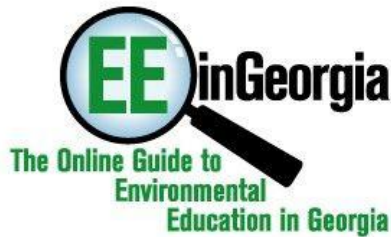


Outdoor Learning Resources 101



Curriculum & Teaching Resources

Project Learning Tree (PLT)

PLT uses the forest as a window on the world to help educators teach tomorrow's decision-makers how to think, not what to think, about complex environmental issues. The *Environmental Education PreK-8 Activity Guide* includes 96 multi-disciplinary activities while *Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood* contains over 130 experiences that engage young children in outdoor play and exploration. In addition, seven PLT curriculum modules for grades 9-12 cover topics such as forests, biodiversity, biotechnology, and solid waste. In GA, PLT is coordinated by the Georgia Forestry Association.

Project WET - Water Education for Teachers

The 592-page *Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide*, fully revised in 2011, contains 64 multidisciplinary water-related activities for K-12 students. More than 50 other publications containing activities covering a multitude of water-related topics are also available. In GA, Project WET is coordinated by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division.

Project WILD - Wildlife in Learning Design

This wildlife-focused conservation education program includes the *Project WILD K-12 Curriculum and Activity Guide* as well as the *Project WILD Aquatic K-12 Curriculum and Activity Guide*, which focuses on aquatic wildlife and ecosystems. In addition, *Growing Up WILD*, an activity guide for educators of children aged 3-7, aims to connect young children with nature and the outdoors and *Science and Civics: Sustaining Wildlife* involves high school students in environmental action projects that benefit local wildlife.

In GA, Project WILD is coordinated by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division.

Project Learning Tree, Project WET and Project WILD core curricula are not for sale and may only be obtained by participating workshops.

Monarchs in the Classroom (MIC)

MIC, a program of University of Minnesota, uses monarch butterflies and other insects as focal organisms to facilitate inquiry-based education through original curricula. K-2, 3-6, and Middle School curriculum guides are available for purchase. Curricula may also be obtained by participating in a Monarchs Across Georgia Educator Workshop.

National Wildlife Federation (NWF) / NatureScope Online Library of Lesson Plans

NWF's collection of over 1,000 lesson plans are designed to introduce students to life science, ecology, wildlife biology, scientific identification and observation. All lesson plans are aligned to the National Science Education Standards. NWF is continually adding to the online library, beginning with lesson plans from their popular NatureScope series.

www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Be-Out-There/Educators/Lesson-Plans.aspx

National Wildlife Federation (NWF) - Access Nature Curriculum Guide

This award-winning curriculum book provides 45 hands-on, habitat-based activities that include adaptations for students with disabilities. This inclusive curriculum helps educators meet the diverse needs of today's classroom, indoors and out! Access Nature is available for purchase from NWF.

Green Teacher Magazine & Books

Green Teacher is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping educators, both inside and outside of schools, promote environmental awareness among young people aged 6-19. A quarterly magazine offers perspectives on the role of education in creating a sustainable future, practical articles and ready to use activities for various age levels, and reviews of dozens of new educational resources. The "*Teaching Green*" book series contain the best hands-on teaching strategies and activities contributed to Green Teacher and includes three editions: K-5, middle, and high school.

Joseph Cornell Books

Joseph Cornell's first book, *Sharing Nature with Children*, sold 500,000 copies in over 20 languages, sparking a worldwide revolution in nature education and becoming an instant classic. His next book, *Sharing Nature with Children II*, is a treasury of nature games and activities for adults and children. Joseph's books now serve as popular nature-education resources all over the globe.

Seed to Plate: Georgia Organics Sample Farm to School Lesson Plans

Learn how to incorporate food and gardening into science, math, language arts, physical education and social studies with this set of lessons for grades K-2.

Fundamentals of Organic Farming and Gardening: An Instructor's Guide

This curriculum from Georgia Organics helps educate high school agricultural students and adults about organic farming and gardening.

