

Below are a series of interdisciplinary web-quests (in science and social studies), geared for the grades 7-12 classroom, that explore a global issue. Teacher candidates enrolled in secondary science and social studies methods courses worked together to construct these instructional tools. Outside of listing the title of each webquest, each listing includes key words, an abstract, and a rating. Web-quests are rated from 5 (strong) to 1 (weak) on their meaningfully integrating a global perspective.

Carbon Emissions

Key Words: Climate Change, Carbon emissions, United Nations

Rating: 5

ABSTRACT: Carbon emissions are a very serious issue in today's society. It is one of the leading green house gasses, a cause of global warming. Greenhouse gasses cause the sun's rays to get trapped after they reflect off the Earth, causing the Earth to warm. This could result in droughts, wildfires, floods, and a rising sea level. Throughout this webquest students will learn about carbon emissions and the dangers they present. Also, they will learn which countries are doing their part to help limit carbon emissions and why some countries will not limit it.

Conservation in Developing Countries: India

Rating: 4

KEY WORDS: Conservation, Population Growth, Tiger

ABSTRACT: India is a developing country that is quickly growing. Its population and economy are rapidly expanding. However, as this growth occurs, certain segments of the population are left behind and environmental policy is found to be lacking. India may be home to one of the fastest growing economies in the world, but it is also home to a rapidly disappearing ecological gem; the tiger. This webquest explores the issue of conservation from the vantage point of India.

Wetlands Project

Rating: 3

KEY WORDS: Wetlands, Conservation, Service Learning

ABSTRACT: In this webquest, students work within teams to construct a plan for conserving a current wetland or restoring one that used to be in the community. Students are asked to research the location, elevation, surrounding habitat, and resources within wetlands. Through this webquest students explore the risks to the wetland, their benefits to the community, the benefits to wildlife, and potential development threats that wetland faces.

Offshore Oil Drilling

Rating: 2.5

Key Words: Fossil Fuels, Conservation, Oil

ABSTRACT: In this webquest, students take on the role of The Ocean Energy Safety Advisory Committee (OESC). They are tapped with the responsibility to determine the safety of offshore drilling. After carefully reviewing the benefits and repercussions that are presented, students advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the Director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, on a variety of issues related to offshore energy safety.

Oil, Consumption, and Distribution:

Rating: 2.5

KEY WORDS: Oil, Consumption, Distribution

ABSTRACT: Oil has been a vital part of the United States, and world, economy and function for over a century now. Everything from fuel to tires to paint to tents need oil in varying degrees. The production, consumption and distribution of oil links together both science and economics in a way which leaves no separation: without one, you can't have the other in the way it is used in the world today. This webquest will allow students to explore, " what are the economic implications of oil production and consumption, and, based on the science of oil, how is it used to develop so many different products?"

Earthquakes:

Rating: 1

Key Words: Earthquakes, natural disaster, geography

ABSTRACT: The geographical location of California allowed for two catastrophic earthquakes throughout the 1900's. These two U.S. earthquakes will be featured in this webquest. This webquest will answer the following questions, what produces waves that result in an earthquake? What are the effects of those waves on people at the earth's surface? Why did the largest recorded earthquakes occur in relatively the same geographical location of California and how did people respond to these events? Throughout this webquest students learn about earthquakes and their social impact.

Renewable Energy

Rating 1

Key Words: Renewable Energy, Oil, Taxation

ABSTRACT: In this webquest, student work in groups to investigate different types of energy sources. Outside of conducting research on the advantages and disadvantages of their assigned energy source, students must convince their peers that the energy source is the most viable/best option. Within this webquest, students are provided a host of primary and secondary sources to research. Each team is required to create a campaign that presents the environmental benefits of your respective energy sources and economic factors that may inhibit or encourage the use of this energy source

Nutrition and Childhood Obesity

Rating: 1

Key Words: Childhood obesity, industrialized countries, Congress

ABSTRACT: In this webquest, students serve as members of a Congressional subcommittee on childhood obesity. Each member's charged with proposing a solution to the childhood obesity problem by exploring BMI and going through a simulation of eating and exercising. Students also explore the issues prohibiting a simple solution to the childhood obesity problem. As members of a subcommittee, students explore a local school district's solution, a solution from the World Health Organization, and other governmental actions.

