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Unit 7: Climate Science & Society

Unit Summary: This unit focuses on social science, or the human dimension of climate change. Students will participate in a class survey and compare their results to regional and national studies using similar questions. The unit's focus is on the human dimension of the issue and how we both discover public opinion and produce information which will influence that opinion.

Teaching Time: It is anticipated that this unit and its related activities will take a minimum of five 50-minute class periods to complete. Depending on the number of readings utilized and the degree the activities are utilized, this could be longer with 10 days possible. Agriculture teachers may want to augment this unit with either Agriscience fair projects or Agricultural Issues presentations.

Audience: 9-12 Science & Agriculture Students

Unit's placement in the overall course: This unit is designed to be an advanced problem solving type unit. It will be more beneficial if several other units from the REACCH curriculum are utilized prior to this unit being taught.

Goals: The goal of this unit is for students to explore the role of social science in the climate change debate.

Description of the unit: Teacher notes are supplied with most slides to help guide class discussion. Three activities are included which require computer access. No other supplies are required.

Using this unit: Within the PowerPoint for this unit are hidden slides. On these slides are embedded Microsoft Word Documents. These documents provide the additional resources needed to deliver this unit. A standards document is provided which includes the relevant Next Generation Science Standards, Common Core State Standards for Math and ELA, and Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources Standards. The standards included may be only introduced through this curriculum, and the teacher will need to decide the level at which they want to augment the provided instruction in relation to these standards. Readings associated with the unit are in a separate zipped PDF file. This document includes all the readings in one zipped file so teachers can select those readings most appropriate for their classrooms. In addition, actual scripts from the PNW survey is included for students to utilize as a resources for their own survey.

Related Readings for Meeting CCSS in ELA: These readings are not overly technical, however teachers reported some difficulty using them with students on IEP's. To accommodate these students it is recommended teachers choose a portion of the readings and run it through an application like http://www.rewordify.com which can adjust the reading levels as needed.

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Required Supplies:

Computer access.

Optional: Printing of issues posters