

Freedom Montessori School Environmental Education Curriculum

Our environmental education program is learner-centered, providing students with opportunities to construct their own understandings through hands-on, minds-on investigations. Learners are engaged in direct experiences and are challenged to use higher-order thinking skills. The environmental education curriculum here at Freedom Montessori supports the development of an active learning community where learners share ideas, expertise, and prompt continued inquiry. The program provides real-world contexts and issues from which concepts and skills can be learned. Ultimately, the goal of environmental education is to develop an environmentally literate citizenry. Through comprehensive, cohesive programs, learners:

- explore how feelings, experiences, attitudes and perceptions influence environmental issues
- become knowledgeable about natural processes and systems
- gain an understanding of human processes and systems
- are able to investigate and analyze environmental problems and issues using a variety of techniques
- use basic science and math skills, and explore the nature of bias
- develop a sense of their rights and responsibilities as citizens
- are able to understand the ideals, principles, and practices of citizenship in our democratic republic
- possess the skills necessary for citizenship

Classes are taught by our Enrichment Program Coordinator, Amanda Robertson, who is certified Environmental Educator with NAAEE and had attended workshop to certify training through SCDHEC and C&NN.

In cooperation with the city of Rock Hill we offer the following programs:

- A Hiking Adventure with Gabby Greenleaves (Fewell Park)
- Turn Around Clown Recycling Show
- Elizabeth Morgan – Litter prevention and Recycling How To's
- Action for Cleaner Tomorrow Curriculum
- NAAEE preschool education curriculum program taught in Enrichment classes