

Connecting students, communities, and nature



Groundswell



Groundswell



Regional Hubs of the GLSI



What we do

- ▶ provide leadership and resources for effective place-based teaching and learning
- ▶ offer small grants for students' place-based education projects
- ▶ connecting teachers with partners in the community



What is place-based education?

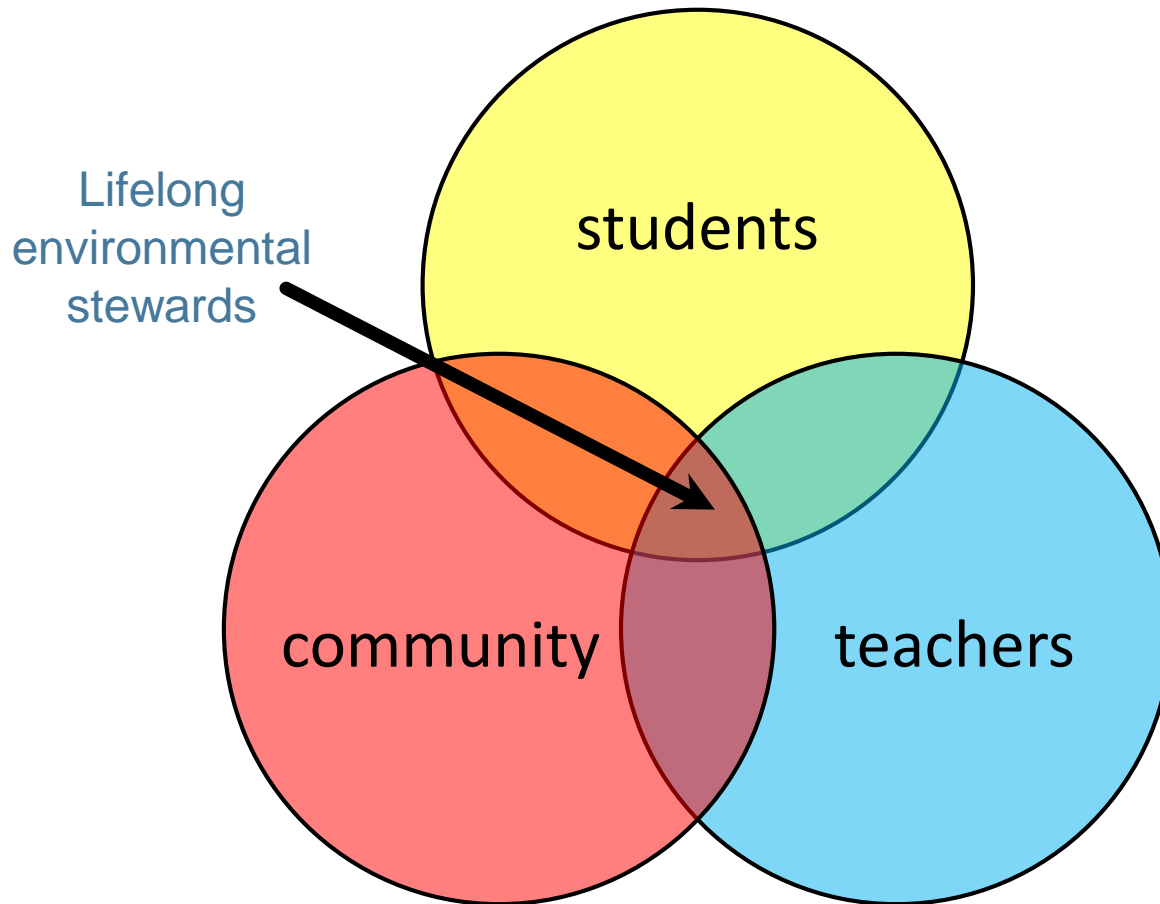


Place-based Education is a “**community-supported** approach to teaching and learning that occurs *in and with a place* or community, is *about* a place or community, and **yields benefits** for a place or community.”

