

Assessing Wisconsin's K-12 Environmental Literacy

Goal: Determine the current needs for K-12 Environmental Literacy Assessment and address those needs

Objectives and activities:

Objective 1: Review past and current studies, surveys and research regarding Wisconsin's Env. Literacy

Activity 1: Review "Are We Walking the Talk?"

Activity 2: Coordinate with other entities who are currently working on Env. Lit. Assessment, specifically but not limited to, the WEEB Research Committee to determine if their work and findings are sufficient measures of Env. Lit.

Activity 3: Review Env. Lit. Assessment work currently being conducted in other states (especially work done in conjunction with an Environmental Literacy Plan)

Objective 2: Determine the need for further Env. Lit. Assessment

Activity 1: Conduct a gap analysis to determine the current needs in Env. Literacy Assessment

Activity 2: Coordinate with the Department of Public Instruction and the EE Coordinator to determine their intentions in assessing Wisconsin students (will it include EE?)

Activity 2: Based on the work of Objective 1, the WEEB K-12 Education Committee will meet to determine the need for further assessment

Objective 3: Integrate all information gathered with the work of WEEB Non-Formal Committee (sub-committee of the Education Committee) for use in the creation of the Wisconsin GreenPrint; with the Wisconsin No Child Left Inside Coalition (W-NCLIC) for use in the creation of the K-12 ELP; and with the WCEE who is mandated by state statutes to assist the DPI in periodically assessing the status of K-12 Env. Literacy

Objective 4: As determined by Objectives 1-3, address the gaps or needs in the status of Wisconsin's K-12 Env. Literacy Assessment

Activity 1: Create, develop or retool surveys, tools or pilots. With the Committee's conclusion from work on Objectives 1-3 and with the WEEB Board's input, one (or more) of the following activities may be pursued:

1. write an environmental education assessment to be piloted at select schools
2. take a closer look at charter schools in WI that have an environmental focus and appraise their assessments
3. duplicate and/ or retool (reemploy) the "Are We Walking the Talk" assessment
4. hire someone to develop, implement, and organize a new Env. Lit. Assessment tool

Timeline:

2009

November – December: review and assess existing studies

2010

January – February: determine need for further assessment

March – May: further assessment work (if needed)

Ongoing through out: integrate information with other efforts

Budget:

Item	Cost
Salary/Honoraria	
Objective 4.1 (actual work to be determined)	\$4,400
Travel stipends for Committee members to attend meetings (15 x \$40)	\$600
Total	\$5,000