

Nicole Nelson

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EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin – Madison - Dec. 2011

Madison, Wisconsin

M.S. Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development

Master's thesis: *The Use of Natural Schoolyards to Develop Stewardship Attitudes in Students*

Indiana University – May 2005

Bloomington, Indiana

B.S. Biology

Diploma, with High Distinction

State of Indiana Teaching License – Dec. 2005, reissued Feb. 2015

Primary Area – Biology grades 5-12

Secondary Area – Physical Science grades 5-12

State of Wisconsin Teaching License – Sept. 2012

Early adolescence/Adolescence Biology/Life Science and Chemistry

EMPLOYMENT

Instructor of Biology – Sept. 2015 – currently

- Introduction to Environmental Science
- Principals of Biology Laboratory

Garden Based Education Facilitator – Oct. 2012 - June 2014

- Worked as part of the science curriculum & instruction team at the Madison Metropolitan School District. Developed content for and led a professional learning community of 14 teachers, worked to align garden based learning with the Common Core Standards and Next Generation Science Standards, oversaw a \$350,000 grant budget, project coordination, worked collaboratively with 6 community organizations.

Curriculum Writing Consultant – Feb.2012-June 2012

- Curriculum consultant at the UW Arboretum Earth Partnership for Schools for the Water Stewardship curriculum that was released June, 2012. Wrote new lessons, edited/revised existing drafts, aligned lessons to Wisconsin Academic Standards and Common Core.

UW-Madison Graduate Teaching Assistant – Spring Semester 2010

- Teaching assistant (Laboratory Instructor) for Zoology 152: Introductory Biology

UW-Madison Graduate Teaching Assistant – Fall Semester 2009

- Teaching assistant for Biocore 301: Evolution, Ecology, and Genetics

Middle School Science and Biology Teacher - Jan. 2006-May 2009

- Taught general science and biology at Chapel Hill 7th and 8th Grade Center in the Metropolitan School District of Wayne Twp, Indianapolis, IN.

PUBLICATIONS

Nelson, N., Shaw, B. (2013). The use of natural schoolyards to develop stewardship attitudes in students. *Journal of Extension*. [On-line], 51(5) Article 5RIB8. Available at:

<http://www.joe.org/joe/2013october/rb8.php>

Nelson, N. (2013). Using school-yard restoration to engage students in water stewardship. *Science Scope*. March, 41-48

Contributing Author, Earth Partnership for Schools (2012), *Water Stewardship Curriculum Guide*. University of Wisconsin – Madison Arboretum

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Reviewer, Muellenberg, J. & Scott, L. (2013). Youth Gardening. *UW-Extension – The Learning Store*. Available at: <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Youth-Gardening-P1705.aspx>
- Served as a graduate student's committee member (UW-Madison, MS Agroecology) - 2012
- Member of Chapel Hill 7th and 8th Grade Center teacher union Policy Advisory Committee – 2008-09 school year
- Mentor Teacher for a Butler University education student – Oct. 2008- Dec. 2008
- My biology students earned a 100% pass rate on the Indiana CORE 40 Exam – May 2007, May 2008
- Coached 7th grade volleyball – Fall 2008
- Presented at Hoosier Association of Science Teachers Inc. Conference– Feb. 2008
- Member of Hoosier Association of Science Teachers Inc.– 2005-2009

INTERESTS and HOBBIES

- School Volunteer at Whispering Meadows Elementary School – Fort Wayne, IN 2015-2016
- Youth Soccer Coach at Fort Wayne Sports Club – Fort Wayne, IN Fall 2015
- Girl Scouts Parent Volunteer – Orange County, CA 2015
- Member – MOMS Club of Irvine Central July 2014-July 2015
- Building and Grounds Committee Member at Orchard Ridge Nursery School – Madison, WI 2012-13, 2013-14
- Enjoying time with my husband and three young daughters
- Travel: Spain, East Africa, Guatemala, Belize
- Outdoor activities – gardening, hiking, volleyball, biking