

Video Transcript for “MWEE Synthesis and Conclusions”

Posted by: Chesapeake Bay Program

Text: Synthesis & Conclusions: Students apply evidence from investigations to draw conclusions, make claims, and communicate results

Video images: Interview with Ms. Snavelly, text: Kerrie Snavelly, High School Biology, Conestoga Valley School District, PA

Narration: Anybody can collect data which always frustrated me with any kind of science project. You know, kids collect data, they collect data. What are they doing with the data? Even if they're analyzing the data, what are they doing next about the data?

Video images: Interview with Ms. Rouget, text: Wendy Rouget, 5th Grade, Prince George's Co. Public Schools, MD, scenes from of her students doing the MWEE in the classroom and at the local stream

Narration: In terms of the synthesis and conclusion, I try to make it as broad as possible. The big one as a teacher is out of all the sciences we've learned, how can you apply it to what you're doing now? So there's some students who are more interested in, let's say, life science. Some are more interested in earth science. How can we bridge all of those sciences and even the little bit of chemistry to be learned, how can we pull it all together? And if I am a math person or a reading person, how can I use my skills to help me pull what I've learned through this MWEE together?

Video images: Interview with Ms. Reilly, text: Megan Reilly, 6th Grade, Frederick County Public Schools, VA

Narration: To utilize their math skills, we actually created a pie chart that demonstrated the presence of macroinvertebrates and the kids actually had to analyze what macroinvertebrates demonstrated a positive or healthy ecosystem in a watershed.

Video images: Ms. Rouget's classroom and interview with Ms. Rouget

Narration: We were sitting down on a rock sketching. We like how it felt...it was like peaceful. [student sharing in class] First, one of the things I like to do is get an idea of how did the experience go for you, not so much the academic part. Did you like being outdoors? How did it make you feel? Did you learn things that you didn't expect to learn about yourself and also about the environment? I like to ask them questions like that and then we move into the academic part. What was our purpose? Did we achieve it? What did you learn from it academically?

Video images: Interview with Ms. Snavelly

Narration: We have parents nights and parents will tell me, yeah now we only recycle ones and twos. That's what we learned in Ms. Snavelly's class. Or, now we separate things. Or, now we have to turn off the water. Or, turn out the lights. And you know, are we mowing the lawn too low? And you know, we need a rain barrel. And so parents will say to me they're learning, and they especially like the part where they're learning that they're gonna pay the bill soon.