

Geology of Iowa for Teacher Summer 2010

Project Development

Dave Gerlach+

Project Description:

Our school, Harding Middle School, has a stream which flows under our building and feeds into the local urban trout stream. Our section of the this stream has a manmade pond which over the past ten years has silted in and has a reduction of fish and other aquatic wildlife able to use this ecosystem.

1. I plan to have students who are interested and able to do the following:
 - a. Develop a plan to rehabilitate our extension of a stream which flows underneath our school. The stream is presently 90% silted in and the life that has been choked out over the past ten years.
 - b. Begin and continue testing the water from this stream to monitor levels of chloride, nitrates, nitrates, flow, and phosphates. Testing would begin before any type of reconstruction would begin. This would provide a baseline of data to measure the water quality and to evaluate the needs and type of reconstruction for this area. This monitoring would be undertaken by our students and monitored by the Harding Science Staff.

Objectives:

While working on this project, students will:

1. Be involved with the planning and implementation of habit study and possible restoration.
2. Be trained to monitor and report data from the site to the DNR for collection.

Implementation:

Students will conduct testing during our EL time depending upon what grade level they are in at that time. Our building is a sixth through eighth grade complex. There will be times during this process in which the students who are involved will need to come in before and after school to work on this project. This would primarily occur during the evaluation and preliminary reconstruction phase.

Evaluation:

This project will be evaluated by:

1. The number of students involved. ?
2. The amount and consistency of the data collected and reported to the DNR.
3. The amount of completed habitat restored from the efforts of this project.