



K-12 Student Contributions to the CAP LTER Project

Monica Elser and Charlene Saltz



- Students participate by:**
- Surveying local bird populations
 - Surveying local insect populations
 - Surveying local plant diversity



Classroom Support
 Presentations
 Field tips
 Provide resources
 Tech support
 Grant writing



Workshops for Teachers
 Insects in the Classroom
 Birds, Birds, Birds
 Introduction to Ecology Explorers
 Data Analysis and Technology
 Social Science: Surveys and More
 Ecology in the Schoolyard
 Mapping
 Exploring Plants (New this year!)

Mission: Ecology Explorers encourages teachers and students to learn about their urban environment through engaging in scientific inquiry and linking with the CAP LTER project at ASU's Center for Environmental Studies.

Ecology Explorers began in the 1998-99 academic year and has grown to 77 teachers at 54 public schools (encompassing 22 school districts), 3 charter schools and 2 private schools.

Two Week Summer Internships at ASU

- Teachers work with Education Liaisons to:
- Learn ways to incorporate research into their curriculum and meet the state standards
 - Develop lesson plans for their classrooms

Urbanization and Insects

- Teachers work with CAP LTER scientists to learn:
- How to collect and identify ground arthropods in their schoolyard
 - How to analyze insect data
 - What ASU scientists are discovering about local insects
 - How to study the effects of urbanization on insect populations

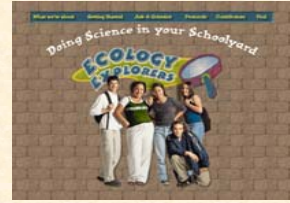


Bird Diversity and Urban Habitat

- Teachers work with CAP LTER scientists to learn:
- How to survey and identify plants and birds in their schoolyard
 - How to analyze plant and bird data



Web site
<http://caplter.asu.edu/explorers/>
 Each protocol and project clearly explained
 Data entry feature/retrieval feature
 PDF Teacher's Guides
 PDF Lesson Plans
 "Ask a Scientist"
 "Meet the Scientist"
 Kid's Newsletter
 Resource Page
 Arthropod Simulation
 Bird Identification Interactive
 Soon...Land Use Exploration



New Projects

BDI
 *Making data more accessible to students and teachers

Ag Trans

*Exploration of the agricultural-urban interface

Land Use Protocol

*Using various techniques to look at land use changes in the Valley over the past 30 years



Community Outreach

SEE ASU
 Valley Forward EarthFest
 Gilbert Feather Friends
 Science Fairs

