

Class Programs Offered by the Licking Soil and Water Conservation District

All programs meet the Academic Standards and OGT (Ohio Government Test).

All programs are free of charge!!

Contact Lindsey Grimm at 740-670-5336 or licking-swcd@hotmail.com

Soil / Water

Soil:

Soil Explore (K-8) – Is it soil or dirt? What makes up soil and what can I find in the soil. Students become young scientists as they explore through their own sample of soil. Did you know it takes 500 years to make 1 inch of soil?

How soil is made (3-6) – Explore just how soil is made while students try to make their own soil. Students also gain a respect of the Power of Water as they visually see the effects of soil erosion.

Rocks:

Is It a Rock or a Mineral? (Edible) (3-8) – Students become young geologist by discovering the difference between a rock and a mineral by using a variety of candy bars. The activity separates minerals from rocks, introduces the concept that description and observation is important in science, and teaches some vocabulary relevant to the study of rocks and soils. **This activity is to be competed in classrooms where ALL students are NOT allergic to peanuts or chocolate!**

Water / Watershed:

Stream Study (K-12) – Take your class outdoors! Learn what it takes to make a stream healthy. Explore what is in the stream near your school while determining the overall water quality and habitat index.

Stream Team (K-12) – Take your stream monitoring to the next step. Make it a class project that lasts all year. Complete the Scientific Method steps while you make the stream your outdoor laboratory. Build data as you monitor your streams health. (Minimum sampling period 4 time / year)

Stamp Watershed (K-3) – Can't make it out to the stream? Create your own stream habitat with stamps. Students learn there's more to a stream than just water.

(Works really well coupled with the Enviro-scape activity or the watershed bracelets)

Watershed Bracelets (K-2) – Students get to make and take their own bracelet that contains aquatic indicators you would find in a healthy environment / stream.

(A nice addition to the Enviro-scape and the Stamp Watershed Activities)

Ground Water Model (4-12) – **Explore the water beneath the visible eye and how we as humans can affect our own water supplies.** This model is designed to show the concepts of groundwater flow and pollution potential. The model is a cross-section of a soil profile, highlighting the different textures (sand, silt, clay and rock) which make up our soils. Dye is added to the model to demonstrate various types of groundwater pollution. This allows the students to see how pollution can enter into the groundwater supply and the speed at which it travels. If you are doing a unit about soils or water movement in our soils, the groundwater model would be an excellent tool to relate this concept to your students.

Enviro-scape Model (K-12) – Students get to become the rulers of the town but soon realize why it is important to protect their natural resources. It is used as an educational tool to demonstrate how everyday activities can result in Non-Point Source Water Pollution (NPS). Non-Point Source pollution refers to pollution which does not come from one single identifiable source; however it includes runoff from lawns, streets, farms and other surfaces. With the model, students are able to see and discuss the cause/effect of daily activities within the watershed. The model is designed for grades K-6, however high school students can benefit from the presentation as well. The model involves a hands-on approach for students.

The Incredible Journey (water cycle) (3-8) – Is the water cycle a complete perfect circle that the text book shows? Students become a water molecule as they travel through the water cycle.

Career Development

Discover what career / volunteering opportunities there are at the District (9-12) – Need community service hours? Like to Volunteer and get involved? Find out just who the Soil and Water Conservation District is and what we have to offer. There are endless possibilities to volunteer with us! Check the webpage for more information.

Discover Environmental and Agricultural Careers (9-12) – This program explores a variety of careers in the environmental and agricultural fields. Many of the students future career goals can easily fit into spectrum since more than 1 in 6 jobs in the United States is associated with agriculture.

Contests / Competitions

Third Grade Environmental Poster Contest (3) – Each spring the Licking SWCD hosts a county wide 3rd grade poster contest that corresponds to Earth Day! We would like to invite any student in the third grade or youth ages 7-9 that live or attend a school in Licking County to participate. Prizes will be awarded to the top winners.

Envirothon Competition (9-12)

- Tri – County
- Area 3
- State

The Envirothon is an annual competition held in May in which the area high school teams, consisting of five students, compete for recognition and scholarships by demonstrating their knowledge of environmental science, conservation and natural resource management. The teams exercise their training and problem-solving skills in a competition centered on four universal testing categories (i.e., soils/land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, and wildlife) and a current environmental issue.

