Blandy Experimental Farm Science Education Resources for Teachers

The mission of the Blandy Education Program is to encourage scientific exploration and discovery, and stewardship of our natural world by fostering a learning community among preK-12 students and teachers, and scientists. We welcome your inquiries and will gladly discuss ideas for how we may be able to assist you in meeting your educational needs.

Programs for Students (Please see our School Program Brochure for more details)
- Twenty outdoor-based science programs taught by Blandy Education staff using the inquiry method
- Four teacher led outdoor programs with all required materials contained in a backpack
- Two classroom-based programs that we bring to your school
- Water quality analysis
- Field ecology research experiences (ranging from 5 hours to 2-day immersion experiences)
- Field ecology research projects (semester or year-long)

Pedagogical Resources for Teachers (Please contact us!)
- Science content advice and resources
- Science process and technology skills advice and resources
- Lesson planning resources (for example: pertinent materials to teach evolution, biodiversity, weather, global climate change, watershed science, ecological structure and complexity, scientifically valid on-line science content and lesson resources)
- Partnering on grant writing for specific projects

Teacher Professional Development Opportunities

Summer
Blandy Bay Academy (MWEE, Meaningful Watershed Ecology Experiences, Workshop (annually, 2nd week in August)). This multi-day workshop explores the hydro-ecological connections between the Shenandoah River watershed and Chesapeake Bay. Participants learn about contemporary research in watershed ecology, conduct field investigations, and collaborate in adapting their new knowledge and investigation skills to create lessons for their individual classrooms.

Research Experiences for Teachers (RET). This National Science Foundation program provides an eight-week research internship working with a scientist at Blandy. This program is offered intermittently, dependent on individual teacher interest. Please inquire.
Year Round
Our staff can facilitate any of the following national education programs for a group of teachers at a selected location in your school division. Minimum number of participants is ten. We also offer at least one of these programs at Blandy each year.

Project Learning Tree (PLT) is an award winning environmental education program for educators working with preK through 8th grades. The activities are interdisciplinary and are designed to help educators add environmental education to their curricula. During the workshop participants engage in activities that they can implement in their classroom. Each participant receives a (preK-8) PLT Environmental Education Activity Guide. *PLT also has developed Secondary Modules for grades 9-12.* For more information on any of these modules visit [www.plt.org](http://www.plt.org).


Project WILD is an interdisciplinary environmental education program emphasizing wildlife and the environment created by the National Council for Environmental Education. With the activities in the K-12 Curriculum and Activity Guide, educators bring awareness and appreciation of wildlife into the classroom. More information about Project WILD can be found at [www.projectwild.org](http://www.projectwild.org).

Flying Wild is another environmental program from the National Council for Environmental Education. The Educator’s Guide to Celebrating Birds focuses on the science of bird conservation and bird migration. This program, designed for grades 3-8, was developed with the input of conservation organizations and environmental educators. The Educator’s Guide can be used in the formal classroom or informally for a Bird Festival or other outreach event. Please visit [www.flyingwild.org](http://www.flyingwild.org) for more information on this program.

Please call 540-837-1758 ext. 242 or email schprog@virginia.edu for more information about any of these professional development opportunities and education resources.