

Lesson Title : LEED

Essential Question: What can you do to live more sustainably?



Instructional Time needed for Lesson: 15-30 min

Lesson Summary:

In this lesson students will learn everything that the Elk Country Visitor Center has done and continues to do to be a LEED Certified Gold Building. They will also learn about what LEED is and different ways that they can live a more sustainable life in their own home.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of class instruction students will be able to:

- Objective 1: Students will be able to define the concepts of sustainability and carbon footprint.
- Objective 2: Students will be able to define LEED.
- Objective 3: Students will be able to explain the need for the green building initiative.
- Objective 4: Students will be able to discuss the history of the LEED movement, the “green” design categories, and the “green” certification levels based on the point system.
- Objective 5: Students will be able to differentiate between a forest that is designated as sustainable or wisely managed, and one that is not.
- Objective 6: Students will be able to synthesize various factors which make the Elk Country Visitor Center a premier LEED structure.
- Objective 7: Students will be able to classify the ECVC’s LEED aspects as: impacts to the environment, healthy indoor environment, recycling, and energy/water efficiency.
- Objective 8: Students will be able to compare and contrast the advantages of geothermal heating and cooling with traditional fossil fuel systems.
- Objective 9: Students will be able to evaluate LEED advantages and infer and predict how individual efforts can improve overall wise stewardship of the planet.

Extension:

Compare what sustainable practices a LEED certified building uses to a non LEED certified building. Discuss reasons why it is so important to be aware of the effects we have on the environment. Information on the LEED program can be found at <http://www.usgbc.org/LEED/>

Key Terms:

- Recycling
- Ecosystem
- Environment
- Sustainability
- Renewable resource
- Nonrenewable resource
- biomass



To conserve and enhance Pennsylvania's elk country for future generations.

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