Hellbender Education

LESSON PLAN 1: GENERAL ECOLOGICAL CONCEPTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL STANDARDS ADDRESSED:

Pennsylvania	 4.1.7.A.: Describe the relationships between biotic and abiotic components of an ecosystem. Compare and contrast different biomes and their characteristics. Describe symbiotic and predator/ prey relationships.
	 4.1.7.C.: Explain the flow of energy within an ecosystem. Compare and contrast the flow of energy between organisms in different habitats. Explain the concept of trophic levels.

HIGH SCHOOL STANDARDS ADDRESSED:

Pennsylvania	 4.1.10.A.: Examine the effects of limiting factors on population dynamics. Analyze possible causes of population fluctuations. Explain the concept of carrying capacity in an ecosystem. Describe how organisms become classified as threatened or endangered. Describe how limiting factors cause organisms to become extinct.
	 4.1.10.C. Evaluate the efficiency of energy flow within a food web. Describe how energy is converted from one form to another as it moves through a food web (photosynthetic, geothermal).
	 4.2.10.A.: Examine the interactions between abiotic and biotic factors within a watershed. Investigate and analyze the effects of land use on the quality of water in a watershed.