

Friday, May 18, 2018

1-hour discussion –via GoToMeeting

Meeting began – 10:00 am Pacific/AZ

Discussion Topic: *Ideas for a new CoP Call format*

Present on the call: LoriAnne Barnett (NCO); Claire O’Neill (Earthwise Aware- Boston), Suzanne Mrozak (Arnold Arboretum Tree Spotters - Boston), Anita Wah (Druid Phenology Program, San Lorenzo, CA), Dan Grulke (Monitcello Schools, MN), Erin O’Connell (Lake Superior Phenology Group, MN), Judy Davis (JN Ding Darling NWR, FL), and Trica Oshant-Hawkins (Tumamoc Hill in Tucson).

Take-aways from today’s discussion: *Ideas for a new CoP Call format*

- We need a better way to share ideas and create content – workshoping ideas on monthly calls allows for collaboration and idea sharing
- Increase the length of the calls from one hour to one and a half, and spend time generating ideas in a true community of practice
- Host these type of calls at least quarterly, if not more often, to replace the existing format of share and discussion with no outcome.

Discussion Topic: *Ideas for a new CoP Call format*

We talked about a new format for the calls. We decided that we’d like to “workshop” problems or ideas at least 4 times a year (if not more frequently). Some ideas for discussion topics that came up today include:

1. Developing or revamping existing adult volunteer trainings (e.g. 3-hour workshops acclimating participants to NN)
2. Suggestions for preliminary activities to do with students or adults to build up to using Nature’s Notebook - a progression. These could include activities designed to teach botany concepts, observational skills, etc.
3. Developing curriculum that incorporates the visualization tool
4. How to help people who overthink making the observations - they are making it more complicated than it needs to be

For next month’s call on Nov. 16th at 10 am- 11:30 Pacific we decided to try workshoping for the first time. As a first start we discussed having a group that would work on K-12 Education (formal) and a second discussion group that could work on non-formal education.

Within the discussion we will break into small groups and address the following:

1. Describe the program/implementation methodology
2. Identify the problem (either #1 or #2)
3. Collect feedback and solutions
4. Bring the group back together to share out the best ideas that emerged from the conversation

We’d like to document the solutions and then post them on the website somewhere, hopefully in a forum. We will likely need someone in the group to volunteer as a scribe to document and share back with everyone else. Notes can be taken on google docs and then transferred to the forum when we get that running.

Linked here are the curriculum and [implementation guide](#) that I have (RE Anita’s question, which ties several activities and/or lessons together into a “curriculum”), the [Driven to Discover Curriculum](#) from our Partners at UMinnesota and the lessons that I

have that relate to using the vis tool such as the [Phenology, Ecosystem Analysis, and Ecological Mismatches](#) lesson plan or the [What can a lilac tell us about national climate change?](#) Activity (for Claire and Erin). Both are tied to the NGSS. They are all retrievable in the [Nature's Notebook Activities](#) table. Anita, if you've got more thoughts or ideas about what is missing or how to organize it all, I would love your input!

That conversation makes me think that we should retag those resources, or at least add additional tags, so they can more easily be found. If there is something else you wish I had done to make things easier to find, please let me know. I'm good at designing curriculum but not good at the IT part needed for people to find it!!

After next month's call we can all get back together at least via email and debrief to decide how it went and what our next steps are.

Next time

- **Next Call January 18, 2019. Topic:** Workshopping ideas for implementing Nature's Notebook Activities and curriculum

Ideas for upcoming calls

- *Evaluation of our Local Phenology Leader Program at the National Level- what elements can you apply to your programs?*
- *Phenophase and Intensity Q&A*

Thanks everyone!

Meeting Adjourned – 11:03 am Pacific/AZ time