

What Project WILD offers you

The Project WILD and Science & Civics activity guides are available to educators free of charge only when they attend a workshop. Workshops are designed to explain WILD's philosophy and show how the activities can be integrated into existing curricula. Classroom teachers, environmental educators, youth group leaders, and park and nature center personnel are invited to participate in these workshops. Trained facilitators conduct educator workshops throughout the year. In addition, the Division of Wildlife conducts annual leadership workshops to train new volunteer facilitators, who then go out and put on these educator workshops.

Project WILD is administered by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife. The Ohio Department of Education, Center for Curriculum and Instruction, acknowledges Project WILD as a professional development opportunity for licensed teachers in Ohio. CEU eligibility is determined by your local curriculum development committee. If you would like information on upcoming workshops in your area, please call the education office at 1-800-WILDLIFE.

For more information contact:

ODNR, Division of Wildlife
Outdoor Education Section
2045 Morse Road, Bldg. G-1
Columbus, OH 43229-6693
1-800-WILDLIFE

A large portion of Project WILD's funding comes from the Division of Wildlife's Wildlife Diversity income tax checkoff program and Cardinal License Plate Fund.

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Project WILD in Ohio



What is Project WILD?

Project WILD involves young people and wildlife, a proven formula for generating interest and participation. Project WILD is a supplementary education program emphasizing awareness, appreciation, and understanding of wildlife and natural resources. Whether you teach science, math, language arts, social studies, or physical education, Project WILD can spark a new interest for your students and provide new and exciting ways to approach traditional subjects. Attractive and easy to use, Project WILD is an ideal way to supplement your curriculum and fire the imagination of your students.

Project WILD teaches young people *how* to think about wildlife and the environment, not *what* to think. Students in kindergarten through twelfth grade learn basic concepts about wild animals, their needs, and their importance and relationships to people and the environment. The hands-on, diverse activities help develop problem-solving and decision making skills in determining responsible human actions.

How Project WILD can be integrated into existing curricula and programs

The framework of Project WILD is divided into three main categories: Ecological Knowledge, Social and Political Knowledge, and Sustaining Fish and Wildlife Resources. Each of these three areas are then further divided into basic concepts:



ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Wildlife Populations
- Habitats, Ecosystems, and Niches
- Interdependence
- Changes and Adaptations
- Biodiversity

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Cultural Perspectives
- Economic, Commercial, and Recreational Considerations
- Historical and Geographic Development
- Political and Legislative Framework

SUSTAINING FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

- Attitudes and Awareness
- Human Impacts
- Issues and Trends
- Wildlife Management
- Responsible Action

These concepts form the framework of Project WILD. For each activity, the guide lists objectives, background information, suggested grade levels, subject and topic references, skills developed in the lesson, and ideas for expanding and evaluating the lesson. The activity guide also

includes a subject, topic, grade level, and skill index as well as a glossary of terms. Activities are designed to be used indoors and outdoors, and can be used by nature centers, youth groups, and non-formal educators as well as classroom teachers.



Science and Civics: Sustaining Wildlife

Project WILD's new high school curriculum, *Science and Civics: Sustaining Wildlife*, is a program to involve 9-12 grade students in an environmental action project to benefit the local wildlife and community. The guide is designed around the same framework as Project WILD, but it is designed to involve young people in decisions affecting people, wildlife and the habitat they share in their community. This curriculum can help students and teachers effectively meet science and social studies standards as well as service learning requirements. Community service projects can be based on a need for planting trees in a local park, on a local water quality issue that can affect migratory waterfowl, or a local land use dispute, or any problem that balances the quality of life for wildlife and humans. The guide is designed for the high school science and social studies classes to work together and is broken into four sections: **Awareness**: alerts science and social studies students to the effects humans have on habitat quality and quantity; **Participatory Democracy**: develops principles related to

government structure and is appropriate for both government and civics units of social studies courses; **Habitat Exploration**: studies the biological parameters of a site and is appropriate for ecology and environmental science units of science courses; **Taking Action**: guides both social studies and science classes through the design, implementation and communication of their community service project.

How does Project WILD help educators meet state standards?

Through the help of an Ohio Environmental Education Fund grant from the Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education, Project WILD was correlated to the new Ohio Academic Content Standards for Science in 2004-2005. A team of 32 educators, including 6 of the original science standard authors, worked to take each activity and match it to the



appropriate indicator for the grade levels the activity was written and field-tested at. These correlations are available on a searchable database on the ONDR's

Educational Resources page at www.ohiodnr.com Correlations to Ohio's Academic Content Standards for Social Studies, Technology, and English Language



Arts will follow between 2006-2008 school years. You can find more information on Ohio's Academic Content Standards at the Ohio Department of Education's Web Site at www.ode.state.oh.us