



**SOL-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS**  
**FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**  
**PETER FRANCISCO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
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- **Intro to Natural Resources** (Science 4.8) Students will be introduced to SWAPA (Soil Water, Air, Plants and Animals) as well as renewable versus non-renewable resources and fossil fuels. Students will play a natural resource game where they start off as a natural resource and end up as a product.
- **Leaf Identification** (Science 4.2)  
Students will learn leaf terms and use a leaf key to identify 13 different leaves. If leaves are available can do leaf printing, silhouettes, imprinting or rubbing, or sorting using characteristics. If leaves are not available, the District has plastic leaf rubbing plates.
- **Gyotaku – The Japanese Art of Fish Painting** (Science 4.1, English 4.5)  
Gyotaku was developed more than a century ago as a Japanese fisherman’s method of recording the size and species of his catch. Students will learn its history as they observe the differences in fish and make their own fish prints listening to Traditional Japanese music. The Haiku art form will be introduced.
- **Pollinators – Our Local Heroes** (Science 4.2, 4.3) – A 4-minute Ted Talk video entitled, “The Beauty of Pollination” will be shown. Students will learn the basic parts of a plant and the role that bees, bats, beetles, butterflies, and hummingbirds play in plant reproduction as they participate in several hands-on activities. Students will make their own cootie catcher.
- **Rocks and Minerals – Rock Cycle** (Science 4.8)  
Fascinating facts about rocks and minerals are discussed. Students will divide into groups and be given a mineral to identify using several tests. Then students will play a rock cycle game where they divide themselves among 11 stations and roll a die to determine their next station on their journey as a rock or mineral. At each station they collect a bead and end up making a bracelet.
- **Regions of Virginia and their Agricultural Products/Virginia Geography Jeopardy** (Science 4.8, VS.2b, VS.10b) - This activity supports a student’s knowledge of the ***Regions of Virginia*** and the ***Agricultural Products*** produced by region by using a large durable floor map of Virginia delineated by the geographic regions and 20 +/- items to represent agricultural products produced in Virginia. Students will divide into groups and play a Jeopardy-style game on Virginia’s geography.
- **What in the World is a Watershed?** Science 4.8)  
Students learn their watershed address and work with the Enviroscape—a portable 3-D Model which provides a hands-on, interactive demonstration of the sources and effects of water pollution.