



## TEMPLATE IV: HALF-DAY WORKSHOP

### 'ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE'

**Time:** 3 hours

**Purpose:**

To raise awareness of the ELE curriculum guide, discover application of the ELE in teaching practices, and stimulate further engagement through professional development opportunities

**Objectives:**

- Introduce the ELE Curriculum Guide, Videos and Curriculum Maps
- Explore and experience application of ELE in teaching practices
- Provide connections and support around environmental learning for practicing teachers
- Stimulate interest in ongoing Pro-D around environmental learning

**Materials:**

- Computer, Digital Projector, Screen and Internet Access **OR** DVD Player, TV, and DVD of ELE Videos<sup>1</sup>
- Sticky Notes
- World Map
- Chart Paper and Felt Pens
- 11"x17" Placemat paper
- Index Cards
- Take-Away Promos and Resources<sup>2</sup>
- Evaluation Forms

**Preparation:**

- 1) Source and set-up available technology for web browsing with a digital projector **OR** DVD viewing with a TV/monitor
- 2) Bookmark ELE Videos and websites on web browser **OR** load ELE DVD; cue up ELE Video I
- 3) Prepare sticky notes, chart paper and felts for Carousel activity, 11x17" paper for Placemat activity, index cards for Action Planning activity and take-away promos and resources; see Appendix B for lists of suggested resources
- 4) Consult Appendix A for descriptions/directions of learning activities and strategies suggested in the template.

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> Available technology will determine whether web-based or DVD resources will be utilized. If the DVD option is required, please download and burn selected videos from:  
[www.bced.gov.bc.ca/environment\\_ed/](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/environment_ed/)

<sup>2</sup> Promotional materials, resources or resource lists can be distributed at the discretion of the presenter. Appendix B of this guide is suitable for distribution. Please visit [www.bctf.ca/eeepa](http://www.bctf.ca/eeepa) for other options.

<sup>3</sup> Time allotments are suggestions only; facilitators will adjust according to available timeframe.

<sup>4</sup> Icebreaker activities are essential to engage participants with the content of the session and with other workshop participants. Making an icebreaker personally relevant to participants is an important consideration.

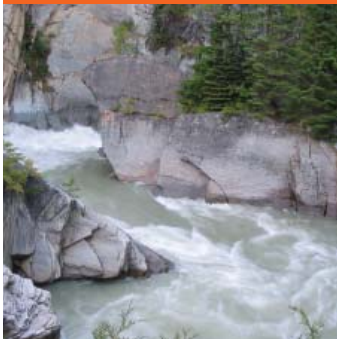
<sup>5</sup> In a "mingle", participants move about, introduce themselves to each other and discuss the core question(s) posed to guide the activity.

<sup>6</sup> See Appendix A for full description and instructions for the Carousel Activity.

<sup>7</sup> For a workshop that is congruent with ELE theoretical foundations, a Direct Experience component is essential to the learning cycle and, thus, the overall impact of the workshop. While an indoor setting can suffice (re. weather, location, availability of outdoor space, audience factors, etc.), an outdoor setting is preferable. See Appendices A and B for suggested activities and resources.

<sup>8</sup> See Appendix A for full description and instructions for the Placemat Activity.

<sup>9</sup> Closing the presentation with an action commitment from individuals and/or the group is essential.



## PRESENTATION PLAN

Element	Activities	Time <sup>3</sup>
<b>Opening</b>	<p>Welcome; Introduce purpose and objectives of workshop</p> <p>Icebreakers<sup>4</sup>:</p> <p>a) Consider a 'Special Place' to you, write down a word(s) on a sticky note that encapsulates that place/memory; Mingle and Share<sup>5</sup></p> <p>b) Using a world map, place sticky notes and share connections between people and places</p> <p>Introduce the ELE Project; Present ELE Video I</p> <p>Debrief video with reference to key ideas and opportunities</p>	20 mins
<b>What is ELE?</b>	<p>Introduce the ELE Guide</p> <p>Present ELE Video II</p> <p>Introduce suite of new resources complementing the ELE Guide (videos, curriculum maps, and Pro-D templates)</p> <p>Debrief and discuss main elements of the ELE especially the learning cycle and C.A.R.E.</p>	15 mins
<b>Applying C.A.R.E. in your Practice</b>	<p>Carousel Activity<sup>6</sup>: Groups circulate through 4 stations (C, A, R, and E) and record connections between that aspect of C.A.R.E. and their teaching practices (by grade/ subject/course or units/ lessons/themes/activities)</p> <p>Groups finish at starting station and report out to group</p> <p>Distribute ELE Curriculum Maps and debrief with a think/pair/share re. explicit curriculum connections to their grade level/subjects taught</p>	20-30 mins
<b>Case Studies in ELE</b>	<p>Present a selected ELE Case Study Video (re. elementary and/or secondary interest)</p> <p>Debrief and discuss applicable transferable elements to current practice</p>	10 mins
<b>Direct Experience<sup>7</sup></b>	<p>Experiential Activities: Facilitate 3 or more direct experience activities (preferably in an outdoor setting)</p> <p>Challenge participants to discover and record direct experience opportunities with potential application to their curriculum and practice</p>	20-30 mins
<b>Break</b>		15 mins
<b>Learning Cycle Connections</b>	<p>Share and record opportunities discovered by participants in Direct Experience activity</p> <p>Placemat Activity<sup>8</sup>: Groups of 3-5 brainstorm applications (real or potential) of the Learning Cycle in their practice, rotate through all four aspects, then discuss consensus best practices and record in the centre circle of the placemat; group presentations</p>	20-30 mins
<b>Action Planning<sup>9</sup></b>	<p>Individually (or in partners, groups as appropriate) engage participants in program/unit/lesson or class/school initiative planning using ELE Curriculum Maps as needed; Share</p> <p>Complete Action Commitment Postcard</p>	45 mins
<b>Closing</b>	<p>Share action commitments or workshop highlights</p> <p>Distribute take-away promotional materials and/or resources</p> <p>Present Ministry of Education Green Schools website and EEPsA website, other community connections and resources</p> <p>Inform about other ELE Pro-D opportunities and templates</p> <p>Q &amp; A, Evaluations</p>	15 mins

