Tested Studies for Laboratory Teaching
Proceedings of the Association for Biology Laboratory Education
Volume 40, Article 29, 2019

Understanding Marine and Aquatic Ecology in Biology Labs in a Microcosm: An Alternative Integration to the Curriculum

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With coral reefs declining and fauna in urban environments overlooked, it is more important than ever to ignite interest in these habitats to foster a new generation of conservationists. The purpose of this workshop is to demonstrate a method to expose students to aquatic ecological processes and biological diversity in habitats around the world through the use of established freshwater and marine microcosms. During this session, participants will learn about the creation of the microcosm room itself, including both the mechanics of how it was done along with tips and tricks we learned along the way. Then, participants will have the chance to experience the microcosms firsthand. Throughout the entire session, we will be providing details about how you can set up your own microcosms in a teaching laboratory

Keywords: microcosm, biological diversity, aquatic ecology

Mission, Review Process & Disclaimer

The Association for Biology Laboratory Education (ABLE) was founded in 1979 to promote information exchange among university and college educators actively concerned with teaching biology in a laboratory setting. The focus of ABLE is to improve the undergraduate biology laboratory experience by promoting the development and dissemination of interesting, innovative, and reliable laboratory exercises. For more information about ABLE, please visit **http://www.ableweb.org/.**

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Citing This Article

Conerly C, Nguyen E 2019. Understanding marine and aquatic ecology in biology labs in a microcosm: an alternative integration to the curriculum. Article 29 In: McMahon K, editor. Tested studies for laboratory teaching. Volume 40. Proceedings of the 40th Conference of the Association for Biology Laboratory Education (ABLE). **http://www.ableweb.org/volumes/vol-40/?art=29**