

Gonzales Ranch Restoration Day

Engage:

- When students first arrive, make toe-to-toe circle
 - Ask how well we made our circle and say we will have a chance to do it even faster and quieter when we get to the site!
 - Describe plan: walk up to site, drop bag along way on tarp, make toe-to-toe circle
 - While you are walking, look for things that remind you of something we talked about during the pre-restoration lesson at school
- What do you see here that reminds you of the lesson you had at school?
 - Think-pair-share

Explore:

- Who are we? Staff, partner, teacher, parents:
 - 1. Raise hands, 2. Describe role, 3. Thanks for being here
- What are we doing today? (Mind Map)
 - We will eat lunch when you hear a coyote call, join in on the call, have lunch!
 - Bathrooms are where?
 - At your school, we made pretend healthy riparian/ wetland area. Today, we get to make a real one.
- Where are we? Site history told in a story.
 - Anything students can look for or touch to connect to story, anything that connects to what they have been studying (Native people, California history, etc)

Explain:

- Break into small groups of 10-12 students (optional)

- How to plant a plant with safety intertwined
 - Write steps on white board, drawing attention to board (each step is one/two words)

Elaborate:

- Plant plants
- Plant Inspections (spark enthusiasm and reflection): - Be sure all students are gathered, ready for the plant inspection. –Any other ways of having students announce plant inspection? Ways to shift focus of plant inspection?
 - How is planting going for you and your team?
 - How does this plant make the riparian area healthier? Why is this plant important?
 - How does this plant help animals? The water? People?
 - When the climate changes, how will this plant survive? How will it protect animals and people?
 - What do you know about the plant? (Share fun facts, too!)
 - Anything you want to do even better on your next plant?

Evaluate:

- Closing Circle:
 - What was one thing you learned today? One thing you enjoyed today?
 - What do you hope your restoration will look like in 20 years?
 - Silent minute
 - Pair share
 - Share with larger group
 - Teacher reflections: How does STRAW connect to your classroom? Why is STRAW important to you?
 - Thank you's!

Other suggestions/tips:

- Break opening circle up with some sort of movement when students get antsy (watershed dance, "Habitat, protection, food", mingle and then toe to toe circle, ask yes or no question- yes is touch the ground, no is on tip toes, etc)
- When you need students to refocus, have them make a new toe-to-toe circle (either where they are standing, or in a new spot in the circle)- "mingle, mingle, mingle," then call toe-to-toe and count down from 10
- To have all groups finish planting demos and safety intro at same time, have students raise a quiet hand or sit in the circle when your group wraps up so other groups see you are ready and can wrap up quickly.