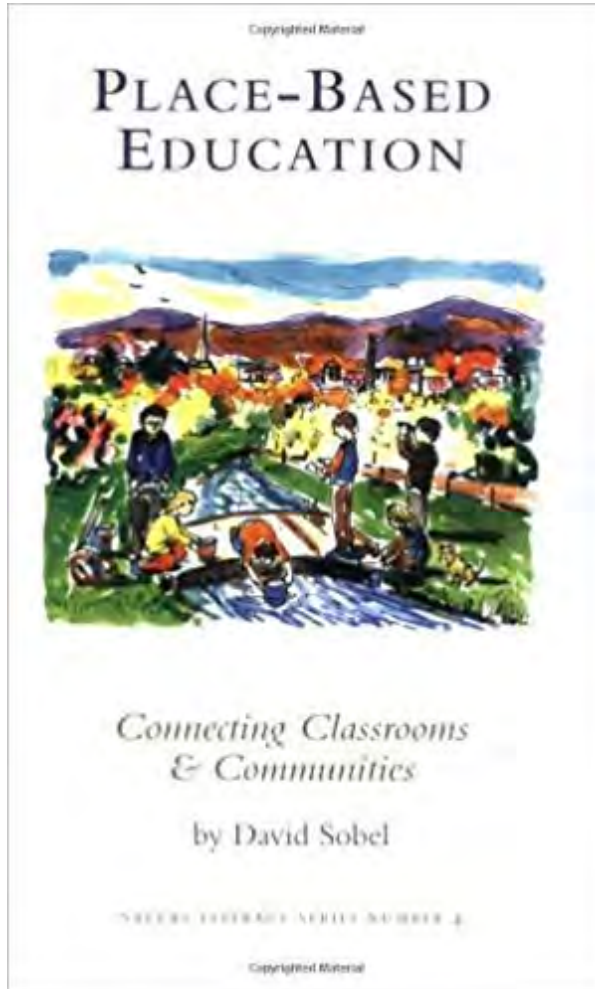
- Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative



Groundswell approach to place-based education



Place-based education is



David Sobel (2013) defines PBE in his book Place-Based Education: Connecting Classroom and Communities



Place-Based Education is...

- hands-on learning
- providing context
- increasing awareness
- solving real problems
- building community
- making career connections



Benefits to Students



- ▶ Content learning is relevant
- ▶ Real-world applications for learning
- ▶ Development of critical thinking skills
- ▶ Exposure to various careers
- ▶ Opportunities to engage with the public
- ▶ Develops a sense of place
- ▶ Positively impacts the communities they live in





INNOVATIVE EDUCATION AWARD

POWERING A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW

ULEIA AWARD WINNER – INNOVATIVE EDUCATION

Groundswell won an *Innovative Education Award* from Underwriters Laboratories in 2018.

▶ [ULEIA Groundswell Video](#)



Teacher & Informal Educator Training

- ▶ FREE, high-quality professional development on unique, innovative topics



Project Funding

- ▶ Up to \$1,000 to implement a student-led stewardship project to address a real environmental need in your community.



Technical Support



- ▶ Connections with local community partners to provide technical support and guidance for stewardship projects

Educator Collaboration

- ▶ Opportunities for networking and collaborating with other inspiring educators dedicated to place-based education.



Teaching Outdoors
with Forestry
Oct. 2019




Water Education Resources

▶ Lesson & Video series

- ▶ Watersheds
- ▶ Nutrients
- ▶ Sediment
- ▶ Pathogens

▶ Accompanying lesson plans

- ▶ <https://www.gvsu.edu/groundswell/lesson-plans-54.htm>



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL groundswellmi.org/resources/communities-for-clean-water/. The page features a header with navigation links: "About Us", "Schools", "Resources", and "News". The main content area is titled "Communities for Clean Water" and includes a social media share bar with "Like" and "Share" buttons, indicating 16 likes. Below this, the text reads: "Groundswell partnered with WGVI and the GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute to create a series of educational videos and lesson plans about nonpoint source pollution. This type of pollution is one of the biggest threats to healthy lakes, streams, and rivers." Two call-to-action items are listed: "Watch the videos to learn more about NPS pollution and what you can do to help protect our water." and "Engage your students by using the accompanying lesson plans." A section titled "Videos and Lesson Plans" follows, with the subtext "The videos and lesson plans cover the following topics:". Four topics are listed with blue water drop icons: "Lesson One: Watersheds and Nonpoint Source Pollution", "Lesson Two: Managing Excess Sediment", "Lesson Three: Managing Pathogens", and "Lesson Four: Managing Excess Nutrients".

Student Showcase & Final Project Video

Pinewood Project Video



For more info

- ▶ Jessica Vander Ark
- ▶ Groundswell Manager
- ▶ vandjess@gvsu.edu
- ▶ <https://www.gvsu.edu/groundswell/>

