



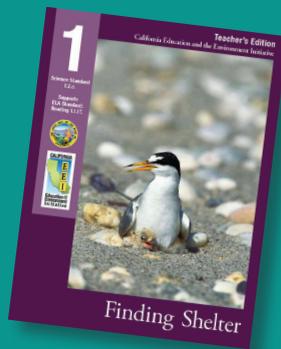
## Free Standards-Based Lessons Available Online



Visit [www.CaliforniaEEI.org](http://www.CaliforniaEEI.org)  
A website for K-12 teachers in California

Get free access to hundreds of lesson plans, informational texts, and more.

The Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) Curriculum teaches required content in science and history-social science using critical environmental topics, such as water and energy, as a lens. The best part? All content is California State Board of Education-approved and helps support Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards.



### About EEI

The Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) was signed into law in 2003 and required the creation of a standards-based curriculum to bring environmental literacy into California's K-12 schools. CalEPA and CalRecycle's Office of Education and the Environment managed development of the EEI Curriculum in close partnership with the California Department of Education, the State Board of Education, and the California Natural Resources Agency.



### Contact Us

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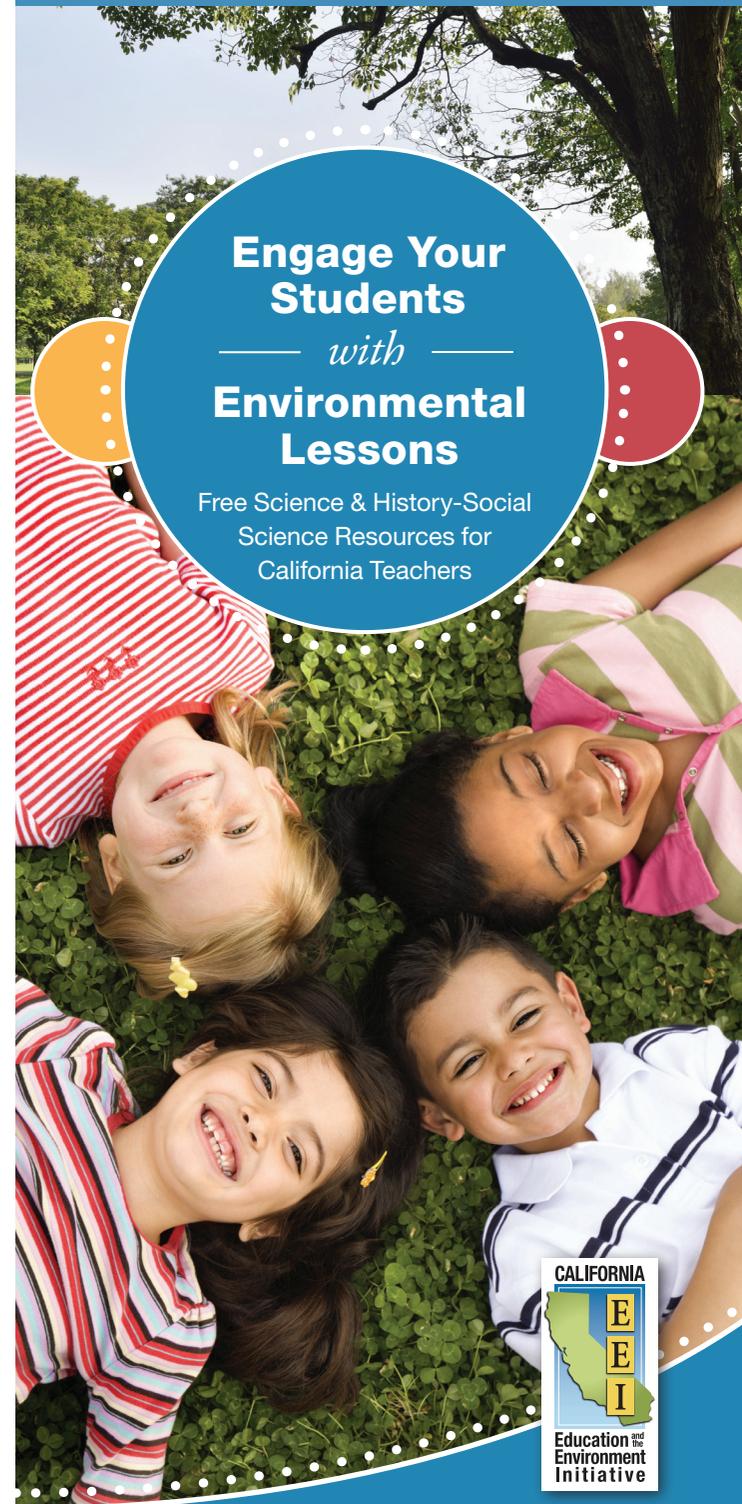
Visit us online: [www.CaliforniaEEI.org](http://www.CaliforniaEEI.org)



