Project Goal

To engage students with water quality topics by creating a water quality workshop that connects students to issues that are current to their home locale.

Public Health Background

- As the Water & Hydration Specialist for the EcoliteracySCHOOL project, I was responsible for designing and facilitating a Water Quality Workshop that would help engage students with water quality and hydration topics.
- South Eastern Minnesota experiences water pollution due to agriculture wastewater, urban and rural runoff, and naturally high arsenic levels (1, 2).
- Educating the population and businesses on how maintaining local water quality and how poor water quality affects their lives today is one way we can help fix SE Minnesota water quality issues.
- We could also encourage local and state legislation to take actions to improve local water quality (3).

Project Plans

- For an in-person Field Experience, I facilitated a discussion about water quality, how it affects people, and how it’s relevant in SE Minnesota.
- I also demonstrated what a water filtration system could and couldn’t filter.
- I compiled the topics into an interactive quiz displayed here.

“Click icon or scan with phone’s camera to see my project product: [Water Quality Quiz]”

Discussion

- Water quality encompasses environmental and community health.
- Properly solving water quality issues can improve both the community and the environment around it.
- Getting active can be as easy as cleaning up trash in your local watershed.
- Legislation at local levels can help improve water quality.
- Environment and public health are intrinsically linked. Leadership in communities, whether legislation or volunteers, is important for keeping the environment and the public living in it healthy.

References