

SCHOOL SITES

Annotated Bibliography of K-12 Educational Resources

Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education (3/19)

The following list consists of selected resources concerning the development and/or use of School Sites. Most of the materials are available for loan at the UWSP Library. Many more resources are available on this and other topics, and there are many resources for specific schoolyard habitats such as gardens, prairies, ponds, etc. Materials are also available for purchase from a variety of book stores, Acorn Naturalist, or Amazon.com. Please call or visit the WCEE for assistance or visit the UWSP Library web site at <https://www.uwsp.edu/library/Pages/default.aspx> for additional information on borrowing resources.

Teaching Activity Guides

Discovering the Naturalist Intelligence: Science in the School Yard by Jenna Glock, Susan Wertz, Maggie Meyer, Zephyr Press, Tucson, AZ. (1999).

A schoolyard activity guide divided into sections based on the process skill they work to develop: observing, collecting, predicting, analyzing, and communicating. Very usable activities set-up like many Project Learning Tree-style activity guides. Subheadings even include a "Literature Entry Point" section.

Grade levels: K-6 Length: 36 activities, 123 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$23.42)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: Q181.G455 1999)

The Schoolyard Wildlife Activity Guide by Linda Cronin-Jones, Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, FL. (1992).

Though slightly dated this resource focuses on diverse wildlife lessons that can be completed inside and out, but without necessitating fieldtrips. Very usable format, with many helpful sub-headings for each activity.

Grade levels: K-9 Length: 35 lessons, 208 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$9.95)

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

Exploring Nature in Winter by Alan Cvancara, Walker and Company, New York, NY. (1992).

A good guide for finding activities that allow for use of the school grounds in the long winters of Wisconsin. Set-up as a chapter book, it is less usable than other activity guides, but good ideas are contained within, and it provides extensive background information.

Grade levels: K-9 Length: 194 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$8.95)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: QH81 .C88 1992)

No Student Left Indoors: Creating a Field Guide to Your Schoolyard by Jane Kirkland, Stillwater, Lionville, PA. (2007).

This activity guide shows how to create a field guide to the schoolyard and how this could be used as a class project for numerous classes or as a collaboration between classes.

Grade levels: K-9 Length: 178 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$32.97)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: QH54.5 .K57 2007)

Earth Partnership University of

Wisconsin—Madison Arboretum, Madison, WI. (2009).

A prairie restoration manual from the UW-Madison Arboretum that includes a curriculum, as well as, extensive background information. The Arboretum provides a summer institute each year. They lend support, funds, contacts, and additional resources following the institute to support teachers.

Grade levels: K-12 Length: Various paging

Available at: <https://earthpartnership.wisc.edu/curriculum/#restoration-education-guide>

Borrowing: Check your local school library or the UWSP Library (call number: AC BC GR 1)

Schoolyard Habitats by The National Wildlife Federation, National Wildlife Federation, Reston, VA. (2001).

The NWF's Schoolyard Habitats programs helps schools create and certify the educational spaces in their school grounds. This manual includes information on the program as well as activities, worksheets, networking information, etc. A separate Planning Guide accompanies this resource (WCEE call number AC SS 13).

Grade levels: K-12 Length: 10 activities, 217 pages

Available for free download from: <http://www.nwf.org/schoolyard/>

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: QH541.14 .S36 2001)

Cultural Uses of Plants : A Guide to Learning About Ethnobotany by DeBear Paye, Gabriell, The New York Botanical Garden Press (2000).

This curriculum challenges middle and high school students to design and implement their own unique experiments starting from a reference point they can relate to: a useful plant in their own cultures.

Grade levels: 5-12

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: GN476.73 .P39 2000)

Videos/DVDS

Exploring School Nature Areas by Western Regional Environmental Education Council, Bethesda, MD. (1994).

Developed by Project WILD, covers the justification of creating/utilizing nature areas in school grounds. Includes exploration of case studies as well as some "how-to" instruction.

Grade levels: 9-12, Adult Length: 13 minutes

Available for purchase from: ProjectWILD.org (\$8.50)

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

Schoolyard Habitats by National Wildlife Federation, Reston, VA. (2001).

An introduction to NWF's Schoolyard Habitat program, a nationwide project in school site development and certification. Through case studies, explores the benefits and outlines the processes in bringing curricula outside.

Grade levels: 9-12, Adult Length: 15 minutes

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: QH541.14 .S36 2001)

A Tapestry of Learning by Wild Ones. (2001).

A good, comprehensive video guide to school nature areas. Includes “how-to”, justifications, and background information. Also includes discussion of how to utilize the nature areas for a variety of school subject areas.

Grade levels: 9-12, Adult Length: 7 minutes

Available at YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jMdhqDUbhus&feature=youtu.be&utm_content=buffer8ce81&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

Books for Youth

On Meadowview Street by Henry Cole, Greenwillow Books. (2007).

A cute story about a little girl who turns her front yard into a wildlife preserve by letting the wildflowers grow and adding bird houses, tress, and a pond.

Grade levels: K-4 Length: 32 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$15.29)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: PZ7.C67345 Oqm 2007)

Monarch Magic! by Lynn Rosenblatt, Williamson Publishing, Charlotte, VT. (1998).

Non-fiction. A child’s activity book that would make a good accompaniment to projects and/or lessons surrounding schoolyard gardens. Very thorough.

Grade levels: K-6 Length: 96 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$11.01) or AcornNaturalist.com (\$12.95)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: QL561.D3 R668 1998)

My School is Alive! by David Barnes, One More Story Please Inc., Canada. (2005).

Follow Sara’s journey through her primary/junior years as her teacher begins a project to promote sustainability and respect of the Earth.

