

Place-based Ecology Education Resources for 3-5

[Science Symposium](#)

Through guided, collaborative teaching, the Science Symposium gets students engaged in authentic, real-world science projects. VINS Educators work with each class to identify a problem in their community, facilitate scientific research and data collection, provide guidance on developing solutions, and prepares them for presenting their findings at the Science Symposium event.

[Farm to Table](#)

Students explore the global food system by investigating the cycle of matter, learning the human impact on this cycle, and analyzing their own food choices through scientific reasoning, discussion, and debate. Includes a matrix of National Science Education Standards. Part 3 of the Linking Food and the Environment (LiFE) Curriculum Series.

[Books in Bloom](#), by Valerie Bang-Jensen & Mark Lubkowitz, invites children to learn about science while experiencing a great story. Each chapter features a popular children's book that's perfect for families, classrooms, after-school programs, anyone who gardens with children.

The [ELF \(Environmental Learning for the Future\) Science Program](#) focuses on providing teachers with resources and the support needed to implement engaging, hands-on science and place-based lessons aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards. ELF Science partners with teachers, cultivates scientific literacy, and excites students to engage with the world as scientists and engineers.

[Math in the Garden](#)

This engaging curriculum uses a mathematical lens to take children on an education-filled journey in the garden. Dozens of trial-tested, standards-based activities hone math skills while promoting inquiry, language arts and nutrition.

[The Growing Classroom](#)

Developed by the Life Lab Science Program and revised to meet current science standards, this teacher's manual features a year-round garden-based science curriculum — including garden laboratory planning, investigative lessons on ecology, nutrition, and much more.

[Nearby Nature](#) is a collection of natural science lessons and explorations designed to get children and adults outside learning together in every season.

[Growing Food](#)

In this inquiry-based curriculum, students learn science by studying our food production system. Hands-on activities focus on cycles of nature. Includes a matrix of National Science Education Standards and Benchmarks for Science Literacy. Part 1 of the Linking Food and the Environment (LiFE) Curriculum Series.