**Monadnock Region Place-based Educators Committee**

March 17th, Zoom Meeting

* Betsy, Seth Andrews, Roni Becheler, Janet Altobello, Laura White, Liza Lowe, Karen Rent, Paul Bocko, Antje Hornbeck,
* Introduction:
  + Online resources going around social media & thought it would be helpful to create a list of resources on how to use PBE as educators & family members to use during this time at home
  + Barrier: not everyone has access to yards or going outside
  + Getting list… maybe through FB or through email list
  + Harris Center already has a list generated
    - Planning to update their social media weekly with resources
    - Can share that list with committee
    - Not necessarily aligned with standards, just what you can do outside
  + Does not need to be only educational, since health is also a focus
  + Finding resources that can help teachers connect with the outdoors & engaged, since they are lacking that social contact that they were used to
  + Outdoor art gallery (Karen’s neighborhood)
    - Posting art in the windows for people to see when they are walking by
  + Web page of list of places families can go check out in Keene & the area
  + Audubon NH website: field experience of the week challenge
    - This week was wild turkeys & had challenge for people to go out & see if they can spot those turkeys after giving them facts
    - Could do something like this in our area,
      * Early spring scavenger hunt
  + Liza’s family made a barometer with virtual collaboration with friends & reporting back to each other on what they found
    - Best platform to engaging with others?
      * Janet - E-pals used in a previous project for kids around the world
      * What about google classroom?
        + Take a picture of something & share it there
      * Google doc that is sent to educator & educator makes a master doc
      * Concern about using video at all
        + What if families create it themselves? Way to sort of manage that where families are involved so it’s not teachers doing the video calling (& getting in trouble)
        + Asking parents if they are comfortable sharing emails
  + Take a photo every day with a question you may have & posting that photo
    - Allows for observing & analyzing skills
  + Encouraging free play outside, no agenda
    - Might not have access to yards but local parks/wooded areas to go to
    - Also boundaries with other kids
  + Mapping projects
    - Mapping yards or places their curious with
  + Since it’s spring, go out & observe a bud
    - Observe, take a photo, sketch it, etc.
    - Orchardist in Keen in the 1800s that did something similar, could do this for students
      * Scanning it & sharing with educators for a resource
      * Jenna Carroll may also have access to it
    - Nature’s calendar
  + <https://budburst.org/>
    - Shared by Karen, phenology citizen science
  + Journalling what is going on right now during the experience
* Should we formalize a way to collect these resources?
  + Facebook to share the resources, but what about the list?
  + Start a google doc that’s editable by all & put it on the facebook page for people to add to
  + Could send it to the email list
  + Share it with all SAU teachers
  + Could make a simple website
    - Suggestions from teachers
    - Suggestions from harris center
    - Others, etc.
* Roni will create a whole section on website for these resources
  + Tabs for educators, resources for families
  + Laura will send Roni all ideas she has
* Local museums & possible virtual tours they may have
* Laura: taking an online course with Cornell & thinking of ways to make those accessible to students & families
  + Connect with Antioch’s birding club & Steven Lamonde for questions
  + Has helped with nature preserve
* Gardening opportunities?
  + Chance for families to start small gardens
  + Home depot in Boston were looking for ways to donate some products
    - Maybe if they are doing this here, it can come out with the school lunches for families to get access to
* Hard with hands-on science projects
  + Can’t assume families have access to specific tools/ingredients for projects (like vinegar & baking soda)
  + Could film (educator) doing said project to share with others
* Other items people would like to talk about?
  + Can’t necessarily plan things that involve parents too much
  + Offering choices: if parents can do one option, great, but if not there are other choices to make a lesson happen
* Resources for parents too, with no assessment, just something fun
  + Lots of time with parents & kids together, & recognizing that this is new for so many people
  + Morale will be important to support them
  + Parents don’t know, they’ve never taught before
* What about books? Other resources to recommend to connect with nature?
  + Putting together a list of literature resources
  + Teachers can theoretically access books at the library
  + Can’t necessarily get books to kids
  + Online literature, access to online public library sources
  + Read aloud, story time
    - Reading shark stories from 10 to 11
    - What about making it local & sharing “my side of the mountain”
    - Or reading a part of chapter book/picture book
    - Local librarian that does that (Karen)
      * Again, problem with video usage
* Categories for website:
  + Split between age groups?
    - Vote for no:
      * So many resources are useful for other ages
  + **Outings**
  + **For families**
  + **For teachers**
    - Curriculum, standard focused
  + **Links**
    - Read alouds
    - Spread your mind, videos to see
  + **Places to get free things**
    - Like sidewalk chalk, seeds, etc.
  + Backyard adventures
  + Giving descriptions of what you’re sending Roni so she can cut & paste to the website
  + Make a top list, so it’s not so overwhelming
  + Sending resources that are actually valuable rather than just what has been found
  + Potentially making a spreadsheet (\*did I understand that right?) where all of the resources are listed & it has symbols for all the people it’s relevant for
  + Providing a link to Harris Center’s resources on tab with this information
* Antje:
  + Share what educators are doing to make things interesting for the students
  + Good to share for other educators (& family members to see) & use
  + Goal is to share sense of calm, normalcy & community through sharing these stories on social media
  + Can share stories from before as well
  + Great way to share with the community that students aren’t just looking at screens the entire time, but also experiencing other things
  + Email: [ahornbeck@sau29.org](mailto:ahornbeck@sau29.org)
* Sharing resources for students to do when they’re not necessarily learning
  + Board games
  + Activities
  + Resources to send to parents so they don;t have to do the thinking since htey are overwhelmed
  + Can families come to the school & pick up basic supplies, like markers & paper, etc
    - Grab these while they’re picking up breakfast?
    - Franklin is doing this
    - Possibly matter of reaching out to local stores & see if they can donating, seeing if this is even a need (stage 2 possibly)
    - Art teachers may be thinking of this already
    - Fuller parents had gotten survey on what supplies they have access to, maybe other schools are doing
    - Antje: big thing is getting people the necessities, then maybe schools will think about the ‘secondary’ resources, like art & music
* Mark Miller has daily nature talks
  + Could share?
* Antje can share out resources for the SAU FB page
* Getting website live by next week
* Anything Antioch has that can help with mindfulness for families/students?
  + Paul: currently have plans for AUNE students but may be possible to do something for others
  + Sitting still like a frog - book but has meditation on website for others <https://www.shambhala.com/sittingstilllikeafrog/>
* Meet again?
  + After Roni gets the website published
  + Tuesday, 4 pm