

Nature Storytelling: Journaling About Nature and the Ecology of Place

Driving Question

How can we, as ecologists, tell nature stories in order to understand our impact on the environment?

Standards:

<u>Science:</u>

- 3-5-ETS1-2 Generate and compare multiple possible solutions to a problem based on how well they meet the criteria and constraints of the design problem.
- 3-LS1-1 Develop models to describe that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles. Organisms may have unique and diverse life cycles.
- 3-LS4-4 Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat, some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all.

Reading & Writing:

- RI.3.3 Describe the relationship between scientific ideas and concepts using language that pertains to cause and effect.
- W.3.8 Recall information from experiences and gather information from print/digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.
- W.3.2 Write informational pieces to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- W.3.1 Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

<u>Math:</u>

- MP.5 Use appropriate tools strategically.
- 3.MD.4 Generate measurement data by measuring lengths using rulers marked with halves and fourths of an inch.

Major Products

Students will work in groups to explore nature through a series of different journaling exercises. Each student will have their own nature journal where they will record daily outdoor observations, data collection, and scientific drawings. Once they are experts in the local environment, students will write and record a podcast that highlights nature's stories.

Public Presentation

Students will perform a live recording of their podcast for family members. Their nature journals will be on display. The final podcast episode will also be shared with the school community.