

QuikScience Challenge

Writing a Lesson Plan ~ Guidelines & Format

Guidelines: The students work as a team to create and teach at least one new, ocean-related, lesson plan that fits into the science curriculum at your school, or for a lower grade classroom. The teacher/mentor will provide guidance and oversight for content accuracy. You can brainstorm the topic with your team! This lesson plan should use the ocean to illustrate or inspire students in some area of science and should be related to your public service project. The idea for the lesson plan can come from existing COSEE-West curricula (www.usc.edu/org/cosee-west), other educational sources or be invented by your team (perhaps the best!)

- *Your lesson plan should describe:*
 - 1) How it fits into your class's science curriculum
 - 2) The grade level to be taught
 - 3) Which California state science standards it meets
 - 4) The number of students taught
 - 5) How they responded to the lesson plan
 - 6) How many times lesson was taught

In your Portfolio, submit a detailed description of the Lesson Plan, any new parts that you have created, and how it could be further improved (See the format below).

- *For ideas on HOW to teach take a moment to reflect on how you learn:*

Think of your favorite teacher: how did he/she teach, what activities did the students enjoy, how did the teacher speak, what interested the students in his/her lessons, what teaching resources or equipment was used? What is your favorite way to learn? How do you learn best? What do you enjoy about school (music, drama, small group work, problem solving, etc)?

- *You can explore other ideas about how we learn and learning styles at:*

<http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/support/teaching.html#teaching>

http://www.newhorizons.org/strategies/mi/front_mi.htm

Now develop your own strategies for teaching and learning. The key is to create a lesson and teach it how you would like to be taught!

Format: The lesson plan is designed to communicate a concept and provide direction toward helping the students achieve intended learning outcomes. In order to accomplish that purpose, the plan must contain a set of elements that are descriptive of the process. The format varies but it should be composed of the following components:

Title of Lesson Plan: _____

Subject Area: _____ *Time Required:* _____

Grade Level: _____ *Classroom Size:* _____

State Curriculum Standards: _____

- **Content** – Indicate what you intend to teach, what concept or skill will be introduced, and identify which forms of knowledge will be included in the lesson.
- **Prerequisites** – Indicate what knowledge and/or skills the students must already have in order to be successful with accomplishing the lesson objective.
- **Background** - If appropriate, provide brief background information relevant to the lesson.
- **Objective/Goal** – Indicate what the students will learn upon completion. Specify any products the students will make or observable actions they will take.
- **Materials** – List all materials, resources and technology needed for both the teacher and the students during the activity. Include any key vocabulary words.
- **Preparation** – List any directions for material preparation before the activity.
- **Procedures** – Describe the focal event (how to teach the lesson), and what instructional techniques you will use in teaching the lesson. Include a description of how you will introduce the lesson to the students. Also include the steps and what specific things students will actually be doing to participate and accomplish the lesson objective. In summation, close with how it will relate to future lessons.
- **Evaluation** – Describe how you will measure the outcome to determine if the material taught has been learned.
- **Follow-up Activities** – Indicate how other extension activities/materials can be used to reinforce and extend this lesson.
- **Self-Assessment** (*to be completed after the lesson is presented*) –Address the major components of the lesson plan, focusing on both the strengths and areas of needed improvement. A good idea is to analyze the difference between what you wanted (the objective) and what was attained (the results of the evaluation). Also describe how the students responded to the lesson or activity.

★ Remember to include a description of how your lesson plan fits into your class’s science curriculum and how it supports or relates to your community service project.