

Best Education Practices (BEPs) for Water Outreach Professionals
Defining BEPs, Refining New Resources and Recommending Future Actions

POSTER PRESENTATION

Presenter(s): Monica Lopez Magee, Council For Environmental Education

Title: Team WET Schools: Building School-Community Partnerships to Promote Water Education and Stewardship Among Underserved Urban Youth

Abstract: By using James S. Hogg Middle School as a model case study, staff from the Council for Environmental Education (CEE) will illustrate how Team WET Schools, a water-focused urban environmental education program, operates. The Team WET School model illustrates major strengths of the program- the ability to reach diverse students and teachers with water education and service learning opportunities, and the ability to involve a variety of non-traditional partners in environmental education. The session will focus on how local organizations and businesses have worked and can work with the CEE national office in individual school buildings to empower urban students and teachers to become responsible water stewards. Since the spring of 2002 CEE has worked closely with the City of Houston and Harris County Storm Water Management Joint Task Force (JTF) to support the water education and stewardship efforts at Hogg Middle School, a primarily Hispanic school located near downtown Houston. CEE and the JTF teamed up to offer workshops to help educators integrate activities from the WET in the City K-12 Curriculum and Activity Guide into school curricula. Twenty-three Hogg teachers, representing 39% of the faculty from across the disciplines, participated in the workshops and are actively using WET in the City activities in their classrooms.

Target Audience(s): Local Decision and Policy Makers; Agency Partners; Households; Neighborhood Organizations; Service Clubs; Environmental/Conservation NGOs; Soil and Water Conservation Districts; Specific Ethnic Groups

Educational Purpose: Education (formalized process with a goal)

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