Expanding Elementary Teachers’ content Knowledge of Ecosystems across Georgia

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In alignment with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiatives within the State of Georgia, faculty from the College of Education (COE) in collaboration with the College of Science and Mathematics (COSM) at the University of West Georgia will offer knowledge building and skill development experiences on teaching science content for fifteen (15) teachers representing high need elementary schools from Henry and Meriwether school systems. This professional development program has the following objectives for participating teachers: (1) acquire or enhance their knowledge including the concepts and vocabulary related to photosynthesis and growth, plant and animal life cycles, grazing food chain, decomposition food chain, and variations in ecosystem structure and function among Georgia’s physiographic regions; (2) develop literacy skills that support student learning aligned with the science content and standards, (3) identify area of collaboration (Reading, English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and School Library Media) with other K-5 teachers and staff in developing students’ reading and writing skills across content areas, (4) have opportunities to collaborate with peers in creating instructional activities for teaching science and meeting the standards, (5) demonstrate how to collect data during the implementation of instructional activities and analyze them for impact on student learning, and (6) have opportunities to network with peers and other professionals during and beyond the workshops.

Arts & Sciences Unit of Institute of Higher Education
University of West Georgia—College of Science and Mathematics

Unit of Institute of Higher Education that prepares teachers & principals
University of West Georgia—College of Education

High Need LEA(s)
Henry County
Meriwether County