

Environmental Literacy

Creating a Sustainable World



The Queen Anne's County Public Schools Environmental Literacy Plan is a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary environmental education program infused with our current curricular offerings and aligned with the Maryland Environmental Literacy Standards.

Queen Anne's County is a unique county located in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Most communities are a short distance from a waterway leading to the Chesapeake Bay.

Our Environmental Literacy Plan serves as a guide to prepare students to use 21st Century skills and knowledge in order to tackle the difficult environmental issues faced by Queen Anne's County, MD and the surrounding Chesapeake Bay Watershed.



Making a Better Future for Queen Anne's County and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed



Environmental Literacy Matrix

Every Student will learn outdoors **Every Year**

- School-based outdoor learning (PreK – 12) in our Educational Habitats
- QACPS outdoor program experiences at partner site (K – 12)



Every Teacher will be trained to implement and support Environmental Literacy

- School staff introductions to Environmental Literacy
- Grade-level professional development
- Specialized training in field investigations at a partner site

Every Curricular Area will integrate and align Environmental Literacy

- Local environmental issues investigation
- Alignment with MD Environmental Literacy Standards, Content Standards, MD College and Career-Ready Standards, and Next Generation Science Standards



Grade	Investigative Issue
PreK	Development in Progress
K	The Necessities of Life What changes will we need to make to our schoolyard to better support the butterflies?
1	Where does all the rain go? Which materials best filter and clean storm water runoff--BEFORE it gets the river?
2	What's Up With Bees? Is our schoolyard garden planted with types of plants that attract a variety of pollinators? How can we help provide habitat for lots of different types of pollinators?
3	What's the Function? What types of adaptations do our local, native wetland plants and animals have to make them best suited for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Ecosystem?
4	Change Over Time How have human civilizations changed the Chesapeake Bay Watershed?
5	Forestry for the Bay? What is the connection between trees and clean water? Does deforestation affect water clarity and quality?
6	Where do we build and what is the impact? Safest location for a new home in a coastal community.
7	Got Invasives? What are the effects of invasive species on an ecosystem?
8	Plastics and our Environment What are the environmental impacts of producing, using, and disposing of materials?

High School Environmental Literacy Overview

Course	Investigative Issue
Biology	The Amazing Oyster Declining Water Quality since Industrial Revolution How have human behaviors impacted the oyster populations of the Chesapeake Bay?
Chemistry	Chemistry of the Bay. (Development in Progress)
Physics	Development in Progress





QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Where Our Future Begins

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individuals and members of their communities:**

**QACPS Environmental Literacy Committee Members
Adkins Arboretum
Sultana Educational Foundation
Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center
Environmental Concern
ShoreRivers
Washington College**

**The Maryland State Board of Education
Maryland State Department of Education**

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