

Please join us for a one-day workshop for middle and high school teachers

Field investigations and international data sharing

February 26, 2013

Oregon State University in Corvallis



LTER-EDU is an educational project that offers school students a chance to be partners in the Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) global monitoring effort. The students collect meteorological data and monitor vegetation, arthropods, butterflies, birds and other data. The monitoring takes place in 35 schools in Israel and now includes educators and their classes from Bulgaria, Greece and Portugal and one class in Portland, OR.

Students collect and upload ecological data onto an educational website, enabling other students to participate in data analysis and to draw conclusions based on all the data gathered. Long-term climatic-ecological monitoring and cooperation with students who gather data and study their environment in different sites supports the development of environmentally-literate citizens.

The Oregon Natural Resources Education Program (ONREP) in partnership with the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest LTER site will lead a one-day workshop on February 26, 2013 for middle and high school teachers to learn about the LTER-EDU project, review litter decomposition protocols, practice activities that tie the project to state standards and benchmarks in math and science, and plan for incorporating the project into your curriculum. Substitute reimbursement as well as materials to conduct the decomposition study will be provided.

Dr. Saleit Ron (Head of Education at Ramat Hanadiv, Israel) will co-lead the workshop along with Portland Public High School teacher Jill Semlick and Dr. Kari O'Connell (ONREP).

For this workshop, we will focus on the litter decomposition parts of the project, which include checking the growth rate of trees and bushes; tracking the production (quantity and composition) of litter accumulated on the ground over the year; tracking the rate of litter decomposition; and examining the small arthropods that live in the litter layer and play an important role in its decomposition. Future opportunities include a workshop focusing on the arthropod part of the LTER-EDU project in the fall of 2013.

This is an international data-sharing effort. Teachers who agree to participate in this project will be asked to do the following.

- Participate for at least one year (and hopefully more!)
- Submit brief progress reports about their work related to this project
- Submit student data to the website in a timely manner.

