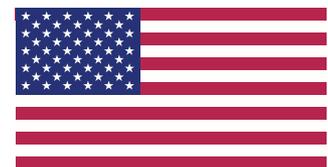


# Combined *STEAM* Art/Science Practices to *Engage* Students into Ecological Science



Brandon Ballengée, Ph.D.  
Fundació Catalana per a la Recerca i la  
Innovació , 28 IX 17



U.S. Consulate General Barcelona

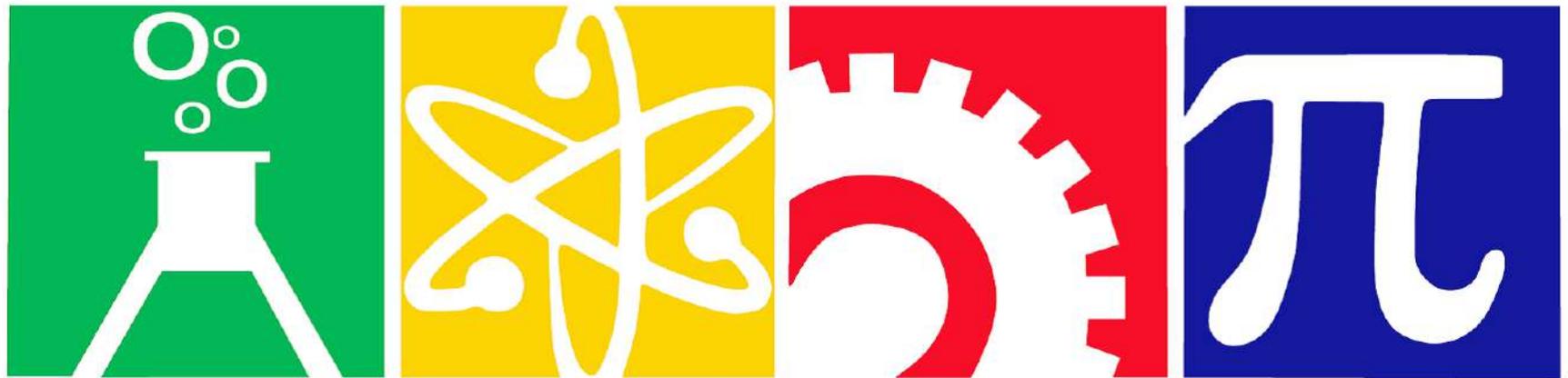
## *Outline of talk:*

- **Introduction to STEM**
- **STEM to STEAM**
- **Recent changes to Science and Art**
- **Past projects: Engaging students about Ecology**
- **Example for you to try!**

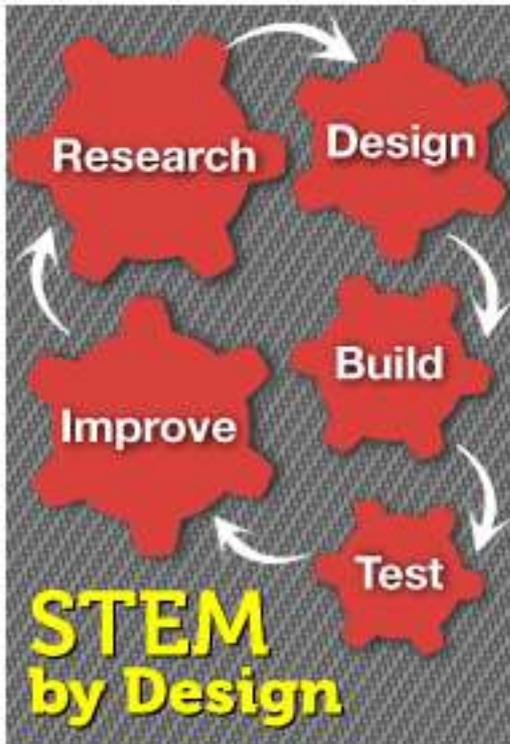




# What is STEM?



**STEM** Science, Technology,  
Engineering, Mathematics



STEM education = integration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to *solve real world problems*.

These solutions require *innovation*, creativity, analysis, teamwork, and communication

+ *creative* engineering design process.

## What are the goals of STEM?

- To facilitate students “to think deeply and to think well so that they have the chance to become the innovators, educators, researchers, and leaders who can **solve the most pressing challenges facing our nation and our world**, both today and tomorrow” (U.S. Department of Education, 2017)
- To prepare students for an “increasingly science- and technology-driven world...to **expand the STEM-capable workforce** and **to increase scientific literacy** among the general public”
- Expand the STEM-capable workforce and broaden the participation of **women** and **minorities** in that workforce.



National Research Council. (2011). *Successful K-12 STEM education: Identifying effective approaches in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics*. National Academies Press.



