LEARNING FROM THE FOREST

Lessons by Teachers

From attendees of
Wood--A Remarkable Fiber workshops
and
Ecology, Economics and the Environment (E3) forest tours

SPONSORED BY:

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Learning from the Forest: Lessons by Teachers is a collection of teaching activities and lesson plans developed by school teachers who attended a Wood--A Remarkable Fiber workshop or the Ecology, Economics and the Environment Forest Tour.

Wood--A Remarkable Fiber is a one (2 days) or two (4 days) credit course offered by the University of Idaho’s Department of Forest Products. This course provides hands-on learning experiences for creation of activities in wood technology suitable for use in educational curricula. Teachers participating in the course learn about the many products made of wood, wood properties, papermaking, and other topics related to the wood products industry. Discussions include many of the social impacts and issues related to sustainable forest products. Participants are asked to develop lesson plans for their students, which build on information they were given during the workshop. Many of these lesson plans have been quite unique and innovative. We would like to share a few of them with you.

The Ecology, Economics and the Environment Forest Tour is an interactive forest tour sponsored by the Idaho Forest Products Commission, the Science and Mathematics Consortium for Northwest Schools, and the Idaho Council on Economic Education. Teachers come from throughout Idaho to spend three intensive days exploring Idaho’s forests and their management. Highlights of the experience include learning while in the forest, investigating forest management techniques, interacting with professional foresters, touring a sawmill and observing an active logging job. The culmination of this experience is development of interdisciplinary lesson plans that encompass the real-world interplay of ecology and economics in Idaho’s forests. Selections from the lessons developed over the past five years are included in this collection.

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