



## The Great Outdoors: A Backdrop for Education

Explore and share the fascinating world of wildlife, plants, forests, and ecosystems using fun, hands-on educational activities. This workshop is designed to provide K-12 formal and non-formal educators with an introduction to environmental education; experience the necessary skills to integrate Project WILD, South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks Aquatic Invasive Species, and Project Learning Tree (PLT) environmental activities within a classroom, homeschool classroom, or youth program. Anyone who works with children, including teachers, homeschoolers, informal educators, and scout leaders, is welcome.



### Logistics:

When ~ April 24-26, 2026 / Registration closes Friday, April 17, 2026.

Where ~ Supervisor's Office – Black Hills National Forest / Custer, South Dakota

Cost ~ Free Curriculum Materials and Instruction / Participants cover their own meals and lodging ...

Academic Credit ~ USF / \$40 (One Credit Hour ~ Graduate or Under-Graduate) / 15 CEUs

For more information or to register, please email [bradley.block@usda.gov](mailto:bradley.block@usda.gov) or call (605) 673-9239.

### Curriculum Materials:

The [Project WILD](#), South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks AIS, and [PLT](#) activity guides contain all the information needed to conduct a variety of lesson plans for the classroom or nature activities on field trips. They include objectives, methods, background information, a list of materials needed, procedures, evaluation suggestions, recommended grade levels, subject areas, duration, group size, setting, and key terms. A glossary is also provided, as well as a cross-reference by topics and skills. If you are an educator looking for ways to incorporate the outdoors into an existing curriculum, the activity guides offer an array of resources for consideration.

**NOTE: All materials are distributed only with the successful completion of the required hours of training. Attendance and participation in the entire experience are expected to receive the materials and supporting documents.**

### Why Attend this Educational Workshop:

The Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department, Project WILD, and Project Learning Tree are teaming up for a spring weekend of educator engagement, immersive experiences, and nature training for the classroom.

Project WILD's mission is to provide wildlife-based conservation and environmental education that fosters responsible actions toward wildlife and related natural resources. All curriculum materials are backed by sound educational practices and theory and represent the work of many professionals within the fields of education and natural resource management from across the country.

Project Learning Tree® (PLT) is an award-winning environmental education program designed for teachers and other educators, parents, and community leaders working with youth from preschool through grade 12. PLT is an initiative of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. **NOTE: A special THANK YOU to SD PLT for funding the workshop, materials, activity supplies, etc.**

