Ecology Education Network (EcoEdNet) and Teaching Issues and Experiments in Ecology (TIEE): Resources for Ecological Education

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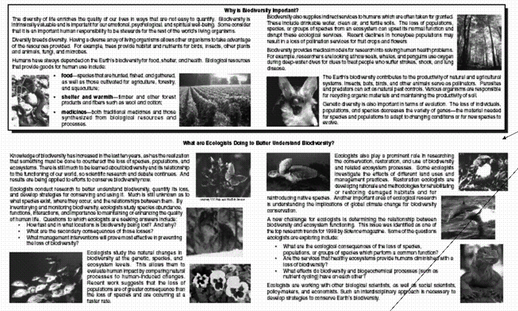
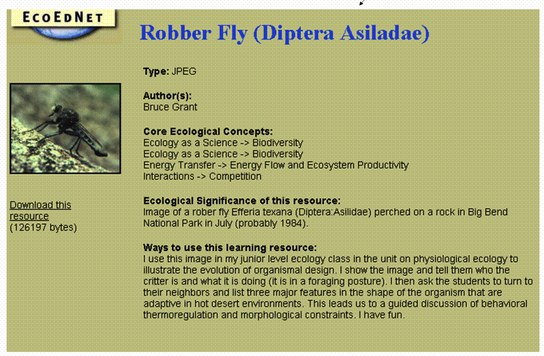
An example search of EcoEdNet for information on "biodiversity" yields a wide assortment of results including images, facts sheets, articles, reports, lab exercises, and other materials that may prove useful as teaching aids. Below are two examples of resources resulting from the search. Another useful resource is the TIEE website, which is integrated in the EcoEdNet database as well as being linked from the EcoEdNet main page. Examples of collections available from TIEE are pictured to the right.

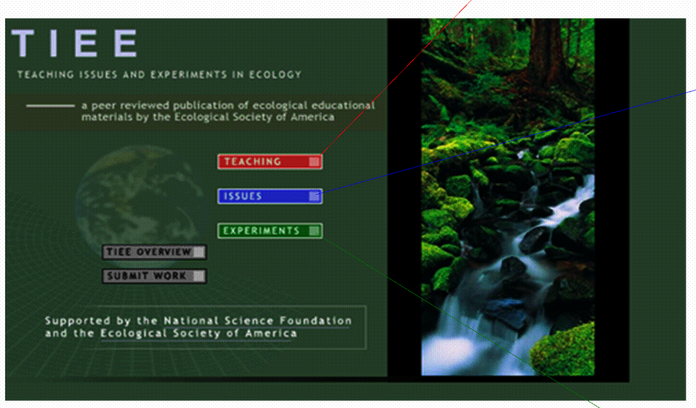


An example of a fact sheet available on EcoEdNet



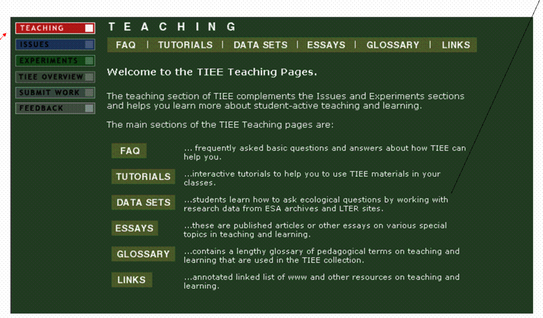
An example of an image with suggestions for its use as a teaching tool available on EcoEdNet

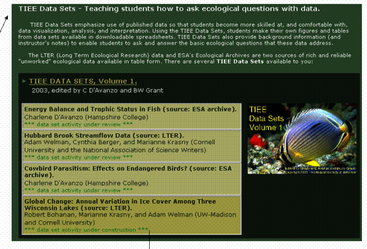
www.ecoed.net

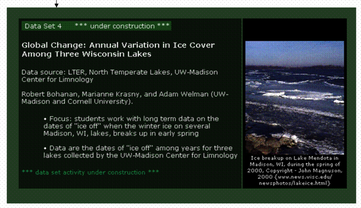


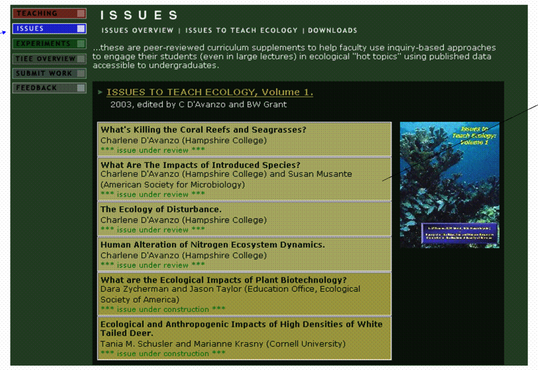
www.ecoed.net/tiee

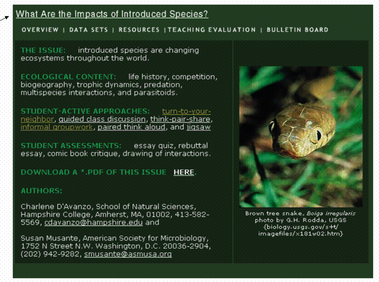
The overall purpose of TIEE is to help ecology faculty improve their teaching. The site includes a broad range of ways to teach - such as different types of cooperative groupwork, working with published and unpublished data sets, interpreting tables and figures, designing open-ended labs, and methods for evaluating the effectiveness of one's teaching. TIEE is designed to help faculty regardless of their previous experience with student-active teaching and regardless of the sizes of classes they teach - from small colleges to large universities.











Abstract

The goal of the Ecological Society of America's Ecology Education Network (EcoEdNet) is to provide educators a forum to contribute and locate peer reviewed, scientifically and pedagogically sound ecology education content. As part of the BEN collaborative, EcoEdNet strives to foster a community of ecology education users and contributors. A primary source of content for EcoEdNet is Teaching Issues and Experiments in Ecology (TIEE), an NSF-funded, ESA-sponsored, peer-reviewed, and classroom/field tested collection of teaching materials that strives (1) to facilitate inquiry-based Experiments to Teach Ecology in laboratory courses, and (2) to use active-learning methods and current controversial Issues to Teach Ecology for lecture classes. TIEE is divided into 3 sections: Issues, Experiments, and Teaching. Issues are engaging topics that involve students in interpretation and discussion of published figures and tables, even in large classes. In the inquiry-based lab Experiments, students engage in the process of science. The Teaching section links to Issues and Experiments and helps faculty easily learn about many aspects of pedagogy. It also includes other sections such as Data Sets in which students work with data in spreadsheets.

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