Using Mobile Technologies and ArcGIS Online in Preservice Science Teacher Education

Rita Hagevik, Graduate Director, Science Education, rita.hagevik@uncp.edu

Improving Understanding of Visual Data Using ArcGIS Online on Your Smartphone or Tablet



Collector ArcGIS Online Snap2Map Apps





Beach Profile Group Activity by Student





ArcGIS Online and Org Accounts



Fig. 1 Ossabaw Island in ArcGIS Online Org Account



Fig. 2 Story Map by student using ArcGIS Online Org Account



Fig. 3 Story Map in ArcGIS Online Org Account

Nature Journals with GPS Coordinates



Science in the Natural Environment Course Using ArcGIS Online

Goals: The focus of the course is to understand science and inquiry-based instruction in the natural environment through experience. A focus is on performances of authentic science practice in both instruction and assessment. Participants develop inquiry-based units and lessons that focus on the use of the natural environment and wetlands to be used immediately in their classrooms. Participants use technology tools as a part of inquiry-based instruction.

General Concepts: history of science, inquiry, mapping, data collection and analysis, argumentation, nature journaling, classification

Specific Concepts: global positioning systems, geospatial technologies, birding, astronomy, geology, maritime forests, wetland plants and animals – vertebrate and invertebrate, coastal ecology.

Materials: camping equipment, Last Child in the Woods by Richard Louv, Nature Journaling by Claire Leslie Walker, various field guides.

Assessments: nature autobiography and photovoice, Last Child in the Woods book summary and small group discussion, nature journal, species meditation/GPS and podcast, collection, group experiment, nature teaching improvement plan. Participants present the results of their experiments and write a written report, teach a portion of the nature teaching improvement plan to the class, and submit the nature journal, unit and lesson plans and collection for assessment. Students learn how to setup and use ArcGIS online Org accounts in their schools.

Group Experiment #1

Drop Bucket Survey of Coastal Transition Zones of Ossabaw Island, Georgia

Conclusions and Insights

Lessons Learned: Participants in the course were overall pro-environmental before the course began as measured by an Environmental Attitudes Survey. Participants exhibited a slightly increased attitude toward behavior change regarding the environment after the course. Participants remarked that they were unaware of all the garbage generated in a day until handling and disposing of it themselves. Participants learned how to use geospatial technologies and maps in science instruction and were more comfortable "switching" between different technologies. Overwhelmingly the course participants favorite activity was nature journaling and secondly the mapping activities. Using geospatial technologies not only taught participants how to use them in instruction but assisted with data collection and analysis as well as navigation and measuring changes over time on the island.

Student Collections



- Effects of Fluctuating Tides on the Salinity and Biodiversity of Organisms in
- the Big Slough, Ossabaw Island, Georgia
 Qualitative Data-Observations with
- descriptions of organisms in scining net

 Example: Baby Fish 1: Tiny and slender, shiny on its side with three black dots on its head
- Quantitative Data-Weather Data (temperature, humidity, pressure, latitude and longitude), Seining Data (# of organisms and salinity)
- Example: Salinity was 18.4 ppt on the day of high tide on June 13, 2014 at 9:45am

Group Experiment #2