Grade levels: K-6 Length: 32 pages

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: SB55 .B37 2005)

Fairy Dusters and Blazing Stars by Suzanne Samson, Roberts Rinehart, Niwot, CO. (1994).

Fiction. A colorful look at wildflowers through the illustration of the picturesque common names (Mule’s Ears, Lady’s Slippers, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, etc). Excellent accompaniment to prairie studies. References included.

Grade levels: K-9 Length: 37 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$9.95)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: QK110 .S3 1994)

Wildflowers, Blooms, and Blossoms by Diane Burns, NorthWord Press, Minnetonka, MN. (1997).

Non-fiction. A kids’ identification guide to 30 wildflowers. Also includes natural history, habitat, and other information for each flower.

Grade levels: 4-9 Length: 47 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$7.95)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: QK49 .B94 1997)

Reference/Background Books

Homes for Wildlife by Marilyn Wyzga, New Hampshire Fish & Game Department, Concord, NH. (1995).

A wildlife-focused resource developed in response to the need for nature spaces in which to conduct outdoor activities, such as those in Project WILD. Covers many aspects of planning and development. Many appendices of references and resources are provided, and includes sample K-12 activities.

Grade levels: K-12, Adult Length: 167 pages

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: QH75 .W99 1995)

How to Grow a School Forest: A Handbook for WI Educators by Beth Mittermier (ed.), LEAF, WFREA, & WEEB. (2003).

A handbook to guide educators through the steps of establishing a school forest to use as a teaching tool for your school.

Grade levels: Adult Length: 126 pages

Available for free pdf download from:

<https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/leaf/Documents/School%20Forest%20Handbook%202013.pdf>

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: QH541.5.F6 H69 2003)

Greening School Grounds: Creating Habitats for Learning edited by Tim Grant. New Society Publishers, Gabriola Island, BC, Canada. (2001).

A guide that looks at the planning, creation, and use of schoolyard habitats through the published work of many different authors. Developed in conjunction with Green Teacher magazine.

Grade levels: Adult Length: 136 pages

Available for purchase from: <https://greenteacher.com/greening-school-grounds-ebook/> (\$9.99)

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: SB55 .G74 2001)

Grounds for Sharing: A Guide to Developing Special School Sites by The Green Brick Road, Ontario, Canada. (1996).

A resource that deals specifically with development/utilization of school sites for special needs students. Includes case studies. Very thorough.

Grade levels: Adult Length: 88 pages

Available for free pdf download from: <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED439581>

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: LB3251.S698 1996)

Natural Learning by MIG Communications, Berkeley, CA. (1997).

Very comprehensive. Focuses on the development of the child as well as the development of the natural space, and how the two work together.

Grade levels: Adult Length: 280 pages

Available for purchase from: Amazon.com (\$29.95)

Borrowing: Check your local library or online

WILD School Sites by Western Regional Environmental Education Council, Bethesda, MD. (1993).

Developed in association with Project WILD. Focuses on conserving biodiversity using the school grounds as a model.

Grade levels: Adult Length: 55 pages

Borrowing: Check your local library or the UWSP Library (call number: LB1585 .W464 1993)

Websites

About Wild Ones by Wild Ones

There are local chapters of WILD Ones throughout Wisconsin. They have a “Seeds for Education” small grant program. Great information on local flora and planting.

Grade Level: 9-Adults

Web link: <http://for-wild.org/>

Boston School Yard Initiative by the Boston School Funders Collaborative

A good site to learn what schools in Boston are doing with their schoolyards.

Grade Level: K-12 Schools

Web link: <http://www.schoolyards.org/>

California School Garden Network

Learn what schools in California are doing with school gardens. There are over 100 curriculum resources posted online free for download.

Grade Level: K-12 Teachers

Web link: www.csgn.org

Earth Partnership for Schools by University of Wisconsin – Madison Arboretum

Located at UW-Madison, this program provides a teacher institute each year to help teachers learn how to transform the schoolyard into a teaching tool.

Grade Level: K-12 Teachers

Web link: <https://arboretum.wisc.edu/>

Eco-Schools by the Foundation for Environmental Education

Started in Sweden, the Eco-Schools Program is for environmental management, certification, and sustainable development for schools. They now have a chapter in the USA through the National Wildlife Federation. Learn how you can get your school certified.

Grade Level: K-12 Schools

Web link: Sweden: <https://www.ecoschools.global/international-schools/about>

USA: <http://www.nwf.org/ecoschools/>

EE Activities - Schoolyard Ecology by EELink, North American Association for Environmental Education

This site provides a list of great ideas, grants, resources, and more for those creating schoolyard habitat wildlife or gardens.

Grade Level: K-12 Teachers

Web link: <http://www1.biologie.uni-hamburg.de/b-online/ibc99/eelink/eeactivities-schoolyardecology.html>

EE in Wisconsin

The clearinghouse for environmental education in Wisconsin. This is a must for anyone seeking resources, nature centers, professional development, grants, etc.

Grade Level: K-12 Teachers and Schools

Web link: www.eeinwisconsin.org

Granny's Garden School

A good site to learn what schools in Loveland, OH are doing to create gardens at schools.

Grade Level: K-12 Schools

Web link: <https://www.grannysgardenschool.org/>

Schoolyard Habitats by National Wildlife Federation

Create a certified school garden for wildlife. This site provides a step-by-step process for creating gardens for wildlife at your school.

Grade Level: K-12 Schools

Web link: <https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Create/Schoolyards/Schoolyard-Sign>

Wisconsin Green & Healthy Schools Program by WI Department of Natural Resources

The Wisconsin Green and Healthy Schools program aims to increase the students' knowledge and awareness of Wisconsin's natural resources and the environmental, health, and safety concerns and challenges that face our schools, our communities, and our Earth.

Grade Levels: K-12 Teachers

Web link: www.GHSWisconsin.org