



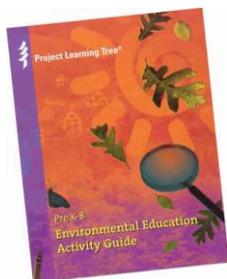
Explore the Environment with Project Learning Tree®

What is Project Learning Tree (PLT)? PLT is an international, award-winning environmental education curriculum designed for all educators. The program has been in existence since the mid-1970's and was introduced to Virginia in 1981. PLT is engineered to help educators weave the environment into their everyday lesson plans. All activities are field-tested by teachers, reviewed by experts, and are correlated to the Virginia Standards of Learning. The PLT materials are available by participating in PLT workshops.

VIRGINIA PLT WORKSHOPS

- Around 70 workshops are offered each year throughout Virginia by a corps of trained, volunteer instructors.
- As workshops are scheduled, we post the information on the Calendars of Events at www.plt.org and www.vanaturally.com.
- There is a workshop fee of \$10 per participant, regardless of the number of books included in the workshop.
- Workshops can be scheduled upon request for groups of 10 or more educators.

Materials for PreK-8 Educators



PLT PreK-8 Environmental Education Activity Guide: This book contains 96 interdisciplinary, hands-on activities. Topics include plants, forest products, ecosystems, habitats, energy, community planning, economics, waste management, recycling, stewardship, and the urban environment, just to name a few. PreK-8 workshops are six hours long. The 2006 Revision has added reading and technology connections, differentiated instruction, authentic assessments, urban forestry connections and more.

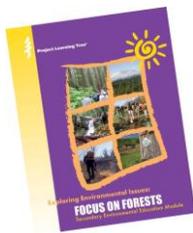
PLT Energy & Society Kits: These kits expand on the energy themes in the *PreK-8 Activity Guide* and explore basic energy concepts such as sources of energy, potential and kinetic energy, and energy's role in society. The kit is composed of an Activity Guide with 6 new activities, sets of posters to support the student worksheets, and an *Energy & Me* musical CD and dance video by Billy B. Energy kits are distributed at two-hour energy workshops or as part of a six-hour PreK-8 workshop. They can also be purchased directly from the national PLT website, www.plt.org, for \$45 per kit.



SPONSORS OF THE VIRGINIA PROJECT LEARNING TREE PROGRAM

Materials for Secondary Educators

PLT's Secondary Modules for Middle and High School: Secondary modules require a minimum of a two-hour workshop for one module, with an additional hour for each additional module desired. They each contain 8-11 activities, some of which could be considered a full unit of instruction.



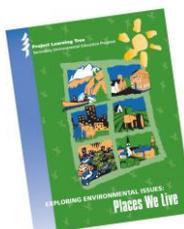
Exploring Environmental Issues: Focus on Forests – This module's activities provide an opportunity for hands-on study of forest resources while addressing concepts in biology, civics, ecology, economics, forest management, and other subject areas. Students examine ecological systems of a forest; analyze interdependencies within a forest ecosystem; and explore factors, such as fire, that shape the development of forests. In addition, they develop critical thinking skills and discover the importance of scientific analysis when making decisions about forest issues.



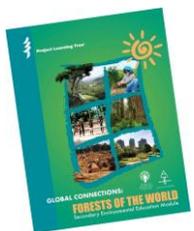
Exploring Environmental Issues: Focus on Municipal Solid Waste - Students explore the roots and solutions of this universal environmental issue. Activities address the waste stream, source reduction, recycling and economics, composting, waste-to-energy facilities, landfills, local waste management, and possibilities for improvement of local waste management.



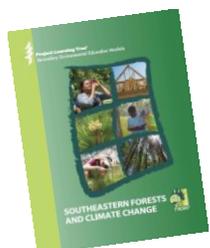
Exploring Environmental Issues: Focus on Risk - Students learn how to assess environment and health issues, and about the tools they can use to make good decisions. The activities investigate the definition of risk, probability, risk assessment tools, risk communication, and risk management through real-world examples such as endangered species, natural hazards, toxicity testing, electromagnetic fields, chlorine, and plastics. A **Biotechnology Supplement** was added to this module in 2010, with four new activities available at the PLT Online Community, connect.plt.org.



Exploring Environmental Issues: Places We Live – All communities – urban, suburban, small town, rural – are experiencing growth and change. Students discover their own backyards and work as community members to protect the environmental, social, and economic integrity of the places we live. Activities explore sense of place, community character, changes in land use over time, ecological footprints, and more.



Global Connections: Forests of the World – Students learn how connected they are to forest ecosystems around the world as they conduct research and apply critical thinking skills to consider the social, economic, and environmental implications that underlie decisions about forest management. The module includes a poster-size map of the world's forests and a set of students' maps.



Southeastern Forests and Climate Change - Project Learning Tree and the University of Florida have developed a new secondary module to help educators in the Southeast teach about climate change impacts on forest ecosystems, the role of forests in sequestering carbon, and strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to changing climatic conditions.

Materials for Early Childhood Educators



PLT's Early Childhood program encourages young children, ages 3-6, to learn about the natural world around them using their senses, the seasons, and neighborhood trees. The experiences in PLT's Early Childhood guide encourage children to explore, discover, and communicate in expressive ways. They emphasize outdoor adventure, support children having fun while learning, and utilize each child's imagination and creativity to provide opportunities for learning in groups or as individuals. The activities include opportunities to incorporate music and movement using the CD to encourage children to sing and dance. The music selections include instrumentals with different rhythms

and cultural connections, nature sounds, classical music, and fun songs with educational lyrics from children's music artist Billy B. Brennan.

PLT's *Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood* guide includes background information on facilitating experiences for the early childhood learner, how to guide children in learning about nature both indoors and outdoors, and clear objectives and benchmarks to assess learning. It also includes suggestions for activities that families and friends can conduct to enhance their child's learning experiences at home.

Project Learning Tree also offers:

- **PLT GreenWorks Grants**
- **PLT GreenSchools Program**
- **Every Student Learns Outside resources**



For More Information: www.plt.org or www.cnre.vt.edu/plt/

Page Hutchinson, PLT State Coordinator - (804) 966-2201 or
page.hutchinson@dof.virginia.gov



Virginia Project Learning Tree Workshop Request Form

Name _____ Email _____

Organization/School _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City/State _____ ZipCode _____

I am interested in scheduling a PLT workshop for my school or organization to obtain the following materials at a cost of \$10 per person:

- PLT Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood (4 hours)**
- PLT PreK-8 Environmental Education Activity Guide (6 hours)**
- Energy & Society Kits (2 hours or included with a 6 hour PreK-8 Guide workshop)**
- Exploring Environmental Issues: Focus on Forests (2 hours)**
- Exploring Environmental Issues: Focus on Municipal Solid Waste (2 hours)**
- Exploring Environmental Issues: Focus on Risk (2 hours)**
- Exploring Environmental Issues: Places We Live (2 hours)**
- Global Connections: Forests of the World (2 hours)**
- Southeastern Forests and Climate Change (2 hours)** <http://sfrc.ufl.edu/extension/ee/climate/>
- GreenSchools! Investigations (usually combined with one of the above resources)**

Number of participants (min. 10): _____ Possible Dates: _____

Location of workshop (i.e. building, park name): _____

City or County _____

Audience _____

Any other necessary details _____

Please Mail to:

Page Hutchinson, PLT State Coordinator
Virginia Department of Forestry
11301 Pocahontas Trail
Providence Forge, VA 23140
(804) 966-2201, Ext. 115
FAX (804) 966-9801
email: page.hutchinson@dof.virginia.gov

