



EDUCATING TEACHERS ON BASINWIDE ISSUES
THROUGH EXPLORATIONS IN GEOLOGY

Many elementary classroom teachers have a limited education in geology and related environmental concepts. A lack of knowledge, or even a "phobia" concerning the natural sciences can translate into a lack of interest on the part of their young students.

Crossroads at Big Creek, a Sturgeon Bay environmental learning center, proposed to offer a one-credit, fifteen-hour class for elementary teachers on geology and issues pertaining to the lakeshore environment. The LNRP grant will enable Crossroads to offer stipends for up to ten classroom teachers. Participants will create, present and evaluate lesson plans relating to the lakeshore environment, and explore ways to integrate geology and environmental concepts into non-science disciplines.

MID-PROJECT REPORT

One graduate level course offered through University of Wisconsin-Green Bay has been presented reaching six area teachers. The class was well received and teachers report that they have used activities in their classrooms and have shared ideas with colleagues.

The six participating teachers each taught units on geology. Two of these teachers also brought groups to Crossroads to do field investigations.

Teachers kept idea journals and also exchanged their lesson plans at the final session

At their request, we have created a second class, exploring the geology of southern Door County which will be offered in June 2005

At a Glance...

Project:

Graduate level course to introduce elementary teachers to environmental issues of the lakeshore basin. Teachers will create, present and evaluate lesson on lakeshore geology.

Grant Recipient:

Crossroads at Big Creek Environmental Learning Preserve. Sturgeon Bay

Amount Awarded: \$2,140

Funding Cycle: 2004



Area teachers learn about the geology of the Lakeshore Basin at Crossroads at Big Creek