

**FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION****Instruction
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

The County Superintendent and County Board recognize that schools play a crucial role in educating students about the relationship between humans and the natural world and in preparing them to have the skills, knowledge, and principles needed to solve environmental problems. The County Superintendent and County Board believe that all students should understand ecological systems and the impact of human action on such systems and that environmental education should promote environmental literacy and prepare students to be stewards of natural resources and live an ecologically responsible life-style.

The County Superintendent's local control and accountability plan may include local goals and priorities for environmental literacy.

The environmental education program may be taught across the curriculum in science, history-social science, English language arts, health, and, to the extent practicable, mathematics. Such instruction shall be aligned with state-adopted standards and curriculum frameworks and may include, but not be limited to, the interactions and interdependence of human societies and natural systems, people's dependence and influence on natural systems, the ways that natural systems change and how people can benefit and influence that change, the fact that there are no boundaries to prevent matter from flowing between systems, and the fact that decisions affecting resources and natural systems are complex and involve many factors.

The environmental education program may also provide for active student participation in onsite resource conservation and management programs and the promotion of service learning partnerships. The County Superintendent or designee may collaborate with other local educational agencies and/or community-based organizations to enhance the curriculum and learning experiences provided to students.

The County Superintendent or designee shall ensure that environment-based learning experiences are made available on an equitable basis and that the environmental literacy curriculum reflects the linguistic, ethnic, and socioeconomic diversity of California.

As appropriate, the County Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development for teachers in the development and effective implementation of curriculum and activities inside and outside of the classroom that promote environmental literacy.

Adopted: 10/20/2011
Amended: 11/19/2020, 06/15/2023

Legal Reference

Education Code
8700-8707 Environmental education
8720-8723 Conservation education service

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8760-8773 Outdoor science, conservation, and forestry
33541 Science requirements
51210 Areas of study, grades 1-6
51220 Areas of study, grades 7-12
51795-51797 School instructional gardens
60041 Ecological systems and their protection

Public Resources Code

71300-71305 Statewide environmental education

Management Resources

Websites

California Environmental Protection Agency, Education and the Environment Initiative:

<https://www.californiaeei.org/>

California Department of Education, Environmental Education:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/sc/oeintrod.asp>

California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery, Education and Assistance:

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Education>

California Regional Environmental Education Community: <http://www.creec.org>