

Slope Failure and Ecosystems

Content Area(s)/Course: AP Biology	Unit: Ecology
Lesson Topic: researching precipitation data on NOAA website	Length of Lesson: 1 Day
Materials for Students: laptop	Materials for Teacher: Projection of NOAA website
Standard(s) Addressed: Standard HS-LS2-1 Interdependent relationships in ecosystems Science and engineering practice: analyze and interpret data, also constructing explanations	
Student Outcome(s): I can: research precipitation data I can: correlate precipitation data with defined ecosystems	
Context for Learning	
This is the research of precipitation data which is the primary variable in determining the type of ecosystem present. Knowing how precipitation can cause damage to an ecosystem like slope failure gives students the other perspective on how "nature" is responsible rather than humans.	
Instructional Delivery	
Accessing NOAA data is easy but sometimes incomplete and so you have to make sure students understand that data may have to be acquired from multiple sites and pieced together to see the "big picture".	
Activity: Students will be accessing NOAA precipitation data using the website and their email.	
Assessment/Evaluation (Formative/Summative)	
There will be an informal formative assessment in the form of their worksheet. Gather how they are doing by walking around to each student and observing them work. There will be a formal formative assessment the day after this lesson in the form of a mini quiz (bell ringer) that will allow me to review and check for comprehension before moving on.	
Accommodations: Walk around and help those students that need more help. Extra time for students that need it on the mini quiz.	