Into the Field Environmental Education Distance Learning Resources Issue 4: Webinars and Professional Development

Our fourth issue is geared toward supporting your knowledge and instructional tools as environmental educators.

The resources below are organized by topic or focus: Outdoor Education, School Sustainability, Climate Change Education, and EE Fundamentals and Networking. We hope you find something relevant for your work or professional learning. As always, please reach out if there are particular resources you would like to see in future issues!

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Understanding Your Audience's Connection to Nature

A feeling of connection to nature (C2N) is an important outcome of nature-based programming. C2N predicts, among other things, positive attitudes toward the environment and actions to protect the earth. How can you understand the impact of your nature-based programs on your audience's C2N? This archived webinar featuring Dr. Martha Monroe and Gabby Salazar from the University of Florida will showcase a new practical tool for developing an effective approach to assessing C2N in children and youth.

Project Learning Tree Online Trainings

Enhance your teaching skills and become comfortable teaching outdoors – in urban, suburban, or rural environments. Receive multi-disciplinary, hands-on lessons aligned with state and national academic standards. Choose professional development opportunities in a variety of formats and for different grade levels. Bolster your own knowledge of outdoor education online in a way that works with your schedule. Ahead of Earth Day, Project Learning Tree is offering online trainings at a 50% discount.



SCHOOL SUSTAINABILITY

MN GreenStep Schools

Minnesota GreenStep Schools program is a free and voluntary statewide best practices framework, community of practice, and recognition program for public and private K-12 schools and districts. The framework guides schools through how to reduce environmental impact and costs, improve health and well-being of students and staff, and provide effective environmental and sustainability education. The University of Minnesota's Minnesota Design Center and Institute on the Environment lead the project team, with a steering committee and an advisory network representing many partners from state agencies, school organizations, businesses, non-profits, teachers, and more.

Center for Green Schools Webcasts

Check out the center's 2019 archive of monthly webcasts focused on a variety of topics. Listen to webcasts from each month to expand your knowledge of a green schools issue and to hear directly from industry experts and partners.

Education For Sustainability - Starter Kit

The Sustainable Schools Project is a program of Shelburne Farms. This Starter Kit includes what schools need to start using sustainability as an integrating theme, and to catalyze school change with efficient use of existing resources and without regard to geographic limitations.



CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION

Climate Generation's YouTube Channel

In the midst of the constantly changing contexts, Climate Generation has been quick to adapt their climate education curriculum. Check out this Distance Education channel as they update it with relevant webinars on their own materials and how best to use them during this time.

Guidance in Teaching About Climate and Energy

Teaching insights are offered by CLEAN, the Climate Literacy & Energy Awareness Network. These pages offer easy-to-read explanations of science and policy, designed to step students through the key principles of climate and energy. Each page is illustrated with examples to bring these topics alive in your classroom. You'll find: A summary of each of the climate and energy science principles, ideas to support learners, suggested teaching approaches, and relevant resources from the CLEAN collection.

EE FUNDAMENTALS AND NETWORKING

eeLearn: Environmental Education Learning Modules

NAAEE provides a wide array of resources and research for our field. This particular set of learning modules can bolster your foundation of the history and scope of EE.

Forest and Nature Schools Online Learning

The Eastern Region Association is offering a series of upcoming webinars to support educators in many elements of EE, specifically for Nature and Forest School education. Sessions like Nature-Based Learning Indoors and Out will apply to any environmental educators.

Storyline Viewer

BioInteractive created this resource for educators. This interactive tool allows educators to view, edit, create, and share storylines. Storylines are sequences of lessons in which the ultimate goal is for students to explain an overarching phenomenon. Lessons within storylines are linked by students' questions and are individually driven by insights into smaller-scale phenomena. To develop an explanation for each phenomenon in the storyline, students use the practices of science.

You can reach us with your comments and questions at admin@auduboncharterschools.org



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