Hands-on emotional learning tools for climate preparedness

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Climate change is accelerating, and climate panic can easily overwhelm us, if given the chance. Hands-on education set in local ecosystems have proven to have a powerful impact on student learning, in part by connecting both the heart and mind to the learning process. This positive approach helps engage students in thinking about bigger questions, including climate discussions and positive actions that can help all of us adapt to long-term climate and environmental changes. Members of The Northwest Aquatic and Marine Educators (NAME) "family" have been providing these kinds of emotional learning opportunities throughout the Pacific Northwest for more than 40 years. Participants in this workshop will experience some of the hands-on activities developed by our membereducators; and exchange ideas about how these examples might be adapted for students of a wide range of ages, subject areas and learning styles. Coastal education resources created and published by NAME members will be highlighted, including Gloria Snively's curricular guides, storybooks, and many other published marine education resources; and Ann Eriksson's book, Urgent Message from a Hot Planet: Navigating the Climate Crisis, with its "Toolkit for climate hope".

Keywords: emotional learning, climate, marine

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