Soil Judging (9-12)– Each fall the Licking SWCD hosts a county Soils Judging Contest. Teams consisting of four students evaluate three soil pits to determine the soil properties and their limitations, and suggest recommendations of conservation practices for the soil conditions and appropriate land uses. In addition to the evaluating the soil pits the students complete a written test.

Science

Float your Boat (2-5) – Sometimes a farmer or another large corporation needs to move a crop or product across a stream using a boat. Moving cargo across a stream requires ingenuity and a good understanding of physics. Simulate a solution to this problem by creating a way to move some cargo across a pool of water.

Life Cycles – with Butterfly’s (1-3) – Enjoy the adventure as we explore the life cycle of a butterfly.

The World of Trees - Free Trees (k-12) - Each year the district provides free pine tree seedlings to students in Licking County. If you have a class in Licking County who is interested in this program, please contact Lindsey Grimm in February with your request. The tree seedlings arrive in April and are delivered. Lindsey provides a classroom presentation on "the value of natural resources and how to plant the tree."

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Habitat / Survivability -

Prairie Memoirs (habitat / society changes) (5-8) – Students will interpret different cultural viewpoints, describe how wildlife and habitat affect cultures and societies, and evaluate cultural factors leading to the endangerment of a species.

Wildlife History Time Line (3-8) – Ever wonder what kind of animals were living in Ohio before it became a state? What did Ohio look like before, during and after the settlers arrived in Ohio? Follow Ohio’s Wildlife through an adventurous time line while you get up-close and personal by viewing many of the animal furs.

Quick – Frozen Critters (predator/prey) (5-8) – Students will describe adaptations related to predator and prey relationships, explain the importance of adaptations in predator and prey relationships, and describe how predator and prey relationships limit wildlife populations. **(Large room required or outside)**

Oh Deer!! (habitat/survivability) (5-8) – Students will identify and describe food, water, and shelter as there essential components of habitat, describe factors that influence carrying capacity, define “limiting factors” and give examples, and recognize that some fluctuations in wildlife population are natural as ecological systems undergo constant change. **(Large room preferred or outside)**

Habitat Today? (K-2) – Students discover the five basic needs of survival and what a healthy habitat consists of for humans and for animals. Are they the same or are they different? Then the students make a creative post card to reinforce what they have learned.

Ecology Begins at Home (5-12) – Students will read an article and discuss questions about the implications of its contents for their own neighborhoods.

Limits to Living Here (5-12) – Students will interpret a graph of changes in an animal population over time, hypothesize relationships in the ecosystem, and predict population distributions.

What Did They Do Over There? (6-12) – Students will read, analyze, and discuss case studies of environmental action projects. This is a great lead-in if your class is going to complete a community serves learning project.

Plants / Nature

Let's Play Flower (K-4) – Students review the parts of the flower and then determine what makes a flower attractive to pollinating insects. The students then create a human flower using one of their own team members. The students will work in a team to decide what makes a flower attractive to bees and other insects, such as size, shape, odor, color, amount of nectar, etc. Then we find out if their pre-assumptions are correct and who created the best flower.

Thirsty Stems (K-4) – Here is a mystery for a plant detective: How do stems work? How does water get to the leaves? Stems provide the connections for food and water taken in by the roots to travel throughout the plant. Experiment with drinking straws to understand the role of the stem. Great follow up to Let's Play Flower.

Seed Race in a Glove (2-12) - Plants and Soil... Plants need sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide to grow. The soil anchors the plants and provides nutrients. Soil does not provide food to plants. Plants make their own food using sunlight, water, nutrients and carbon dioxide in a process known as photosynthesis. Plants use carbon dioxide to live and produce oxygen. This is also a great one to observe germination periods and include the Scientific Method. The teacher must finish activity.

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History

Pumpkins (K-2) – I will read a story about the history of Pumpkin. The students will discover how the pumpkin was once used, if pumpkins are always orange and the history of Thanksgiving. The students will then get to make a pumpkin of their own to take home or to display in the classroom.

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Then and Now (6-12) – Students will enjoy taking a look at history as they observe aerial photographs of their local community. Compare and contrast the differences between today's landscape to those taken 50 years ago. Students will identify features resulting from human settlement. Using a transparent grid, they will next measure and then discuss changes to wildlife habitat that have occurred over time as a result of human population growth.

Social Studies

The Law: Before and After (6-12) – Students will analyze the social, political, and economic influences that led to the enactment of the Endangered Species Act. Students will then apply this knowledge to another environmental law as they make bumper stickers.