

## Natural Resource Career Experience



*Sponsored by Earth's Classroom*

### Description:

*Earth's Classroom (EC) is happy to announce the 13th year of an experiential, 90-hour, field-science, FREE, certification program for high school students! This program has been funded by multiple grants and local sponsors.*

The purpose is to provide a program exclusively with high school juniors and seniors who are interested in any science related field that deals with biology, chemistry, or physics. In this certification program EC instructors use the natural resources to show biology, chemistry and physics in action in real-time. This program is called the Natural Resource Career Experience (NRCE). EC will be providing three to six-hour, after school, experiential courses, twice a month through the second semester of the 2020-2021 school year (Jan—April 2021). The core instructors will be from EC, but the NRCE students will also gain knowledge from professionals such as those working for Missouri Department of Conservation and Department of Natural Resources. Each experiential course will be a different subject related to the field, so that students may see the diversity within the field and understand their personal passion.

By the end of the school year the NRCE participants will be instructed and guided to do an hour, solo presentation to an elementary class (May 2021) on a subject they felt most passionate about. Thus, not only will this project affect high school students, but *hundreds of elementary students* will be able to share the experience through the eyes and story-telling of the high school students. NCRE capstone is a 3-day, 2-night Ecology Canoe/Camping Trip on Missouri's most bio-diverse river. (June 2021)

### The Natural Resource Career Experience Program:

- **High School Students of the 2020-2021 school year must have applications turned in by FRIDAY, December 18th, 2020!!**
- EC board members will choose the top 20+ students from the essay applicants by **January 2nd, 2021**. Applicants will be notified by **phone or e-mail** of acceptance on/by **January 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021**.
- Starting on **Saturday, January 9th, 2021**, the following experiential courses will be available to the chosen applicants:

**January**—GEOLOGY: spend 5 hours spelunking in a state permit cave to learn about the interrelationship between the chemistry and biology of this geologic ecosystem

**January**—FORESTRY AND NATIVE LAND MANAGEMENT: visit a native prairie habitat and forest that are managed with control burns to understand the biodiversity they provide and participate in controlled burn

**February**—MAMMOLOGY: test observation skills through studying wild MO mammal skull bones and furs

**February**— CULTURAL PRE-HISTORY: spend time discussing over artifacts and known information about the native Indians of our area and their interrelationship to the resources

**March**—SUSTAINABLE LIVING: visit a home that is architecturally designed with passive and active solar and built in a self-sustainable way

**March**---LIMNOLOGY: learn unique natural history and identification skills related to the life of freshwater systems

**April**— ORNITHOLOGY: learn unique natural history and identification skills (sight and sound) of our native birds with binoculars and spotting scopes

**April**--- HERPETOLOGY: learn unique natural history of our native reptiles and amphibians.

**May**---HOUR (minimum) PRESENTATION: present to an elementary classroom and interpret a subject you have the most interest in.

**June**---3-DAY, 2-NIGHT ECOLOGY CANOE TRIP: discover how studies of all life are put together in a tight interrelationship as we travel and collect samples down the Meramec River (most biologically diverse river in Missouri).

Once all 27 hours of course work, 60 hours of ecological learning/canoe trip, and hour presentation is completed, a 90-hour Certificate of Achievement will be awarded. This certificate will carry the EC logo and sponsors' logos.

Objectives:

- To inspire young adults to pursue a career field in biology, chemistry, or physics.
- To assist young adults to have a better understanding and appreciation of our local natural resources.
- To provide an experiential educational opportunity not available in the formal school setting.
- To provide a 90- hour, field-science, certificate of achievement to all students who participated...a certificate very worthy on a resume or scholarship application!

***NOTE\*-- A detailed, dated semester schedule will be provided and discussed at the first course on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. Again, all applicants will be notified January 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> 2021 if they qualify to participate for FREE. First course (Geology) will start, tentatively, on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021! Tentatively, 5 of the courses will be set for weekday evenings, and 3 courses will be set for weekends (we work with the students for best possible dates.) The Ecology Canoe Trip will be set for either the first or second week of June, 2021; Wednesday-Friday.***

Natural Resource Career Experience  
Application

*For Junior and Senior High School Students during the 2020-2021 school year.*

Please print in blue or black ink or type.

*Please fill out all information with the space that is allowed on these 2 pages.*

Name: Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- What grade are you in for the 2020-2021 school year? 11<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_ or 12<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_
- Have you been accepted into the NRCE program before? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
- What high school classes have you taken that are related to the Natural Resource Career Experience? Examples: Biology, Ecology, Chemistry, Statistics, etc.
  
- What clubs do you participate in?
  
- What are your hobbies?
  
- Would you be able to commit to all 8 courses, the 3-day, 2-night Ecology Canoe Trip, AND the May presentation? If not, explain.
  
- Would you be able to provide your own transportation to all the courses/events, even if you to travel nearly 1-1/2 -2 hours? If not, explain.

- What is your comfort level with speaking in public? Give examples of how you have presented to an audience.
  
- What future career would you like to pursue and why?
  
- In your own words, in the space given, describe why Earth's Classroom's Board of Directors and Executive Directors should pick you for this exciting career experience.

REFERENCES: to be filled out by adult REFERENCES

As a reference you support this student in their efforts to be in the NRCE program and feel they would be an asset.

#1 Print name \_\_\_\_\_ contact info. E-mail or # \_\_\_\_\_

#2 Print name \_\_\_\_\_ contact info. E-mail or # \_\_\_\_\_

DUE Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020! Mail to: Earth's Classroom, 3649 Pumpstation Rd. Rosebud, MO 63091 or fax at 208-279-4205. Questions: 573-437-7628 or [bjecroom@fidnet.com](mailto:bjecroom@fidnet.com). To learn more about EC visit [www.earthclassroom.org](http://www.earthclassroom.org)

Applicants will be notified January 2-3, 2021 and 1<sup>st</sup> class starts January 9<sup>th</sup>!!!!!!!