



Kansas Environmental Education Conference

Sustaining EE: 40 Years and Growing Green

Concurrent Session and Poster Descriptions

as of 21 September 2009

(Subject to change)

Friday, 6 November

Concurrent Session A

Kids 4 the Kaw

Laura Calwell and Dr. Cynthia Annett, Friends of the Kaw

Kids 4 the Kaw is a new children's environmental education initiative that targets 4th to 8th grade students and includes interactive web pages and lesson plans for a Sandbar School that emphasizes the importance of rivers to our daily lives, practices for safe river recreation and science-based activities.

Elementary School, Middle School, High School

Using the Water Budget as a Curricular Connection to Math

P. Allen Macfarlane, Kansas Geological Survey

Water budgets indicate the rate of water movement through the water cycle or through its parts and provide opportunities for curricular connections to mathematics. In this workshop, you will use data from a number of sources, the water budget equation, and calculators to develop a budget for Wyandotte Lake.

Middle School, High School

A Taste of EE!

Ashlyn Kite-Hartwich, KACEE

KACEE staff and seasoned volunteer facilitators will share a variety of new and innovative environmental education activities along with some old favorites. This session will provide a taste of what is offered in traditional EE workshops along with an introduction to new resources.

Elementary School

Concurrent Session B

Rated MPG for Confusion: Using Gas Mileage to Learn Graphing Skills

Claudia Bode, KU Education Director, and Alan Gleue, USD 497 Lawrence

There is a common misperception that gasoline consumption in cars decreases as a linear function of miles-per-gallon rating. There is actually a non-linear relationship between gas consumption and fuel efficiency. A lesson will be presented that shows how to use this real-world misunderstanding to teach graphing and data analysis skills.

High School, College

Hook 'em into the Environment with YouTube and More. . .

Delia Lister, Pittsburg State University Nature Reach

We all know that many students today are plugged into the internet more than the environment. The question is, how do you "plug" these students into learning about the environment. Come see how to use today's technology and even some art to help create interest in becoming environmentally aware.

Middle School, High School, College

University of Kansas EcoHawks: Sustainable Automotive Engineering

Christopher Depcik, KU Department of Mechanical Engineering

The presenter will describe educational efforts at the University of Kansas to create a sustainable automotive engineering program that includes the environmental impact of building the next generation of vehicles. In addition, parallel to the talk, an interactive display involving remote control cars will demonstrate battery and motor technology.

Middle School, High School, College

Saturday, 7 November

Concurrent Session C

Ice, Ice Baby

Cheri Hamilton and Dana Atwood-Blaine, KU K-12 Outreach Coordinators

Ice, Ice Baby is an outreach program for K-12 students which teaches science principles through the polar research of sea level rise and ice sheet mass balance. The hands-on activities are easy to understand and prepare, and fun for students to do!

Elementary School, Middle School, Green Schools

G2g Outside: Come Out and Play

Tonya Bronleewe, Layla El Chami, Jodi Besthorn, and Rebecca McMahon, KSU Extension-Sedgwick County; Libby Albers, City of Wichita WATER Center; and Jessica Mounts, Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks

G2g Outside is an outdoor play initiative that promotes increased physical activity, family time, and connection to nature. Find out what we learned during our first summer as a multi-agency, collaborative group working on a project with no funding in hopes that no child be left inside.

PreK/K, Elementary School, Children with Special Needs, Nonformal Educators, General/Mixed

Concurrent Session D

Efficiency Works for Education: Programs to Help You Teach Energy Efficiency Concepts

Sherri Farmer, Gina Penzig, and Tammie Rhea, Westar Energy

Westar Energy has developed a turnkey curriculum for educators to use to teach energy efficiency concepts and motivate students to understand the importance of using electricity wisely to save energy, money, and the environment. Learn how the program works and how you can register to bring this curriculum to your classroom.

Elementary School, Middle School, High School, Green Schools

Let Them Have. . . Dirt

Beth Reeder and Jennifer Francois, Rainbows United, Inc.

This session will relate the how-to's of creating an outdoor classroom for preschoolers. We will share our journey--the ups and downs—in hopes of helping others create their own outdoor classroom.

PreK/K, Children with Special Needs, Nonformal Educators

Concurrent Session E

It's a Breeze

Denise Scribner, Goddard High School

Put the wind in your students' sails and blow them away with an educational festival. This two-part, 50-minute session will enable participants to learn about Goddard High School's Kansas Green Schools Air Quality Grant project and how to utilize students' developmental assets through facilitating interactive booths at an educational festival. Participants will review how to apply for grant funding, participate in hands-on wind-related activities, and receive a how-to packet for a Celebrate Earth Festival that is a "breeze" for students to organize and conduct.

Middle School, High School, Nonformal Educators, Green Schools

Wiggle with Wee Ones: Classes for Children 12-23 Months

Laura King, Sedgwick County Zoo

Classes for 12-23 month olds? Many people thought we were crazy! We wanted them to learn. Could we do that? Yes! Come learn the process, participate in a Wee Wiggler class, and leave with ideas you can use!

PreK/K, Children with Special Needs, Nonformal Educators

POSTERS

Windmill-Powered Pond Aeration System

Denise Scribner, Goddard High School

The poster explains how the Windmill-Powered Pond Aeration System, made possible by a Kansas Green Schools Grant, works using a sustainable energy source to deal with a non-point source pollution problem with the Goddard High School OWLS pond.

Middle School, High School, College, Administrators, General/Mixed, Green Schools

Kansas Environmental Leadership Program (KELP)

Judy Willingham, KELP/KSU Extension

The Kansas Environmental Leadership Program (KELP) has been updated and will hold a class in 2010. KELP members travel to sites around Kansas where they learn about the unique water and environmental issues in that area. Sessions are filled with activities, discussion, field experiences, and fun. You take away a network of friends and resources.

High School, College, General/Mixed, Green Schools

CLASSROOM EXHIBITS

Starside Elementary School, USD 232 De Soto

Wyandotte High School, USD 500 Kansas City