

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM DESIGN FOR STUDENT AND ADULT AUDIENCES

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Abstract. Environmental Education Programs have historically provided a series of activities unrelated to each other or to existing curricula, with minimal emphasis on an ecosystem approach. Any significant improvement in environmental education will require fundamental restructuring of our existing education paradigms. Long term success of water education programs will require a longitudinal design where relevant information is reinforced, spiraling throughout curricula in grades K to 12.

Additionally, adult education is a critical issue. Audience accessibility, coupled with associated costs, make this a challenging task. Education of the general public is critical to the success of efforts to improve water quality. Individuals are responsible for their contributions to water degradation, as well as solutions to water supply problems. Citizens who view themselves as part of the system of resource utilization are more likely to contribute positively to water management.