EE Materials: Guidelines for Excellence

Guidelines for Excellence
K-12 Learning
For students, parents, educators, home schoolers, administrators, policy makers, and the public

Guidelines for Excellence
EE Materials
For students, parents, educators, home schoolers, and the public

Guidelines for Excellence
Preparation & Professional Development
For students, parents, educators, home schoolers

Guidelines for Excellence
Nonformal EE Programs
For students, parents, educators, home schoolers, administrators, policy makers, and the public

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Environmental ms

Guidelines for Excellence
Community Engagement

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for Environmental Education

Workshop Objectives

❑ Describe the key characteristics of quality environmental education materials

❑ Identify examples of quality environmental education materials

❑ Describe how other documents in the National Project for Excellence in Environmental Education series can be used to develop quality instruction

Paul Cyr

NAAEE: Who We Are

The professional association, champion, and backbone organization for the field of environmental education, working with a diverse group of educators in the United States, Canada, Mexico and in many other parts of the world to advance environmental education.
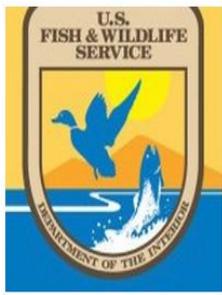
Primary Sponsors

ee360

U.S. EPA Office of Environmental Education

Other Partners

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- State and Provincial EE Associations
- Organizational partners – such as Keep America Beautiful, Project Learning Tree, Arbor Day Foundation, Project WILD, Project WET
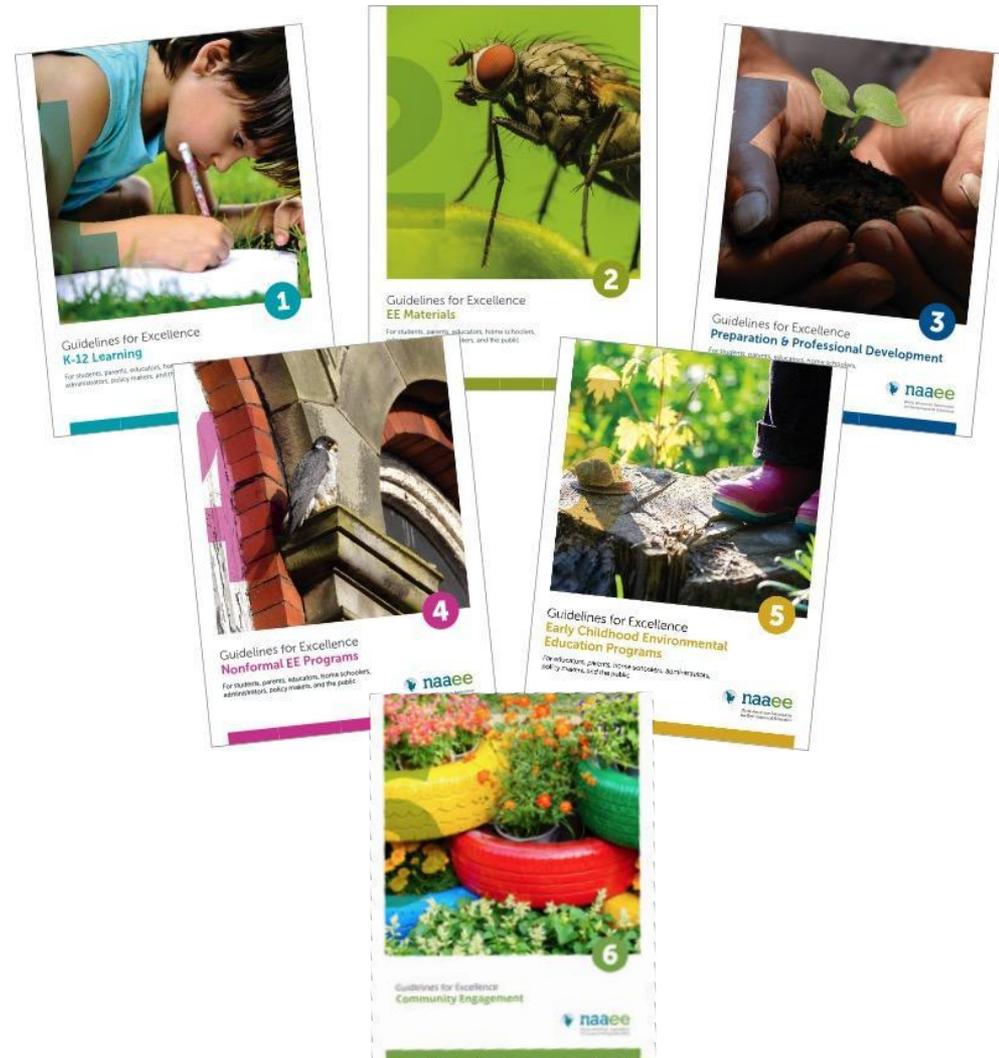
56 State, Regional, and Provincial Affiliates

Six Primary Products

- Materials Guidelines
- K-12 EE Guidelines
- Professional Development of Environmental Educators
- Nonformal Environmental Education Programs
- Early Childhood Environmental Education Programs
- Community Engagement

Excellence

Promoting excellence in environmental education

Our Collective Wisdom

- Developed *Guidelines* through a public participatory process

- Engaging educators in a deep discussion about quality environmental education practice