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## Engage Your Students with Environmental Lessons

Free Science & History-Social Science Resources for California Teachers

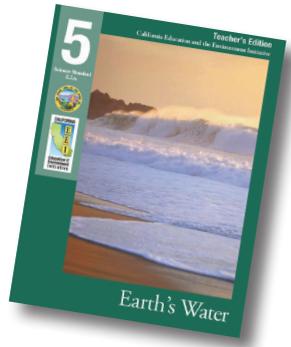


[Californiaeei.org](http://Californiaeei.org)

## Why Teach EEI?

Everyone and everything is linked to the environment. California's future prosperity, health, and safety depends on its citizens making wise environmental choices.

The Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) Curriculum integrates education about the environment into core subjects taught in our K-12 schools. EEI makes learning relevant to today's world by engaging students in topics they care about—the air they breathe, the water they drink, and the food they eat.



## The EEI Curriculum:

- Consists of 85 K-12 units that teach science and history-social science standards
- Addresses 15 environmental topics, including climate change and resource conservation
- Engages students with California Connections, stories that relate academic material to real world, relevant examples
- Includes visually stunning photos and maps designed by the National Geographic Society

- Educates students about their relationship with the environment, as well as the interactions between human and natural systems, increasing environmental literacy



## Designed With Teachers in Mind

The EEI Curriculum was especially designed to bring environmental content into California classrooms without placing an extra burden on limited teacher time. The unanimous approval of the EEI Curriculum by the State Board of Education sets it apart from other environmental education materials. Years of rigorous development and review ensure that our materials meet the high standards demanded in classroom instructional materials.

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**“This is such a thoughtfully designed curriculum. It is thorough and easy to implement. All of the tools are there for effective instruction in a reasonable amount of time.”**

—Lucy Moore, Elementary Teacher,  
San Lorenzo Unified

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## Benefits of the EEI Curriculum

- Approved by the California State Board of Education
- Academic standards-based: science and history-social science
- Supports Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards; builds 21st century skills like critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration
- Designed to teach engaging environmental lessons without adding instructional time to teachers' already busy schedules

## EEI In Action

Jim Bentley, a teacher at Foulks Ranch Elementary in Elk Grove, enjoys the freedom and flexibility of the EEI Curriculum and how it integrates multiple subjects seamlessly



through an environmental lens. After attending his first EEI training, Bentley recognized how the materials would mesh perfectly with his passion for civics, the environment, and project-based learning.

**“EEI is like an education solvent, able to bring together various disciplines into a coherent, connected 21st-century learning experience,”** said the fifth and sixth-grade teacher.

Bentley's students turned an EEI lesson about trees and paper waste into a class project involving the collection of holiday waste to determine how



much was trash, recyclable, and reusable. Student engagement was so high, Bentley had to get permission to use the gym as a sorting facility. The class created a time-lapse video that captured its waste-sorting effort.