



## Environmental education goals for youth water curricula

As you select or develop activities and curriculum materials for water education, consider these environmental education skills. This list will also help you better understand the curriculum summary chart and details provided by the electronic database.

### Ecological foundations (materials focus on...)

- Individuals and populations
- Interactions and interdependence
- Environmental influences and limiting factors
- Biogeochemical cycling
- Community and ecosystems concepts
- Homeostasis (balance of nature)
- Succession
- Humans as ecosystem component
- Ecological implications of human activity

### Conceptual awareness: issues & values (materials encourage recognizing...)

- Ecological impact of human culture on environment
- Ecological impact of individuals on environment
- Ecological and cultural implications of environmental issues
- Alternative solutions
- Cultural implications of alternative solutions
- Investigation as prerequisite to decision-making
- Role of human values and need for personal values clarification in decision making
- Need for responsible citizen action in environmental issue remediation

### Investigation skills (materials provide opportunities to...)

- Shape questions
- Formulate hypotheses
- Make observations and measurements
  - natural science settings
  - social science settings
- Perform tests
- Analyze results with respect to:
  - ecological implications
  - cultural implications

### Evaluation skills (materials provide opportunities to...)

- Identify alternative solutions
- Identify values associated with alternative solutions
- Evaluate alternative solutions with respect to cultural and ecological implications
- Identify and clarify personal values and positions as they relate to issues and solutions
- Change personal values and positions given new information

### Environmental action skills (materials guide development of...)

- Skills to work towards ends consistent with individual values
  - community problem solving
  - consumerism
  - ecomanagement
  - education
  - legal action
  - persuasion
  - political action
- Decision-making regarding environmental action strategies
- Opportunities to apply environmental action skills
- Evaluate influence of actions taken to effect balance between quality of life and quality of environment