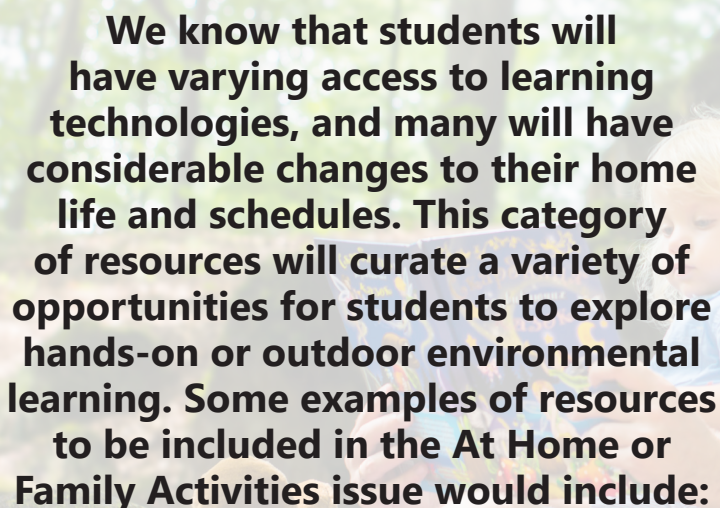
is a complete set of lessons, including worksheets, instructions, and background information. Action projects and resources for further learning are included.

## **THE CORNELL LAB INVESTIGATING EVIDENCE**

**(K-12)**

free curriculum explores the scientific process through The Cornell Lab of Ornithology's BirdSleuth investigation. With comprehensive instructions and an included resource guide, this could be used as a guide for one-off activities, or wholesale for in-depth study.

# AT HOME OR FAMILY ACTIVITIES



We know that students will have varying access to learning technologies, and many will have considerable changes to their home life and schedules. This category of resources will curate a variety of opportunities for students to explore hands-on or outdoor environmental learning. Some examples of resources to be included in the At Home or Family Activities issue would include:

## **EVERYDAY NATURE**

Take learning outside! This resource lists simple activities for a variety of green spaces. With great suggestions for investigations, use these ideas to curate outdoor experiences that will work for your students and families.

## **THEN AND NOW**

This Project Learning Tree Family Activity encourages intergenerational conversation about changes in the local community. It can be done remotely, in person, and with few materials.



# WEBINARS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Implementing distance learning is a new challenge for many of us. In this issue, we will focus on offering relevant learning opportunities for you as environmental educators. As you navigate a different schedule and type of workload, peruse these tools for insights on the many ways to facilitate environmental literacy. Some examples of resources to be included in the Webinars and Professional Development issue would include:

## **GEO INQUIRY PROCESS**

is a course offered through National Geographic for educators looking to integrate inquiry and exploration into their teaching.

## **THE CORNELL LAB**

has an archive of webinars accessible on youtube for educators looking to boost their knowledge--from content specific videos to guidance on how to blend interdisciplinary studies.

**Stay tuned for the first issue of Into the Field! As always, we welcome your feedback as we create these resources.**

**You can reach us with your comments and questions at [admin@auduboncharterschools.org](mailto:admin@auduboncharterschools.org)**



**Osprey Wilds**  
Environmental Learning Center