

Civic Leadership through STEM Education

KIC-NET uses the Earth Force Process, a six-step instructional model that combines the best of action civics, service-learning, and STEM learning. KIC-NET connects classroom content to real-world practices via hands-on learning



Take STEM education to the next level with KIC-NET

A KIC-NET site is a place where a waterbody or waterway becomes an outdoor learning site for a nearby school.

By connecting to city and community partners, students become confident civic leaders and environmental stewards while mastering STEM practices. Through service-learning, they are prepared to take action on water quality issues they care about and to consider careers in STEM fields.

Why Keep It Clean- Neighborhood Environmental Trios?

KIC-NET is a place-based, integrated instructional sequence that covers several disciplinary core ideas and emphasizes student practices. We provide documentation connecting KIC-NET lessons to the following standards:

- Next Generation Science Standards Framework, plus Common Core State Standards
- Guidelines for Excellence in Environmental Education



KIC-NET students report:

82% feel their water quality project made a difference

73% better understand how their learning can be useful

KIC-NET in Action

Earth Force trained over 55 Denver educators from 2014-2016 using the Earth Force Process. More than 750 K-8 students have completed projects since, including:

- hosting a water festival for their neighborhood
- presenting concerns to elected officials
- showcasing an exhibition of field guides
- creating brochures about green infrastructure at a local lake and delivering them to neighbors

KIC-NET educators are supported in:

- teaching environmental content
- using hands-on activities to engage students in their learning
- facilitating inquiry-based projects
- connecting students to their community and potential careers through partners
- advancing their effectiveness through professional development

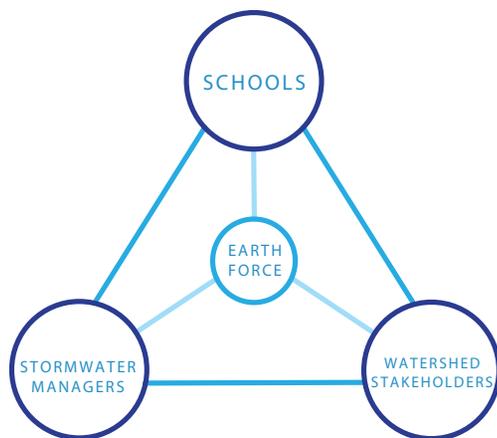
KIC-NET students practice:

- mastering STEM practices
- connecting history with current issues
- deep understanding of their environment
- problem solving and civic action skills
- applied authentic learning

KIC-NET Partnership Model

Our model benefits all partners because it:

- adheres to curriculum standards
- promotes watershed stewardship
- meets stormwater permit mandates



"[KIC-NET] will really engage students. There is a heavy emphasis on systems science, community-based research, student action/empowerment, and even more emphasis...on inquiry and problem-solving skills."

*- Eric Carpenter,
Education Designer,
CU-Boulder Science Learning Lab*

Learn more

Earth Force offers a trial version of the KIC-NET activity guide to those interested free-of-cost.

In order to have a high quality experience with KIC-NET, we suggest educators devote at least six weeks and ideally several months to guiding their students to complete civic projects.

For more information, contact Donny Roush at droush@earthforce.org



Earth Force engages young people as active citizens who improve the environment and their communities now and in the future.

www.earthforce.org



Keep It Clean - Neighborhood Environmental Trios

An innovative, hyperlocal urban
stormwater education program



Toyota
TogetherGreen FOUNDATION
by Audubon

CH2MHILL
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