CONTEXT & BACKGROUND

- As environmental issues increase, it's important to implement Environmental Education (EE) at a young age.
- Finding the best ways to assess children can be difficult.
- Consider alternative teaching/assessment methods.

RESEARCH QUESTION

How well do drawings reflect a student’s understanding of an environment?

METHODS

- Students were asked to draw what an ideal amphibian habitat looks like pre and post lesson.
- 10 minute sessions.
- Measure number of factors included in drawing (ex: water, frog, grass).
- Measure amount of change pre/post lesson.

RESULTS

- Fig. 4 shows basic habitat.
- Fig. 5 includes ideas taught during lesson.
- Critical thinking.
- Humans cause habitat destruction.

RESULTS CONTINUED

- Drawings can be an effective assessment tool.
- From 11 students, 91% of their drawings showed moderate to visible changes in their post-lesson drawings.
- Number of factors did not always correlate with understanding of a habitat.

INTERNERSHIP

- Oxbow Farm & Conservation Center.
- Develop/pilot 2 in-class lessons.
- Research from lesson about native amphibian species.
- Lesson focused on interactive game that embodied an amphibian life-cycle.

IMPLICATIONS

- Alternative teaching/assessment methods can help further environmental literacy.
- EE preparations for teachers need to be more accessible.
- Credited institutions should create solid EE guidelines to help teachers.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Hallie and the whole Oxbow team.
- My faculty advisor, Jessica.
- Emily Minkus for being the best partner!
- My friends and family.

CONCLUSION

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- From 11 students, 91% of their drawings showed moderate to visible changes in their post-lesson drawings.
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