

Woodstock Union High School & Green Mountain Club Collaboration

Interpretive Volunteer Materials: Project Design and Implementation

Introduction:

Woodstock Union High School's Structured Literacy class, at the request of the Green Mountain Club, will develop introductory guides to the trail maintenance tasks of blazing, trail brushing and drain clearing. First and foremost, the procedural development and deliverance of these guides will have relevance to the literacy skills including but not limited to phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

In order to achieve literacy goals and appeal to the widest audience of volunteers, these introductory trail guides will utilize multiple methods of communication. These may include text, audio, images, animations, video and interactive content. These products will be called the deliverable(s), and the specific array of deliverables will be determined by cooperative and decisive ideation between WHS and GMC.

Finally, these introductory trail guides will be delivered to GMC volunteer trail and shelter adopters and to GMC's Volunteer Long Trail Patrol. Trail guides will enhance GMC's ability to educate our volunteers and to quantify the amount of knowledge immediately transferred to our volunteer corps. This shall serve as the knowledge base for improvement of the GMC's educational engagement programs with our corps of volunteers.

Design Principles:

- 1) GMC volunteer trail and shelter adopters do not receive consistent training or possess a baseline of knowledge regarding trail techniques and maintenance.
 - This lack of learning opportunities prohibits new volunteers from joining the system.
 - Volunteers may not have the training to complete a task to the Maintenance Standards of the Long Trail System.
 - GMC has few training, skill development or group learning opportunities with which to entice new volunteers
- 2) GMC volunteers are busy and are volunteering their time on the trails. While we highly encourage it, GMC volunteers may not have the capability to attend trail trainings or participate in section work days where they can learn skills.
 - GMC must deliver to volunteers concise, detailed and pertinent information to ensure all volunteers are competent in the required content.
 - Preparing VLTP volunteers with new, engaging content will prompt them for their week of volunteering.
 - GMC Seasonal staff may not have a background in trail maintenance and providing new seasonal staff with learning materials prior to the season will benefit their learning and work preparedness.
- 3) GMC does not have replicable programs engaging youth with the techniques and skills required in trail building and trail maintenance.
 - This project by WUHS will be pertinent and valuable to both the GMC and WUHS.

- This project will be replicable amongst other GMC partners and hold future potential for learning about other history, construction and maintenance standards on the Long Trail System.

GMC Goals:

- Deliverables to volunteers/staff regarding trail techniques
- Begin partnership with a school
- Move through a Project Design Protocol with Students
- Evaluation, critique and feedback process to guide the work
- Test potential for equivalent products with other school partners

WUHS Goals

- Goals and learning objectives
- Colleague collaboration to tune the project
- Way to collaborate with the GMC and produce an awesome project

Deliverable shall be:

- 1) Replicable procedure and buildable foundation for continued editing and contribution by schools or other programs the GMC may work with.
- 2) Incorporate multiple methods for transmitting the information
- 3) Available through digital means with opportunity for hands-on and instructive learning
- 4) Cooperatively produced through classroom work and field participation and design
- 5) Relevant and connected to school/programs current curriculum