Unit Overview Teresa Robinson

Lesson	Essential Question: How are the earth's resources important to us and to what extent does our local human activity affect these resources?
1	Introductory activity: How will students respond to the essential question?  • Ask students in an outdoor setting to reflect: What is a natural resource?  • Pose questions about changes in this place over time (Human and Natural History).  • How has this environment been changed by humans, climatic, and other earth processes?  Homework: "Voices for Our Town Survey"
2	<ul> <li>Understanding natural resources: Components of a habitat-food, water, shelter, and space</li> <li>"Habitat Lap Sit" to show the significance of a missing component.</li> <li>"Where has all the Water Gone?" <u>Project Seasons</u> p. 281</li> <li><u>Formative Assessment</u>: Half page response to "What is the most important component of a habitat and why?</li> </ul>
3	"Old Water" activity from Project Wet S5-6: 49 p. 171 Formative Assessment: Indicate correct geologic event on time line.
4	Students investigate service learning opportunities for the town  • Students investigate potential projects and get involved  • Highlight natural areas: wetlands, forest, pond, field, fill area, and hedgerows  Formative Assessment: Journal reflections on issues that matter to them as a steward of the environment and Lake
5	"A Drop in the Bucket" activity- Project Wet p. 238  Formative Assessment: Construct a circle graph showing percentages of earth's water.  Follow –up activity: Students conduct a Water Usage Inventory at home (Project Seasons p. 285)
6	Understanding the Water Cycle: Draw diagrams and see demonstrations of evaporation, condensation, and precipitation. <u>Formative Assessment</u> : Acting out water cycle vocabulary through movement in groups. Vocabulary quiz.
7	Activity: Students create a design for the place based service learning using ideas from <u>Greening the Grounds</u> <u>Formative Assessment</u> : Are students seeing the benefits of the habitat as a natural resource before they decide on the benefits of changing it?
8	Understanding our Lake Champlain Watershed:  • Watershed Model: Teach how human activity create pollution in the lake.  • Activity: "Marsh Mystery," from Wow! The Wonders of Wetlands p. 116.  Formative Assessment: "Build a Wetland" activity from the Flynn "Words Come Alive" program (See Activity #4)
9	"Wetland Metaphors" from Wow! The Wonders of Wetlands p.85 Types of wetlands-swamps, bogs, marshes, meadows, and ponds and why they are considered wetlands. "Wetland Soils in Living Color" activity Project WET p. 212. Formative Assessment: wetland word game
10	Water Purification: Students understand where the water we drink at school comes from.  The Willy Wetsworth story <a href="https://www.epa.gov/Region1/students/pdfs/www.drain.pdf">www.epa.gov/Region1/students/pdfs/www.drain.pdf</a> Create a travel guide for water droplets who would be traveling through the cycle. <u>Final Water Cycle Assessment</u> : "Wet Jeans" assessment from <a href="https://www.drain.pdf">Uncovering Student Ideas In Science</a> p. 155.
11	"The Dirty Water Challenge" (See Activity #5) Students explore natural methods of cleaning water from Lake Champlain. (See "Pollution Solutions" from Project Seasons p. 289 Create model water filters using sand, gravel, coffee filters, etc. Read The Magic School Bus At the Waterworks Field trip to local water treatment plant
12	Follow up on place based service learning:  Compilation of survey for project  Create a scale model for project  Research wetland regulations
13	Culminating Activity: Create a persuasive pamphlet: options for wetland recreation
14	Final Written Assessment: Design a path through the wetlands near school. List all the considerations in designing and implementing this path.
15	End of unit "Voices of Our Town" post assessment.
16	Follow Up Activity: Students learn about the process for taking water samples as part of the volunteer water monitoring program at the state department.