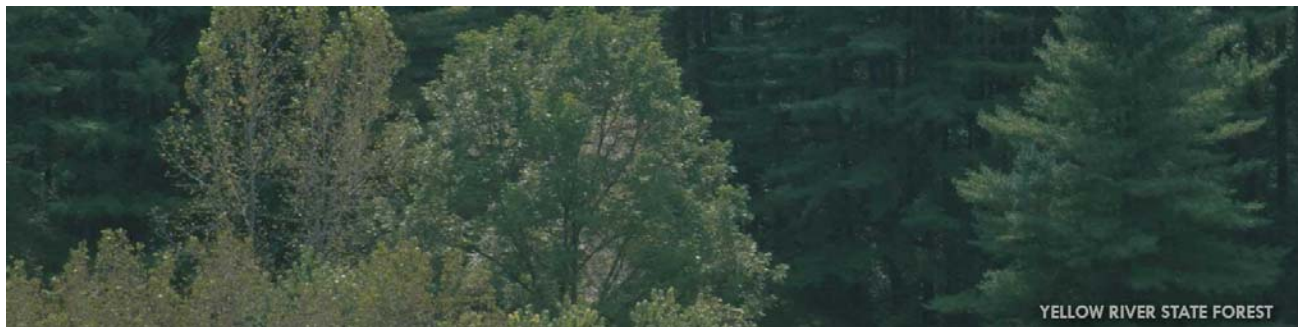




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## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



### Trees for Kids

The Trees for Kids grant program serves to educate K-12 and college students in Iowa about the importance of trees through tree planting events at schools and on public land. Grant recipients are awarded \$1,000-\$5,000 per project to purchase trees and mulch from Iowa nurseries. DNR staff members provide planting, mulching, and watering demonstrations and offer guidance to students as they plant their trees. Applications are available for spring and fall.

Trees for Kids is administered by Iowa DNR and funded by Alliant Energy, MidAmerican Energy Company, Black Hills Energy, ITC Holdings Corporation, Trees Forever, Iowa Woodland Owners Association, and Iowa Bankers Association. For more information please contact Evan Miller, Trees for Kids program coordinator, at (515) 725-8455.

### Project Learning Tree

Project Learning Tree (PLT) is an environmental education program for K-12 students that teaches about trees, forestry, the interrelationships between organisms and their environment, and other ecological concepts. Over 10,000 Iowa educators and youth leaders have participated in PLT workshops throughout the program's history. For more information, or to sign up for a workshop, please visit the PLT Homepage .

#### **Sample PLT Activities:**

Charting Diversity

Field, Forest, and Stream

### **Suggested Activity Lists**

Early Grades (K-4) Suggested Activity by Activity  
Early Grades (K-4) Suggested Activity by Social Studies Standard  
Early Grades (K-4) Suggested Activity by Science Standard  
Middle Grades (5-8) Suggested Activity by Activity  
Middle Grades (5-8) Suggested Activity by Science Standard  
Middle Grades (5-8) Suggested Activity by Social Studies Standard  
Secondary (9-12) Suggested Activity by Activity  
Secondary (9-12) Suggested Activity by Social Studies Standard  
Secondary (9-12) Suggested Activity by Science Standard

### **PLT Secondary Modules**

PLT secondary environmental education modules meet common components of national education reform by using the constructivist approach to learning, whole language teaching, cooperative learning, problem solving, and authentic assessments. The modules are intended for grades 9-12 but can be adapted for older audiences as well.

#### **Available on-line:**

Exploring Environmental Issues: Biodiversity  
Exploring Environmental Issues: Focus on Risk - Biotechnology

#### **Modules in print:**

Exploring Environmental Issues: Focus on Forests  
Exploring Environmental Issues: Municipal Solid Waste  
Exploring Environmental Issues: Focus on Risk  
Global Connections: Forests of the World  
Exploring Environmental Issues: Places We Live

Exploring Iowa's Natural Resources blog

Learn fun ways to incorporate natural resources into your classroom. A different environmental topic is featured each week.

### **Forest News**

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- ▶ Visit the DNR at the 2018 Iowa State Fair

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- ▶ New wildlife area drawing wildlife, hunters to southeast Jones County

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- ▶ Remote and quiet, Willow Slough is a Mills County treasure

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- ▶ More DNR News Releases >>

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### **Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood**








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Developed with preschool educators and early childhood specialists, this guide is designed for educators who work with children ages 3 to 6. It offers over 130 experiences that engage children in outdoor play and exploration. Topics include exploring nature with five senses, meeting

neighborhood trees, and experiencing trees through the seasons. An accompanying CD features music from children's musician Billy B. Brennan that encourages children to sing, dance, and move.

Activities adhere to the guidelines set forth in the national standards for early childhood education – NAEYC Criteria for Curriculum, Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and the NAAEE Early Childhood Environmental Education Guidelines for Excellence. Additional correlations have been drafted to Iowa Early Childhood program and curriculum standards – Quality Preschool Program Standards, Iowa Early Learning Standards, and the Iowa Core Curriculum.

Contact: (515)725-8456

		
Lesson Plans		
Name	Title	Size
 3rd thru 5th		
 6th thru 8th		
 9th thru 12		
 early childhood		
 K thru 2nd		

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5 items

### Our Mission

To conserve and enhance our natural resources in cooperation with individuals and organizations to improve the quality of life in Iowa and ensure a legacy for future generations.

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