



Project Based Learning: Boreal Toad Course Information

Course Description

Solve a real-world problem with Denver Zoo in this toadally awesome workshop. You'll dive into project-based learning—and hop away with resources, materials, and techniques for exploring authentic conservation problems in your classroom. Our boreal toad conservation project will be a jumping-off point to design your own teaching units.

Course Objectives

1. Teachers will understand the benefits of project-based learning (PBL) as a teaching method and active engagement learning approach.
2. Teachers will participate in a project-based learning unit through the lens of Denver Zoo's Boreal Toad Project to deepen their understanding of the PBL approach.
3. Teachers will begin to plan their own project-based learning unit, in collaboration with fellow teachers; Educator guide with resources and materials provided to support creation of Boreal Toad PBL.

Course Outline

	Day One	Day Two
8:30 – 10:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Arrival, breakfast provided.– Introduction to the Course and Course Resources– Breaking Barriers Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Arrival, breakfast provided.– Identifying problems– Lesson Planning Tool
10:00 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Introduction to Boreal Toad project and problem statement– Begin project research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Zoo Exploration: Project Inspiration
12:00 – 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Lunch – Zoo Provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Lunch – Zoo Provided
12:30 – 1:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Behind the Scenes Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Student Panel Discussion
1:30 – 3:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Expert Panel– Project Research– Begin project presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Animal Experience– Framing Conservation Conversations with Students– PBL Unit Planning
3:00 – 4:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Project Presentation Panel– Collaborative Feedback and Brainstorming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Resource Sharing– Collaboration and Feedback
4:15 – 4:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Wrap up and debrief	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Wrap Up and debrief, survey

Course Logistics

Location and Navigation: This workshop will take place on the Denver Zoo campus. You may park in any of the parking lots adjacent to the Zoo or in the Zoo's four-level parking garage. All the parking is free. Denver Zoo encourages carpooling, using public transportation, bike riding and walking.



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Consideration for Included Activities: In order to safely participate in the day's agenda, please consider your ability and willingness to

- Walk short and medium distances (could be up to 2 miles cumulatively over the course of the day).
- Spend time in the heat and sun, or potentially adverse weather conditions.
- **Should you require accommodation to participate in any of the listed activities, please contact us at dzeducation@denverzoo.org or 720-337-1670 to discuss.**

Dress for Success: The Zoo's beauty is best appreciated outdoors, so please prepare for the day's predicted weather conditions. Please consider wearing/bringing:

- Sturdy close-toed shoes
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- A water bottle (refill stations available)
- Hat
- Small backpack

Lunch Break: We will provide breakfast and lunch; however, it is always a good idea to bring along extra snacks to fuel yourself for hot days!

Classroom Connections: We will spend time throughout each day researching and planning units while we explore the pedagogy of project-based learning. It would be helpful to come prepared with district/school specific knowledge of your content and standards to refer to if needed. Please bring a device to work on and something to write with!