

# Upper Valley Linkages for Environmental Literacy 2019-20

## Teacher-Directed, Place-Based Science Professional Development

**The goal of this project is to form a sustainable collaborative professional learning community in the Upper Valley focused on improving place-based science instruction, leveraging local resources, and increasing student and teacher environmental literacy.**

Teachers will receive an \$800 stipend plus \$250 for project-related materials and expenses.

Participants also will tap up to 24 hours of content specialist support to develop and implement their unit. **Application/Proposals are due by May 15, 2019.**

By applying, you are agreeing to:

- **Connect over the summer with the UVLEL project manager** to clarify project goals and identify content specialist(s) and other resource needs.
- **Attend a three-hour summer workshop** to meet other project members and share proposed unit ideas with the group. (*June 24, 2019*)
- **Develop and submit a draft unit implementation timeline** by September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- **Participate in a 3-hour Fall workshop on science inquiry and place-based education practices.** (*Sept 28, 2019*)
- **July-December 2019: work with content specialists** to develop one new or revised inquiry-based environmental/science unit to be presented in classrooms by June 2020; **draft unit outline due December 11, 2019.**
- **Attend a Winter writing workshop/ meeting.** (*date tbd*)
- **Complete brief project check-ins** in a timely manner in September, November and March.
- **Actively access support from content specialists** totaling up to 24 hours throughout school year. Content specialist support may include brainstorming instructional goals and activities, reviewing unit plans, planning unit-related field trips, coordinating guest presenters, assisting with field excursions, connecting with community resources, etc.
- **Present results of the new unit** (including examples of student work) at a whole group **symposium** in April/May 2020, provide input for colleagues on their units, and complete a final project check-in by June 15, 2020.
- **Submit final unit roadmap by June 15, 2020** to be posted and shared online.

### TO APPLY:

Teacher name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

School address \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Email \_\_\_\_\_ Summer email \_\_\_\_\_

In a brief (1-page) signed and dated essay, please describe a place-based science unit idea you would like to develop and explain how you plan for this experience to impact environmental understanding and instruction in your classroom. Include some ideas for how you might include a community component in the unit. Also, consider what kind of professional development and content specialist support would be of assistance.

Also, please include a brief email of support from your building principal regarding your participation in this professional development program.

Because this is a limited grant, project managers will review proposal applications and make final decisions regarding participation. Eight teachers will be selected to participate in 2019-20.

**Submit proposal by May 15, 2019 to:**

**Lisa Purcell at email [lisa@fourwindsinstitute.org](mailto:lisa@fourwindsinstitute.org) or 4 Casey Road, Chittenden, VT 05737**

**For more information, call Lisa Purcell at 802-483-2917 or (cell) 802-353-9440**