



A Recommended Approach For Using the Guide

Step 1

Teacher prepares for the unit by reading the background information about the program, the bosque and the first field trip.

Recommended Readings:

Chapter 1: all
Chapter 2: all
Chapter 3: Planning a Bosque Field Trip

Step 2

The first **class field trip** to the bosque focuses on exploration, observation and “bonding” with the bosque.

Possible BEG Activities: (all in Chapter 3)

Bosque Bingo
Naturalist Notebooks

Activities From Other Programs:

Refer to a Middle Rio Guide for “Bosque Discovery Booklet” and other activities from sources that include Project WILD and Discover a Watershed.

Step 3

Back in the **classroom and schoolyard**, the class undertakes a study of the river, the bosque and ecosystems. Each teacher tailors the program for grade, time, standards to be met and interest in issues.

Meandering Channels (Chapter 5) is a collection of activities separate from the model done in either the classroom or the schoolyard. In the Middle Rio Guide, this chapter has several other activities, many of which will need alteration to suit the Lower Rio. **Appendix C** in the same edition also recommends many other activities from other programs, such as Project WILD and Project WET, which can be a part of this unit. **Appendix C** also recommends many other activities from other programs that can be a part of this unit.



Step 4

The second class field trip to the bosque gives students a chance to utilize and expand their knowledge about the bosque. There are opportunities for inquiry learning and exploration.

Suggested BEG Activities: Activities in Chapter 3 not utilized during the first field trip. Refer to a Middle Rio Guide for other activities that may require alteration to suit the Lower Rio, as well as listings under “Field Trips” in Appendix C.

Step 5

Service-learning Project: While service learning is not a part of the Lower Rio version of the Guide, educators desiring to pursue projects may refer to Chapter 6: **Living Like We Love It** in the Middle Rio Guide for information and inspiration. (Note that Service Learning is Chapter 7 in the 2008 edition of the Middle Rio Guide.)

Step 6

Bosque Celebration. Celebration is the final step for the service-learning project, but it can be combined with a celebration of the entire bosque study. Develop ways to share information the students learned with family, school and community. Refer to the chapter noted above in a Middle Rio Guide for details.

