

Fostering climate hopefulness: A synthesis study of the impacts of outdoor environmental education programs | DRL-2517131

Team

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Project Description

The climate crisis is profoundly affecting people's emotional well being; outdoor learning experiences may support emotions such as hope and agency for both learners and educators. This project is conducting a scoping review to understand the extent and nature of literature on climate emotions and their relationship to outdoor environmental education programs including the impacts of outdoor environmental program designs, professional learning, and pedagogical practices on educators and learner outcomes over a thirty-year period (1995-2025).

Audience & Settings

Audience: Preschool-16 learners, and educators in outdoor environmental education settings

Discipline type: Environmental and climate science

Learning environment: Outdoor environmental education settings including but not limited to learning in parks, gardens, schoolyards, nature centers, and multi-night programs.



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This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under grant [DRL-2517131](#). Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

Research Design

Research questions:

1. What is the extent and nature of existing literature on climate emotions and their relationship to outdoor environmental education programs?
2. What specific program elements and pedagogical strategies have outdoor environmental education programs employed over the past 30 years to address climate emotions of increasingly diverse youth populations, and what evidence suggests their effectiveness?

Methods: This scoping review will use systematic searches across two or more academic databases using three primary inclusion criteria organized by the PCC framework (Aromataris et al., 2024):

- Population: Learners and educators of all ages
- Concept: Climate change and emotions
- Context: Outdoor environmental education

Climate Emotions Wheel



Climate Emotions Wheel © 2024



ClimateMentalHealth.Net

Aromataris E, Lockwood C, Porritt K, Pilla B, Jordan Z, editors. *JBIMES-24-01*. JBI Manual for Evidence Synthesis. JBI; 2024. Available from:

<https://doi.org/10.46658/JBIMES-24-01>

Climate emotions wheel. 2023. Climate Mental Health Network.

Available from: <https://www.climatementalhealth.net/wheel>

