



Project Learning Tree:

Environmental Education Activity Guide



IN A NUTSHELL

American Forest Foundation
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Washington, DC 20036

phone: (888) 889-4466
website: www.plt.org

Cost: Distributed in training workshop
which is free or requires a minimal charge.

SUBJECTS

Economics
Fine Arts
Language Arts
Mathematics
Physical Education
Science
Social Studies

Project Learning Tree is an interdisciplinary, comprehensive environmental education program that uses the forest as a “window” into the natural world. The activity guide is arranged into five major themes: diversity, interrelationships, systems, structure and scale, and patterns of change. Each theme covers the areas of environment, resource management and technology, and society and culture.

Activities include an overview, background information, preparation instructions, suggested variations, and a sidebar that lists grade levels, subjects, skills involved, materials and time required. The themes are built on a conceptual framework, which is included in the text, along with a glossary, bibliography, and a variety of appendices. This program also includes an extensive workshop component, with more than 2000 workshops conducted annually across the country.

Grade Level
Pre K - 8

Length
402 pages

Date Published
revised in 2001

THE BOTTOM
LINE

“I am impressed with the organization and usability of these materials and the openness with which the issues are presented.”

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Very fair and accurate. Presents a balance of different viewpoints. Encourages students to explore and develop their own opinions and values.	Could use more factual content and background information.
	Depth	Wide variety of concepts presented in various contexts including historic and cultural. Presents local to global aspects.	
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Focus on critical thinking skills. Students move through the stages of awareness, knowledge, challenge or consensus, and action.	
	Action Orientation	Activities promote a sense of personal stake in the environment and the effects of action.	
	Instructional Soundness	Interdisciplinary and constructivist in approach. Clearly states goals and objectives and includes options for assessment. Provides for diverse learning styles. Extensive evaluation conducted.	
	Usability	Format makes objectives and concepts easy to identify. Pages are reproducible. Needed materials are simple and inexpensive. Cites additional resources.	

“A wide variety of activities... something for everyone!”

“One of the greatest strengths I saw in these materials was its encouragement of students to explore and pursue in an effort to form their own opinions.”