



2026-2027 K-12 Educational Programs

Program Overview

Education is a huge part of what we do here at ASWCD! These lessons are designed to help students learn about environmental stewardship and how they can make a difference in their own county!

Our Education and Outreach Coordinator is available to present classroom conservation programs for schools and youth groups on a limited basis. We are certified to teach all curriculum from Project WILD, Project WET, and Project Learning Tree. Please email Maddy Powell (Maddy.powell@andersonswcd.org) if you are interested in one of our programs during the Fall 2026 - Spring 2027 school year!

Program Guidelines

- Programs are typically presented to one class at a time (**max 25 students**) with up to 3 presentations/classes at the same school per day. STEM Day, Farm Day, or other schoolwide events are an exception.
- Let us know if you have an outdoor classroom! We would love to use this space, but it is not required.
- Most programs are **30-60 minutes** but depend on the topic.
- Please contact us ASAP to schedule a program, as our Educator's calendar fills up quickly.
- These programs are **FREE** with no cost to the school or youth groups!

Contact Us

Maddy Powell, Education & Outreach Coordinator

Email: Maddy.powell@andersonswcd.org

Phone: (864) 844 - 8224

Anderson County Soil and Water Conservation District

1521 Pearman Dairy Road

Anderson, SC 29625

Water-Related Programs

Blue Planet (Project WET)

Time: 30 - 45 min

Students will estimate the percentage of the Earth's surface that is covered in water and, by tossing an inflatable globe, take a simple probability sample to check their estimates. Students may also discuss how long water molecules stay in different locations.

Earth's Water: A Drop in Your Cup (adapted from Project WET)

Time: 10 - 30 min

Students estimate the percentage of Earth's surface that is covered by water by tossing an inflatable globe. Using graduated cylinders, students will separate the Earth's water into several different forms: ice, groundwater, lakes, swamps, rivers, and ocean. Students will discuss ways that we use water and ways that we can conserve available freshwater.

The Incredible Journey (Project WET)

Time: 30 - 45 min

With the roll of a cube, students will simulate the movement of water within the water cycle. Students will become water drops and travel around the classroom to learn the water cycle, and they will create a water bracelet out of beads

The Life Box (Project WET)

Time: 30 - 45 min

Through a thought-provoking activity, students discover four essential, interdependent factors needed to sustain life.

Macro Dress Up (Abbeville 4-H)

Time: 30 - 45 min

At least four students (depending on time availability) will get to dress up as macroinvertebrates as the class discusses various adaptations that macroinvertebrates have. Some adaptation examples include tails, gills, and breathing tubes.

Sum of the Parts (Project WET)

Time: 45 - 60 min

Students will demonstrate how everyone contributes to the pollution of a river as it flows through a watershed and recognize that through individual and group action, the amount of pollution can be reduced.

Water-Related Programs (continued)

Stream Health: An Introduction to Adopt-A-Stream

Time: 60 min

The SC Adopt-a-Stream program is led by the SC Department of Environmental Services. Our Education and Outreach Coordinator will share information on what SC Adopt-A-Stream is, how students can get involved in their own neighborhood, and even take students outside to do a sample stream test (or a mock one in the classroom). This lesson can be tailored to what your class would like to learn. We can focus on bacterial/chemical monitoring, or macroinvertebrate monitoring.

Soil-Related Programs

What is Soil? (GSWCD)

Time: 30 min

Students will learn what soil is and its composition (sand, silt and clay). Students will become soil scientists and place soil in jars with water and watch it separate into different layers.

Going, Going, Gone

Time: 30 min

Students will hypothesize whether vegetative cover affects the amount of soil eroded. We will conduct a simulation of wind and water erosion on soil with varying levels of vegetative cover. Students will discuss the importance of stabilizing soil with vegetation to prevent erosion.

Enviroscape

Enviroscape Table

Time: 45 - 60 min

Students learn about the importance of keeping our waters clean and our storm drains clean. Topics such as point and nonpoint source pollution will be covered. See attached flyer for more details.

Agriculture & Natural Resource Careers

Careers in Ag & Soil/Water Conservation

Time: 30 - 45 min

Identify careers in Agriculture and Soil/Water Conservation. Discuss duties and responsibilities related to these careers. List the training needed for these careers and talk about different colleges or workplaces that offer pathways in these subject areas.

Wildlife-Related Programs

Adaptation Artistry (Project WILD)

Time: 45 min

Students will learn about several adaptations that birds have (e.g. curved versus pouch-like beaks, webbed versus clawed feet) that help them to survive in their habitat. Students will design imaginary birds and present to the class based on chosen adaptations.

Color Crazy (Project WILD)

Time: 30 - 45 min

Students will discuss color-related adaptations of wildlife such as concealing coloration. Disruptive coloration, disguise, mimicry, aposematism, and countershading. Students will create an organism using materials found in nature and will be given the opportunity to share about their organism and its adaptations to its habitat.

Quick-Frozen Critters (Project WILD)

Time: 30 - 45 min

Students play an active game similar to Freeze Tag and Sharks and Minnows. Students will discuss predator-prey interactions, adaptations, and limiting factors in a habitat.

Thicket Game (Project WILD)

Time: 30 min

Students play an active game similar to Hide and Seek. Students will discuss adaptations, specifically camouflage, and predator-prey interactions.

Web of Life (adapted from PLT)

Time: 45 - 60 min

Students will discuss food chains, food webs, predators, and prey. They will participate in a model to learn how organisms are interconnected and depend on one another in an ecosystem. Depending on time, students may get to research different organisms and present their findings to the group in our web model.

Plants & Forestry Programs

Friends of the Forest

Time: 20 - 30 min

Students will learn about forest stewardship and how they can be friends of the forest. Children will know that the forest is made up of many different working parts, discover that forest stewardship is responsible use of the forest and will realize they can make a difference too!

Making Paper (SCFC)

Time: 30 - 45 min

Students will discuss the need for recycling. They will learn how paper is made, both from virgin fiber and from recycled paper and will recycle tissue paper into new paper.

Renewable or Not? (PLT)

Time: 45 - 60 min

Student will define renewable and nonrenewable resources, model what happens to these resources over time, and see why sustainable use is so important.

Tree ID (PLT)

Time: 60 min

Students will describe leaf shapes, sizes, and other characteristics and identify several trees common to SC.

*An outside setting is preferable for this lesson, but our educator can bring tree samples if an outdoor setting is unavailable.

Trees & Tree Cookies (adapted from PLT)

Time: 30 - 45 min

Students will learn about parts of a tree, tree rings and tree growth. Students will get to decorate a tree cookie ornament.

If you have other topics your class is focusing on, we are happy to create a program that is tailored to your lessons. Just let us know ahead of time!