

Appalachia & Education in the Community

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Place-Based Education: An Overview

- Students are connected intimately and meaningfully to their community; educators and policy makers must reevaluate the curriculum in rural Appalachia and interject much needed place-based educational practices alongside standardized test material.
- The students learned in a completely different way than when the teacher taught with textbooks, were able to get in the community, gain more out of the work than they otherwise would have, and were able to learn the material on a much deeper level than they otherwise would have. *This is the promise of place-based education.*"



Ideology

- ...That the path to a sane, sustainable existence must start with a fundamental re-imagination of the ethical, economic, political, and spiritual foundations upon which society is based, and that this process needs to occur within the context of a deep local knowledge of place.
- The creation of sustainable Appalachian communities *must* begin with education. It *must* begin with a radical revolution of the way we think about education. It *must* begin with educators reevaluating educational techniques and goals. We *must* implement place-based educational practices. For implantation of various societal and political methods of creating sustainable communities will only go so far if we do not first teach and learn with students in the community meaningfully and intimately.