

AP Environmental Science- Summer Assignment- Mr. Witcher

Andrew.witcher@browardschools.com

#1 Environmental Laws and Treaties: Research and summarize the relevant environmental laws and treaties that are listed on the assignment sheet. Many times throughout the year, you will need to reference these environmental acts. Having a working familiarity with them will make the course go so much smoother. We will also be having a quiz on these acts, laws and treaties. If you complete the work during the summer, the quiz should be a breeze! **This research will be due on Canvas by the end of the second week of school. You will NOT hand it in on paper.**

#2 Be Aware of and Enjoy Nature (as long as you would like!) : Environmental Science, while an academic discipline, is also an experience. My hope is that through this class, you will become more aware of your environment, the challenges we face as a society to preserve the environment, and maybe some potential solutions for environmental problems. To kick start this process, I would like you to visit a natural area, go for a walk, sit in your backyard, go to a park or the beach or anywhere outside and make some observations. There are questions on the assignment sheet to guide you. **These questions will be due during the first week of school. An exact date will be announced on Aug 12/13. Please be prepared. You WILL turn them in on PAPER.**

I will be available over the summer if you have questions. You can email me at Andrew.witcher@browardschools.com (I will check my email at least once a week). I want you to enjoy your summer, so I don't expect you to spend a huge amount of time on any of these assignments. By putting in a little bit of time, you will end up with good, quality work and you will be very well prepared to start the year on a positive note.

ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION:

For this assignment, I recommend you search the internet and visit the local library for your research. We also have great databases available through the school. If you are not familiar with how to get into the databases, please see me or visit the media center before the end of the year. If you use a site like Wikipedia, be sure to DOUBLE-CHECK any information you get from there! Wikipedia is susceptible to errors. I suggest NOT using Wikipedia, however, if you do- I would recommend that you **ONLY** use it to get a general understanding, but it cannot be used for your final information. Your final sources need to be SCHOLARLY resources. Since these are governmental in nature, .gov sites are best! Peer Reviewed sites are highly encouraged.

For each law or treaty, you need to find the following information:

1. Year enacted, and year amended (if applicable).
2. Is the law International or American?
3. Describe the function of the law or treaty.
4. State what environmental issues are affected.
5. Name the agency or group responsible for regulation and enforcement (i.e. - U.N., Department of the Interior, EPA, etc.).

LIST:

Below is the list of laws/treaties that you need to research:

1. Clean Air Act (CAA)
2. Clean Water Act (CWA)
3. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation Liability Act (CERCLA)
4. Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
5. Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE standards)
6. Endangered Species Act (ESA)
7. Energy Independence & Security Act
8. Energy Policy Act
9. Environmental Education Act
10. Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA, FDCA, or FIFRA)
11. Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)
12. Federal Water Pollution Control Act
13. Food Quality Protection Act
14. Food Security Act
15. Fish and Wildlife Act
16. General Mining Act of 1872
17. Hardrock Mining & Reclamation Act

18. Hazardous Materials Transportation Act
19. Healthy Forests Initiative (HFI)
20. International Environmental Protection Act
21. Kyoto Protocol (Convention of Climate Change)
22. Law of the Sea Convention (UNCLOS or LOSC)
23. Madrid Protocol (Antarctic Treaty)
24. Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act
25. Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)
26. Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA)
27. Mineral Leasing Act
28. Mining Act
29. Montreal Protocol (Convention of Ozone Depletion)
30. National Energy Act
31. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
32. National Park Act
33. National Wildlife Refuge System Act
34. Noise Control Act
35. Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA)
36. Occupational Safety & Health Act (OSHA)
37. Ocean Dumping Ban Act (ODA)
38. Oil Pollution Act (OPA)
39. Oil Spill Prevention & Liability Act
40. Paris Agreement
41. Pollution Prevention Act (PPA)
42. Refuse Act
43. Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA)
44. Safe Drinking Water Act
45. Soil & Water Conservation Act
46. Solid Waste Disposal Act

- 47. Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA)
- 48. Surface Mining Control & Reclamation Act (SMCRA)
- 49. Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
- 50. Wilderness Act

ASSIGNMENT #2 DETAILS:

Go visit a natural area! Some places you may consider visiting include any of the local state parks (we have a lot in our area) or a neighborhood park, forest, open grassy area, beach, estuary, everglades- anywhere you want to go!

While you are there, I would like you to make the following observations: Take 'Note':

1. Record the date, time, duration of visit, and location of your outing
2. Record observations on the following things:
 - a. Flora (plants)
 - b. Fauna (animals, fungi, etc.)
 - c. Geology (rocks, soil, etc.)
 - d. Weather (today) and Climate (throughout the seasons)
 - e. Aquatic? Non-aquatic? Freshwater- saltwater- mixed?

*You don't need to know specific species names for all of the plants and animals and types of rocks and soil you see, but DESCRIBE them. What color are they? How big are they? What are they doing? How are they interacting with each other? This part of the assignment can just be a list, they don't need to be in complete sentences. You can even draw what you see if you would like or take pictures of your surroundings to add to your observations.

Once you have made your observations, write a paragraph (in complete sentences) reflecting on the following questions:

1. What did you encounter?
2. What questions did you wonder as you observed everything?
3. How much and what kinds of human impacts did you notice in that area?

R/7-5 AW

4. How did you enjoy the activity? Your observations and paragraph are due to me on the first day of school.

Thank you and enjoy summer. Remember- Just do a little bit of this at a time, so that you can have it completed prior to school and ready to submit by the due dates. Do not wait until the last minute. If you have questions, send me an email. Thanks again. Be well.

Witcher

Rm. 521.