

Dear Santa Clara County Educator,

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) has a current initiative to support Environmental Literacy. SCCOE has a goal to support and strengthen your district's efforts to integrate environmental literacy into classroom instruction. The purpose of this survey is to allow us to learn if and how we can better assist you in implementing the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in the context of environmental literacy.

We are asking that certificated teachers within Santa Clara County fill out this form so we can determine what is needed for Environmental Literacy support within our county. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SCEnviroLit>. For this survey, please think of instruction based on California's State Board of Education adopted **Environmental Principles and Concepts (EP&Cs)** as California's official definition of Environmental Literacy.

Why Environmental Literacy?

Environmental Literacy Defined:

"An environmentally literate person has the capacity to act individually and with others to support ecologically sound, economically prosperous, and equitable communities for present and future generations. Through lived experiences and education programs that include classroom-based lessons, experiential education, and outdoor learning, students will become environmentally literate, developing the knowledge, skills, and understanding of environmental principles to analyze environmental issues and make informed decisions."

From "A Blueprint for Environmental Literacy-Educating Every Student In, About, and for the Environment."

Thank you in advance for sharing your valuable perspective with us. The Walden West Outdoor School Foundation is offering to the first 25 schools that respond, a \$1,000 scholarship for students to attend during their schools' scheduled Walden West Outdoor School experience.

California's Environmental Principles and Concepts:



Principle I:
People depend on natural systems



Principle II: People influence natural systems



Principle III:
Natural systems change in ways that people benefit from and can influence



Principle V:
Decisions affecting resources and natural systems are complex and involve many factors



Principle IV:
The exchange of matter between natural systems and human societies affects the long-term functions of both.