

WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP? OUR ACTIONS AND IMPACTS

Lesson By: Gueric Good

Grade Level: 5

Focus: This lesson focuses on the necessity of considering our own impacts upon natural areas.

Objectives:

1. Students will learn how every day actions can influence natural areas.
2. Students will understand the implications of altered natural areas.
3. Students will be given ideas for environmentally responsible behavior.
4. Students will have a sense of impact and their ability to make a difference.

Standards:

SC 5.1.5 2000

Explain that technology extends the ability of people to make positive and/or negative changes in the world.

SC 5.1.6 2000

Explain how the solution to one problem, such as the use of pesticides in agriculture or the use of dumps for waste disposal, may create other problems.

SC 5.4.5 2000

Explain how changes in an organism's habitat are sometimes beneficial and sometimes harmful.

SC.5.6.1 2000

Recognize and describe that systems contain objects as well as processes that interact with each other.

Materials:

1. Camp Adventure Map with Points of Interest
2. Notebook
3. Pencil

Procedure: (60 Minutes Total)

1. This lesson is devoted to the synthesis of all the fifth grade lesson plans. Utilizing the skills and ideas learned beforehand will give the students ability to recognize and suggest actions.
2. The basis of this lesson is a walk around the trails of Camp Adventure. Students will now be familiar with particular areas and able to identify characteristics. Points of interest will be marked on a map and questions will be described to generate student involvement. Parent volunteers can aid in splitting the class up to visit sites in smaller groups.

3. Points of interest considered:

- Pond
- Erosion on stream bank
- The trail itself
- Tree stumps (Stump Garden)
- Field nearby
- Trash distributed on stream bank (appliances)
- Grass field and burning practices

4. At each site challenge the students to ask:

- What was changed here
- How does this affect the food web and ecosystem
- Why was this action done
- What would students have done differently
- What can be done to fix the area if the students decide it is necessary
- What are the benefits of the area as it is

5. In between sites challenge students to consider:

- How do their actions impact their yard, house, or neighborhood
- Are there actions they now see they can change
- How can these actions better their surrounding
- What types of animals or microorganisms are they affecting
- Do they see any other areas along the way that have been altered
- Can things be recycled that are found

6. Instruct kids to pick one site that they looked through today. Ask them to create a journal entry of what they saw, what it affects, and what they would do to make it a better habitat for plants and animals.

Evaluation:

1. Journal entries will be collected to check for comprehension and to see if an impact has been made.

Camp Adventure Point of Interest Map



Legend:

- A. Field Utilizing Prescribed Burning
- B. Pond
- C. Erosion on Stream Bank
- D. Waste on Stream Bank (appliances)
- E. Stump Garden
- F. Nearby Field
- G. The Walking Trail