- Building EE as a profession

Essential Underpinnings

- Human Well-Being
- Importance of Where One Lives
- Integration & Infusion
- Justice, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion
- Lifelong Learning
- Roots in the Real World
- Sustainable Future
- Systems & Systems Thinking

Essential Underpinnings

- Copy the Jamboard URL & paste it into your browser
- Note your breakout room number
- Once you are in your breakout room, navigate to the appropriate Jamboard sheet

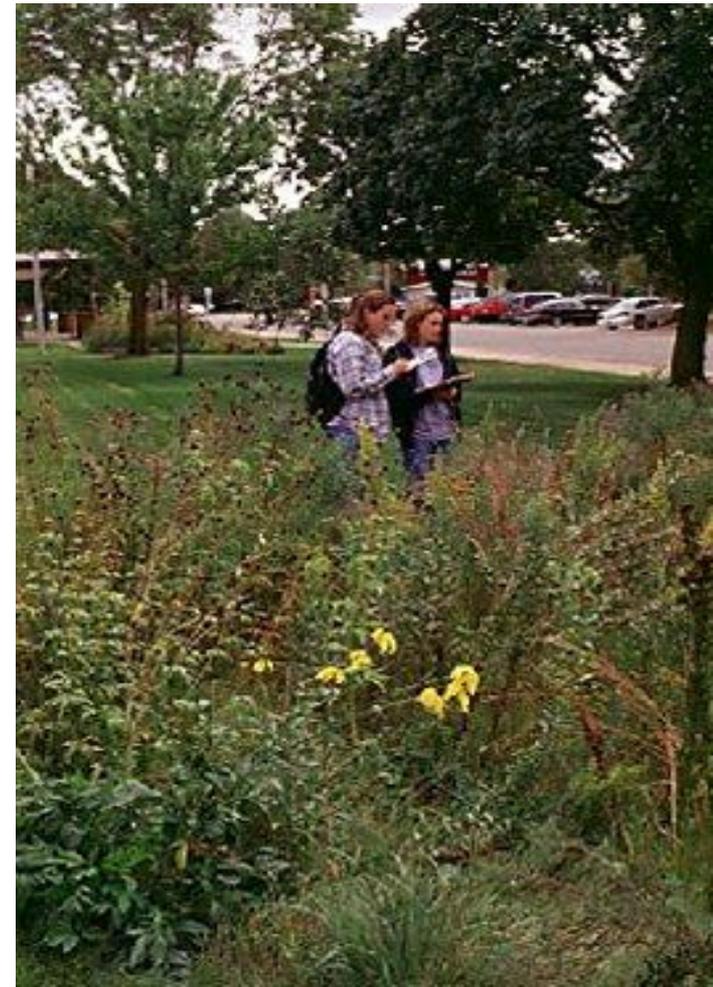# Environmental Education Materials: Guidelines for Excellence

Guidelines for Excellence
Environmental Education Materials

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EE Materials: Guidelines for Excellence

- A Resource that provides:
  - Recommendations for selecting quality EE instructional materials
  - Tools for evaluating a wide array of materials
  - Guidance for developing new EE instructional materials
- Developed through a broad-based review and comment process

Key Characteristics

- **Guidelines**
  - ❖ Indicators
  - ❖ Indicators
- **Boxes with Examples**
- **References**

Key Characteristics

1) Accurate and Inclusive
2) Emphasis on Skills Building
3) Depth of Understanding
4) Personal and Civic Responsibility
5) Instructional Effectiveness
6) Usability

Digging into the Key Characteristics

- Copy the URL for the Materials Guidelines & paste it into your browser
- Copy the URL for the Jamboard & paste it into your browser
- Note your breakout room number
- Once you are in your breakout room, navigate to the appropriate Jamboard sheet (Key Characteristic)

Key Characteristic #1
Accurate and Inclusive

1.1 Accurate

1.2 Reflective of equity & inclusion

1.3 Balanced presentation of differing
perspectives & theories

Key Characteristic #2
Emphasis on Skills Building

2.1 Thinking & process skills

2.2 Skills for asking questions & exploring different perspectives

2.3 Skills for decision-making

2.4 Skills for addressing environmental challenges & opportunities

Key Characteristic #3
Depth of Understanding

3.1 Awareness

3.2 Focus on concepts

3.3 Concepts in context

3.4 Attention to different scales

Key Characteristic #4
Personal & Civic Responsibility

4.1 Sense of personal stake & responsibility
4.2 Self-efficacy & personal agency

Key Characteristic #5
Instructional Effectiveness

5.1 Learner-centered instruction

5.2 Different ways of learning

5.3 Connection to learners' everyday lives

5.4 Expanded learning environment

5.5 Equitable & inclusive learning environments

5.6 Interdisciplinary

5.7 Goals & objectives

5.8 Appropriateness for specific learning settings

5.9 Assessment

Key Characteristic #6
Usability

6.1 Clarity & logic

6.2 Easy to use

6.3 Long-lived

6.4 Adaptable

6.5 Accompanied by instruction & support

6.6 Make substantiated claims

6.7 Support accepted recommendations & requirements

Wrap-Up

- Copy the Jamboard URL and paste it into your browser
- Place your name on a sticky note
- Think about each of the 6 key characteristics
- Move your sticky note to the one you think is the hardest to do

Questions?

THANK YOU!