Fresh Water Ecosystems Lesson Plan

Objectives: By the end of this lesson the students will be able to write down the amount of fresh water that is found on the planet as a percentage. The students will be able describe the major types of fresh water ecosystems that exist on our planet, including lakes, rivers, marshes and wet land, and ground water. Students will be able to write down the impacts that fresh water ecosystems have on the entire planet

Grades: K-8 (With Adaptions for High School Students)

Materials:

1. A bottle of Water
2. Fresh Water Word Search
3. Straws and pie pans
4. Animals from the Fresh Water Unit list.

Introduction:

 The educator will ask the students to think about the last time that they had a drink of water that day. Then the educator will talk about why we need to drink so much water each day. After that the educator will the take the bottle of water and straw and demonstrate how fresh water moves form on part of its environment to the next. After this is done the educator will then start the main lesson.

Lesson:

 Now the educator will ask the students to describe different types of fresh water ecosystems that exist today. Focusing mainly on rivers and streams, lakes, marshes and wetlands, and ground water storage. After this the educator will ask the students to tell them the difference between each system they have just discussed. Then the educator will talk about the impact that fresh water ecosystems have on every organism found on the planet. After this discussion the educator will then bring out the animals for this unit they will talk about the types of fresh water ecosystems they are found in and the role they play in that ecosystem as well.

Wrap Up:

The educator will leave about ten minutes at the end of the lesson for the students to work on the fresh Water Ecosystems word search and collect them at the end of the lesson. .