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Free Teaching Material

the way, for purchase of groceries and supplies, and to transmit the daily five-minute radio show the project prepared for the broadcast over the local Maquoketa station, KMAQ. The runabout met the flatilla at each beaching point and brought supplies and communications from nearby towns or marinas. It also served as a courier boat for any emergency.

Social studies students surveyed how changes in the Mississippi were affecting the lives of people living along the river. A series of interviews with industries, and Army Corps of Engineers, and "old timers" along the river, were included in this area. Science students made chemical analysis of the water, made a representative collection of river plants and bird life, studied siltation levels, and made bacteria studies and counts. The literature/communication students studied Mark Twain's Life on the Mississippi and wrote their own updated revision of the classic. They also developed a poster series concerning the ecology of the river. Also, among their tasks was responsibility for the daily radio show.

The findings of the month-long study will be collected and collated in the near future so that a cohesive document will ensue. It is hoped that this rather voluminous study will provide interest and motivation so that other secondary institutions might consider similar projects leading to an increase in student awareness of local cultures and ecological problems.

FREE TEACHING MATERIALS

Single copies of the following publications will be sent free to teachers upon request for a specific title.

1. The Forest. Part 1: Introduction and Part 2: A Life Partnership by Elfriede Nemetz Johnson.
2. The Forest. Part 3: Year-round Observations by Elfriede Nemetz Johnson.
3. Insects. Part 1 by Paul Dow Dawson.
4. Insects. Part 2 by Paul Dow Dawson.
5. Soil for Survival. Part 1: Physical Factors by James E. Murphy.
6. Soil for Survival: Part 2: Life Down Under by James E. Murphy.
7. Investigating Insecticides by James E. Murphy.
8. Water Pollution. Part 1: Background by James E. Murphy.
9. Water Pollution. Part 2: Field Work by James E. Murphy.
10. Water Pollution. Part 3: Physical Aspects by James E. Murphy.
11. Investigating Particulate Air Pollution by James E. Murphy.
12. A Key to the Identification of Air Pollution Particles by James E. Murphy.
13. The Investigation of Gaseous Air Pollution by James E. Murphy.
14. Exploring Old Cemeteries by Thomas J. Rillo-new title.
15. Exploring a Deserted Farm by Thomas J. Rillo-new title.
16. NOISE: Our "Quiet" Pollution by Theodore Berland-new title.
17. U.S. Geological Sales Publications that are Especially Useful to Teachers.

Submit request to: James Murphy, Science Education Center, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242.

INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTION? I TRIED IT AND IT WORKED!

Michael Gross
Science Consultant Intern
Joint County School System
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

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"Individualized instruction?--I tried it and it didn't work!" This is the statement that is frequently heard at professional meetings and in visiting with teachers. Upon further examination, it is usually found that the individuals making the statement only tried an individualized approach for a very short period of time. The frustrations they had experienced were usually that 1) most kids sat around doing nothing, 2) it was impossible to manage the paperwork in keeping track of where each student was, and 3) the time required to develop individualized units and materials just wasn't worth the reward in terms of better pupil achievement. With my sophomore biology class, I too had a taste of these frustrations. However, instead of scrapping the program and labeling it a failure I looked for ways that these frustrations could be aleviated.

Probably the most important lesson gained from my experience was "go slowly." Students who for years have been accustomed to having the