Environmental Literacy
Creating a Sustainable World

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Where Our Future Begins
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.
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Investigative Issue</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PreK</td>
<td>Development in Progress</td>
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</table>
| 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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Investigative Issue</th>
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| **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                                                              |
Acknowledgements

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Additionally, we would like to express our appreciation to the following groups for their support of Environmental Literacy in preparing students with the knowledge, skills, and motivation to make and act upon responsible environmental decisions as 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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