

How Healthy Is Your Lake? Lesson Plan

Students practice for the FCAT while learning about water quality indicators in different lakes.

Water Atlas Curriculum Lesson 11 – FCAT Supplement

Topic: Scientists measure the level of plant nutrients in lake water as one way to determine lake health. The score for the level of nutrients is the lake's Trophic State Index, or TSI. The different trophic states are Oligotrophic, lacking nutrients, Mesotrophic, medium amount of nutrients, Eutrophic, rich in nutrients, and Hypereutrophic, or extremely rich in nutrients. Many factors are important to the status of the lake including dissolved oxygen (DO) and biological factors, such as plants and animals found in the test sites.

Students will read a selection adapted from the Pinellas Watershed Atlas, written in FCAT practice format. Students will respond to FCAT-type questions or prompts in Reading, Writing, and Math.

Grade Level: 5-6

Performance Objectives

References are to the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

Language Arts

- LA.5.2.2.1 The student will locate, explain, and use information from text features (e.g., table of contents, glossary, index, transition words/phrases, headings, subheadings, charts, graphs, illustrations).
- LA.6.1.7.3 The student will determine the main idea or essential message in grade-level text through inferring, paraphrasing, summarizing.
- LA.5.2.2.2 The student will use information from the text to answer questions related to explicitly stated main ideas or relevant details.

Math Big Ideas

Develop quick recall of addition facts and related subtraction facts and fluency with multi-digit addition and subtraction.

Develop quick recall of multiplication facts and related division facts and fluency with whole number multiplication.

Develop an understanding of and fluency with addition and subtraction of fractions and decimals.

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