

State of the Lake  
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Middle School Life Science

- a. Description: My project is to develop a station to test water quality during our yearly field trip to Lake Iowa. Each year the 7<sup>th</sup> graders travel to Lake Iowa and learn about the habitat and perform a service project. In conjunction with this trip, I plan to have the students test the water of the Lake using the kits supplied by IOWATER. This data can be saved and evaluated on a yearly basis. The students will also sample rocks from the site and identify them when they return to school.
- b. Objectives / Goals: By the end of this experience, the learner should be able to:
  - i. Understand differences in water quality
  - ii. Perform tests to determine the state of water at a local lake
  - iii. Identify and classify rocks and minerals they collected
- c. Implementation: During this field trip, students will collect water quality data and rocks that will then be used in the science classroom. During the time of this trip we are beginning our study of evolution, and the history of rocks and water quality will fit nicely into this unit.
- d. Evaluation: Students will be assessed on their classification of the rocks. They will also be assessed on a letter they write reporting their findings on the state of Lake Iowa. These reports will be kept and used in upcoming years to help the students get a more accurate picture on the water quality of Lake Iowa.