National Gardening Association (NGA)– KidsGardening

NGA authors and publishes curricular materials that support plant-based education efforts in school and community gardens nationwide. Classic titles include *GrowLab: Activities for Growing Minds*, *Steps to a Bountiful Kids' Garden*, *Schoolyard Mosaics*, and *Growing Ventures*. As a publisher, NGA also brings curricula such as *The Growing Classroom*, *Math in the Garden*, and the *LiFE (Linking Food and the Environment)* series to the market. Numerous activities are also available online at www.kidsgardening.org/school-gardening

Jr. Master Gardener (JMG)

JMG is an international youth gardening program of the University Extension network. Curricula includes Teacher/Leader Guide for grades 3-5 and 6-8 plus themed units including *Health and Nutrition from the Garden*, *Literature in the Garden*, and *Wildlife Gardener*.

Workshops & Trainings

- Georgia Project Learning Tree, Project WET and Project WILD Workshops
- Monarchs Across Georgia Educator Workshop
- Georgia Adopt-A-Stream Workshops
- School Master Gardener Courses (*check with local County Extension office*)
- Georgia Agriculture in the Classroom Course
- Chattahoochee River Environmental Education Center (CREEC) Environmental Education Techniques and Strategies I, II, III, IV
- Oxford Institute for Environmental Education Schoolyard Ecology Course
- Georgia Organics Farm-to-School Workshop/Summit
- Environmental Education Alliance (EEA) of Georgia Annual Conference
- Georgia Outdoor Learning Symposium
- National Children & Youth Garden Symposium

Citizen Science Projects

- Georgia Adopt-A-Stream - Volunteer Stream Monitoring Program
- Journey North - Global Study of Wildlife Migration and Seasonal Change
- Monarch Watch - Monarch Tagging Program
- Monarch Larva Monitoring Project (MLMP)

Special Days

- Earth Day
- Arbor Day
- America Recycles Day
- No Child Left Inside Day
- Get Outdoors Day
- National Environmental Education (EE) Week
- National Wildlife Week
- Pollinator Week
- Take a Child Outside Week
- National Farm-to-School Month
- Let's G.O.! (Get Outside) Month
- National Garden Month
- Keep Georgia Beautiful Month

Grants

Spirit of Green School Recycling Grant

The Georgia Recycling Coalition is now accepting applications for its 2012 Spirit of Green School Recycling Awards. Three \$500 grants will be awarded to the top elementary, middle and high school. Apply by September 28, 2012.

Southeast Environmental Education Alliance Mini-grant

The Southeast Environmental Education Alliance is partnering with professional environmental education associations across the southeast to provide grants up to \$5,000 in support of programs and projects that support and advance environmental education and environmental literacy in the region. Proposals due November 1, 2012.

Pollinator Habitat Grant

Monarchs Across Georgia is offering grants up to \$750 for creating and using certified pollinator habitats. Apply online by November 15, 2012.

Georgia Master Gardener Grant

Each year, the Georgia Master Gardener Association offers grants to support educational horticultural projects in Georgia. Grants are usually in the \$100-\$700 range. Application deadlines are July 15 and November 15.

COOL Outdoor Learning Mini-grant

The Council of Outdoor Learning (COOL) is offering \$50-\$500 grants for projects supporting outdoor learning in Georgia. Applicants must be members of the Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia and be affiliated or partnered with a public or private, nonprofit school in Georgia. Apply by November 26, 2012.

LOTS more at EEinGeorgia.org!

Contests & Awards

Recycle-Bowl: K-12 School Recycling Competition

Registration is now open for the 2012 Recycle-Bowl competition for all elementary, middle and high schools. The competition will be held October 15 to November 9, 2012. The first 1,000 schools to register will receive a Recycle-Bowl coordinator toolkit containing posters, lesson plans, and more. Registration ends October 9, 2012.

River of Words Art and Poetry Contest

River of Words is an international environmental poetry and art project, open to youth ages 5-19, designed to nurture respect and understanding of the natural world. Entries must be postmarked by December 1, 2012.

LOTS more at EEinGeorgia.org!

Field Trips and Outreach Programs

Please search EEinGeorgia.org to find local programs!