

Additional Resources & Extensions

Kansas Prairies

Overview

After studying the prairie biome, the lesson in environmental education is necessary to show students the interdependence of animal life with their environment. With our planet in the serious condition that exists today, students need to see the plan of nature so that they can understand the need to preserve and protect our resources. The prairie ecosystem provides a model for how to preserve and protect our resources.

Resources

Exploring Kansas Natural Resources Educator's Guide. Unit 2 – Prairies (13-32). Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. To order, visit www.ksagclassroom.org.

Kansas Flint Hills. Konza Prairie. http://kansasflinthills.travel/sites/konza_prairie

National Wildlife Federation. Restoring the prairie – mending the sacred hoop. <http://www.nwf.org/wildlife/pdfs/RestoringPrairie.pdf>

Natural Kansas. Konza Prairie. <http://www.naturalkansas.org/konza.htm>

Want More? Extensions

Have students write journal entries about what it would have been like to live on the prairie in the 1800s. This activity can be coordinated with the book *Sarah, Plain and Tall*. For more information, visit <http://www.conewago.k12.pa.us/~topperm/grad%20classes/webquest.htm>

The Smallville Prairie Development Project is an interactive Internet and hands-on project that focuses on a highly engaging problem regarding potential development of a prairie site. The problem is open-ended and lends itself to a variety of investigatory directions. Students solve a problem similar to a wide variety of real-life problems in many communities. Visit <http://ed.fnal.gov/help/prairie/4prairie/> for more information!

The tallgrass prairie is a powerful tool to study language arts, math, science, social studies, and the arts, and the Power of the Prairie provides five hands-on lesson ideas to get excited about the prairie. Visit <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/GrowingintheGarden/lessons.html> to learn more.