



Contents

Foreword by Dr. Marquita S. Blades	xi
Foreword by John Larmer.....	xiii
Introduction	1

PART 1 **Background on PBL, NGSS, and ISTE Standards Alignment**

CHAPTER 1

Environmental Science Introduction and Application

Environmental Science Defined in the Real World	12
ES in Policy and Schools	13
The Current State of ES Education.....	13
Factors Impacting ES Education.....	15
Advancing Equity through ES Education.....	16
Resources for Addressing Racial Equity in ES.....	17

CHAPTER 2

The Intersection of ES and PBL

High-Quality Project-Based Learning Framework	19
Other Frameworks for PBL	22
Project-Based Science in Action	23

CHAPTER 3

Aligning Authentic Projects to the NGSS and ISTE Standards

Beginning with the End in Mind: Focusing on the NGSS.....	25
Finding ES Connections within the NGSS.....	26
Incorporating Science and Engineering Practices into Project Design.....	28
Using the ISTE Standards for Educators to Design Authentic Projects.....	29
Unpacking Standards to Develop Learning Goals	30

CHAPTER 4

Designing and Facilitating High-Quality PBL

The Design Process: Creating Engaging and Rigorous Projects	33
Project-Based Teaching: Facilitating Learner-Centered Projects.....	35
Solutions to Common Challenges.....	38
Setting Students Up for Success in Teams.....	38
Helping Students with Peer Feedback	41
Creating an ES-Focused Driving Question.....	43
Designing an Engaging Entry Event	45



Environmental Science Projects

CHAPTER 5

Evidence for Environmental Science in Schools

Empirical Evidence for Environmental Education in the Classroom.....	52
Examples of Environmental Science in the Classroom	54
Studying Ecosystems and Building Foundational Knowledge	58

CHAPTER 6

Understanding Ecosystems

Connections to the NGSS and ISTE Standards.....	60
Project Example: Ecosystems	64
Additional Resources	67

Contents

CHAPTER 7

Understanding Human Impact

The Importance of an Interdisciplinary Approach to ES..... 70

Connections to the NGSS and ISTE Standards..... 71

Project Example: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Exploring Human Impact 75

Additional Resources..... 82

CHAPTER 8

Understanding Sustainability

Sustainability: Balancing Human and Natural Needs 84

Connections to the NGSS and ISTE Standards..... 86

Project Example: Sustainable Billions 88

CHAPTER 9

Understanding Climate Change

Preparing Students for Our Greatest Challenge..... 95

Connections to the NGSS and ISTE Standards..... 98

Project Example: Climate Action Expo..... 101

Additional Resources..... 105



**Implications for Future Work
and Additional Considerations**

CHAPTER 10

**Scientific Inquiry and Observation
through Fieldwork in ES**

Principles of Conducting Scientific Inquiry in ES..... 111

Adding Fieldwork to Scientific Inquiry and Observation..... 114

CHAPTER 11

Using SEL to Develop Student Conservationists

SEL and the CASEL 5 116

SEL Core Competencies 116

Research for Activating SEL in Environmental Science	117
The SEL-Enabled Conservationist: Labeling Emotions	118
The SEL-Enabled Conservationist: Strategies for Restoring Peace	120
Additional SEL Resources	121

CHAPTER 12

Creating a Call to Action

Crafting a Good Call to Action.....	123
Using the ISTE Standards to Improve Calls to Action	125
Resources to Help Students Create CTAs	127

CHAPTER 13

ES and Distance Learning

Selecting Educational Technology for Virtual ES Projects	128
Make Lessons Interactive and Accessible 24/7.....	130
Use Apps to Keep Students Social—Even in Class	131
It Takes Some Retooling	132
More Online Learning Resources	132

Conclusion	133
References	134
Resources Appendix	137
Index.....	140