

NATURE'S RECORD

AT BLUE HILL OBSERVATORY



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

A climate curriculum that cultivates environmental awareness through analysis of a local Picture Post collection. Formerly Picture Post for Environmental Conservation

In this set of lessons and experiences, students observe seasonal data collected at the Observatory on Picture Posts¹ alongside long term climate data in the form of one of seven NGSS-aligned lessons. Lesson(s) are often followed by a related field experience at Blue Hill Observatory so that students see where and how scientists collect that data. Field experiences paired with this curriculum are the Picture Post Guided Hike and the Picture Post Observe and Learn. The seven lessons topics are: Drought, Flora, Freeze/Thaw Cycles, Precipitation, Sunshine Duration, and Temperature Trends.

STANDARDS COVERED

- *Elementary School: 1.ESS1-2, 2.LS2-3, 3.ESS2-1, 3.LS4-4, 5.ESS2-1*
- *Middle School: 7.MS-LS2-1, 7.MS-ESS2-2, 7.MS-ESS2-4, 8.MS-LS1-5, 8.MS-ESS2-5*
- *High School: still in design phase*

OBJECTIVES

- Ask questions using weather, climate and phenological data to predict patterns in local weather.
- Explain the importance of analyzing weather, climate and phenological data.
- Each module has a targeted standard and specific objectives related to drought, flora, freeze/thaw cycles, haze, precipitation, sunshine duration and temperature trends.

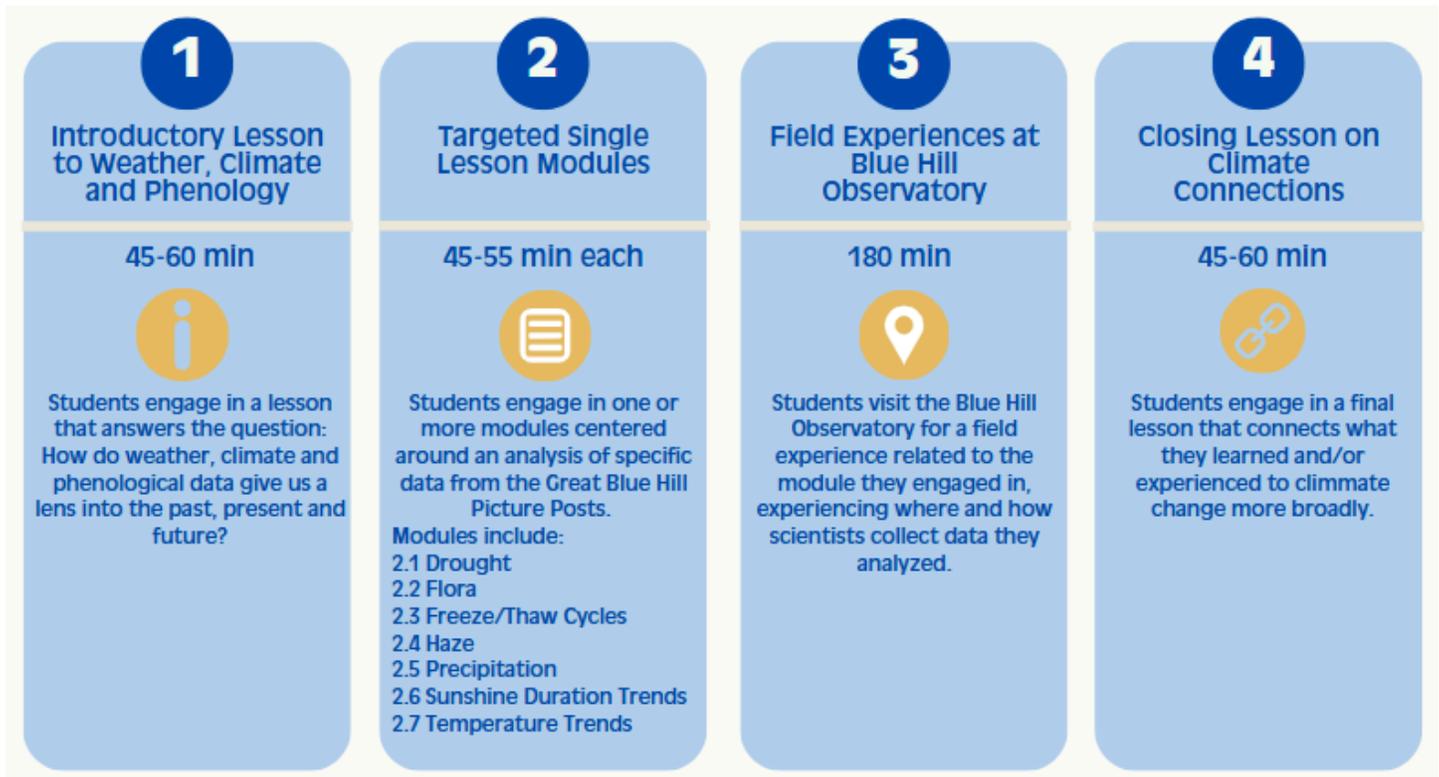
WHO IS THIS FOR?

Kindergarten - 8th grade teachers, educators, community members seeking a locally relevant climate curriculum or parts of a curriculum to match with lessons or units they already teach. Anyone looking to incorporate more authentic data literacy and analysis into their classrooms or focus on specific Science & Engineering Practices.

¹ A citizen science project still managed at Blue Hill Observatory: find more information about the Picture Post project here <https://naturegroupie.org/story/what-happened-picture-post>

SUGGESTED SEQUENCE

While this is the suggested sequence, with each piece building on the next, these can each be done as standalone lessons or experiences. Any educator can execute one or more parts on their own or seek guidance and support from educators at the Blue Hill Observatory.



HOW CAN I INCORPORATE THIS CURRICULUM?

This curriculum is available upon request to any educator and can be adopted and integrated into their current curriculum on their own. Options to support with integration are available through the Blue Hill Observatory, such as:

- One-on-one coaching for alignment and integration support
- Classroom presentations at your school by Blue Hill Observatory educators
- Presentations of one or more modules for small groups at the Observatory

To learn more about options and pricing, go to bluehill.org or set up a time to connect with the Director of STEM Education, Krista Fincke at kfincke@bluehill.org

