Global Sustainability and Earth Literacy (GSELS) Learning Activity

The purpose of this activity is to enhance student awareness of environmental issues that impact both individual health and the health of communities.

The lesson addresses Miami Dade College Learning Outcomes:
- #3 - Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- #4 - Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate and apply information
- #6 - Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic and social responsibilities
- #7 - Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society
- #10 - Describe how natural systems function and recognize the impact of humans on the environment.

In addition, the lesson will address the following GSELS objectives:
- #11 - Illustrate how uncontaminated air, water, and soil are fundamental to healthy living systems
- #12 - Analyze the interdependence of society, economics, and nature at local, regional and global levels
- #13 - Discuss the relationship between poverty, ethics, health, society and the environment
- #15 - Evaluate economic activity and institutions by their contribution to society in the larger ecological context

Learning Activity Objectives:
Upon completion of this activity, the student will:

1. Focus a group panel discussion relating to the assigned environmental concern
2. Design a community intervention project

Guidelines
1. You are the community health nurse called into a community forum to present information regarding a major environmental issue. You are asked to assist the community in planning for the future to avoid consequences of this health concern.
2. Provide a brief introduction identifying your community and the environmental health risk. Students will work in groups and will be assigned an environmental issue to research.
3. Summarize your findings after conducting your research. Is the environmental concern currently being addressed? By whom or by what agency or group? Identify areas of need. What did your community assessment reveal? For example, what do the citizens of your community have in common or what are the major areas of difference?
4. Identify and develop a plan that addresses strategies for assisting the community in moving forward.
5. How will you evaluate the outcome of your plan?
6. Present your plan to the class in a panel format.

Evaluation Criteria

1. Significance of this environmental concern on the health of the community. 20%
2. What are the demographics of the community/communities that are being impacted? 10%
3. Assessment of health education needs of the community. 10%
4. Description of strategies for community to address this concern and rationale for the strategy. 20%
5. Plan for outcome evaluation 10%
6. Presentation of your findings in a group panel discussion 25%
7. Group Member Evaluation 5%

Total 100%