

Eco-Voyageur Program Overview

The purposes of the Eco-Voyageur teacher workshop are:

1. To share and collaborate on the development of the Eco-Voyageur program.
2. To discuss student objectives of the Eco-Voyageur program.
3. To experience a cruise in the Big Canoe.
4. To work together to identify locations and work out logistics for Eco-Voyageur.
5. To distribute resources for classroom preparatory activities and follow-up activities.

Eco-Voyageur Student Objectives

After participating in Eco-Voyageur, 4th and 5th grade students will:

1. List four ways water is used by human communities.
2. Identify that water is continuously recycled.
3. Recognize why water conservation is important.
4. List three ways we can protect water resources.
5. Demonstrate ability to work in a group to paddle the Big Canoe.

After participating in Eco-Voyageur, 6th and 7th grade students will:

1. List four direct ways water is used by our own households.
2. List two indirect ways water is used by our own households.
3. Illustrate how water is continuously recycled through the water cycle.
4. Explain why water is a limited resource.
5. List four ways we can protect water resources.
6. Demonstrate ability to work in a group to paddle the Big Canoe.

Eco-Voyageur: the out-of-classroom experience

Eco-Voyageur: three hours of activities in an adaptable time-frame. See sample schedules.

1. "We're All in the Same Boat" Big Canoe Adventure (*~1 hour, PWELC staff, school staff, HS facilitators*)

Introduction to the Big Canoe

Water + Life: How is water essential to habitat? Essential to human communities?

Teachable moments. . . .

2. "A Drop in the Bucket" Water Conservation (*~1 hour, PWELC staff + HS facilitators*)

How much water? Available fresh water versus unavailable

Water distribution & use: How do we use water every day?

Water conservation ideas

3. Enviroscope: Watersheds and how they work (*~30 minutes, water resource professionals*)

Water cycle, watersheds, and point and non-point source pollutants

4. Clean-up service project (*~30 minutes, school teaching staff*)

Preliminary and follow-up discussion

Eco-Voyageur Sample Schedules

Sample Schedule 1
~45-50 students

Session	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
9:00 – 10:00	Big Canoe Adventures	30 min: Enviroscape 30 min: Clean-Up Project	Don't Use it All Up
10:00– 11:00	Don't Use it All Up	Big Canoe Adventures	30 min: Enviroscape 30 min: Clean-Up Project
11:00–12:00	30 min: Enviroscape 30 min: Clean-Up Project	Don't Use it All Up	Big Canoe Adventures

Sample Schedule 2
~60 students

Session	Group 1	Group 2
9:00 – 9:45	Big Canoe Prep Big Canoe Adventure	Service Project Big Canoe Prep
9:45 – 10:30	Service Project	Big Canoe Adventure
10:30– 11:15	Enviroscape	Don't Use it All Up
11:15– 12:00	Don't Use it All Up	Enviroscape

Session	Group 3	Group 4
9:00 – 9:45	Enviroscape	Don't Use it All Up
9:45 – 10:30	Don't Use it All Up	Enviroscape
10:30– 11:15	Big Canoe Prep Big Canoe Adventure	Service Project Big Canoe Prep
11:15– 12:00	Service Project	Big Canoe Adventure

Additional Activities

Preliminary Activities and Assignments:

Journaling in the "Water Log"

Specific activities:

Water Cycle activities: "Imagine"

Optional: "The Incredible Journey," "Water Models"

Follow-up Activities and Assignments:

Journaling in the "Water Log"

Specific activities:

Water use and interdependence: "Water Works"

Optional: "Reaching your Limits," "Every Drop Counts," "Dilemma Derby"

Pre- and Post-Assessment:

Quizzes for all students, two options for upper grades and lower grades

Additional/Optional Activities:

Affects of pollution on water: "Reaching your Limits," "Walk on Water Bugs"

Water Cycle: "The Incredible Journey," "Water Models"

Watersheds: "Drain Game"

Personal Water Use: "Water Meter"

Community Water Use: "Reaching your Limits"

Personal Water Conservation: "Every Drop Counts," "Dilemma Derby"

Resource Citations

Activities for this program taken or adapted from:

Project Wet, Water Education for Teachers (1995). The Watercourse and Western Regional Environmental Education Council. <http://www.projectwet.org/>

Project Food, Land, and People (2003). <http://www.foodlandpeople.org/>

WonderWise, Women in Science Learning Series (2001). "Urban Ecologist" Activity Book. University of Nebraska and Nebraska 4-H Youth Development. <http://wonderwise.unl.edu/>

Additional materials from:

Adopt-a-River program, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

University of Wisconsin Extension and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

University of Minnesota Extension.

St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium.

Wisconsin Priority Watersheds Program.

Know Your Watershed, Conservation Technology Information Center.

Prairie Woods Contact Information

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Eco-Voyageur Sponsors

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1805 Logan Avenue S.
Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Willmar Area Community Foundation Life jackets & paddles
c/o Central Minnesota Community Foundation
101 South 7th Avenue
Suite 100
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Charles & Marjorie Dickman Donation of the voyageur canoe
Spicer, Minnesota

Mike Tebben & Tebben Enterprises Canoe trailer
Clara City, Minnesota

Bill Johnson and Ted Olson Trailer modifications
Spicer, Minnesota