***S.T.E.M to S.T.E.A.M?***



- Emphasizes the **value of creativity** and arts-based learning in the sciences
- Relies on **breaking down the distinction between disciplines** traditionally seen as “creative” like the arts or music, and STEM disciplines traditionally seen as more rigid or logical-mathematical.
- The multifaceted issues and complex problems served by scientific thinkers today require 21<sup>st</sup> century professionals who **go beyond disciplinary** content, and are also creative thinkers who **work between disciplines**



STEAM advocates such as Dr. Nettrice Gaskins affirms the value of STEM but insist that the arts (including humanities) **foster creativity, global awareness, design, and literacy**; and provide an avenue for learning that adds to STEM.

- The Key is **creativity**
- Creativity is the **catalyst** for learning
- **Democratized interpersonal creative learning** for all students regardless of race, sex, orientation or socio-economic status

# FULL STEAM AHEAD

THE NEW FRONTIER IN STEM STUDIES

EVER LISTENED TO JAZZ AND THOUGHT OF QUANTUM PHYSICS? EVER STUCK ON A PROBLEM IN THE GALAXIES OF SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS AND PONDERED HOW TO PLAY MOZART ON THE VIOLIN?

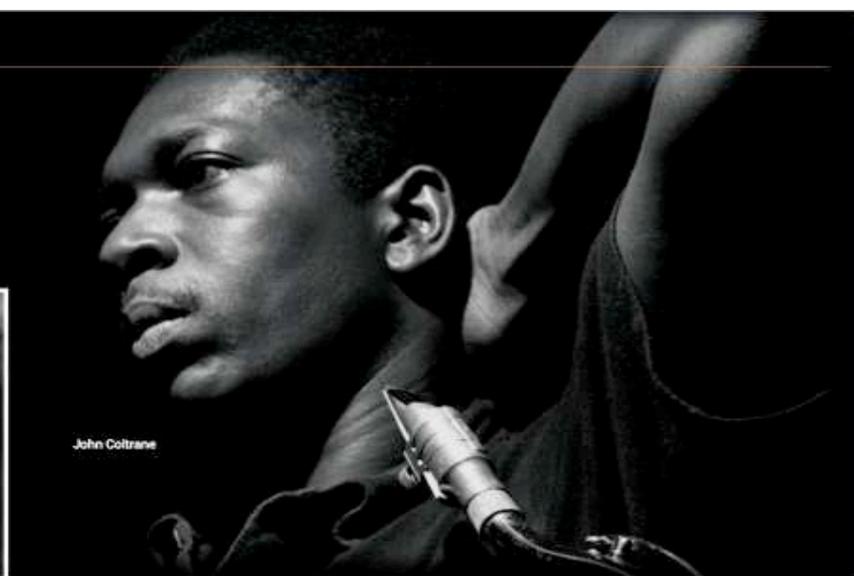
By Kate Alexander

JOHN COLTRANE did. So did ALBERT EINSTEIN.

Albert Einstein



John Coltrane



Today, as you consider career and college choices, you may be interested in a STEM career, but still feel the pull towards creativity and the arts. Or, you may be contemplating a creative field, such as theatre, dance or music, and think there is no room for you in a math-oriented or tech field, such as music engineering.

A growing trend in career preparation, however, is to explore interdisciplinary connections between subjects that have typically been "siloes." In fact, the human mind is not compartmentalized. We don't just know a lot about math. Or cooking. Or Shakespeare. Recognizing this, colleges and institutions are beginning to encourage students and educators to consider arts within the context of science and technology. The result? STEM's "hot" new cousin, STEAM. It's adding the "A" to STEM to create STEAM.

In this issue of NextStepSTEM, we decided to investigate why STEM is turning more towards STEAM, and

what exactly that means for students considering careers in science, technology, engineering, and math.

We spoke to three different experts in the field, Peter Osgood, Director of Admissions from Harvey Mudd College, Dr. Nettrice Gaskins, the Director of STEAM Lab at Boston Arts Academy, and Anne Jolly, a STEM educator and consultant.



## STEMMING THE TIDE

The focus on STEM education began several years ago, as the nation came to grips with how crucial these skills are for the growing global economy. U.S. student rankings fell woefully behind other nations in technology and math subjects. We needed to turn the tide.

To improve standards, the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) issued a report, "Prepare and Inspire: K-12 Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) for America's Future"

<http://bit.ly/1HleeOC>. It outlined the underrepresentation of STEM in education, and proposed solutions to instigate success in future careers, innovations, and solutions.

Anne Jolly, a STEM educator, consultant, and author of the 2016 *STEM by Design* <http://bit.ly/1tuzt00> (Routledge Press), explains that today, "businesses are asking us to produce employees with more technologically sophisticated skills, and a more in-depth mastery of science and mathematics."

This will help the economy and nation become more prepared for "the pressing challenges that students are going to be faced with; for example, climate change, food shortages, energy shortages, environmental problems, diseases increasing, clean water [needs], just to name a few," Jolly explains.

So, how do the arts open up new opportunities for students considering a career in STEM? Can integrating the arts help these larger goals?

Dr. Nettrice Gaskins, Director of the

STEAM Lab at the Boston Arts Academy <http://bit.ly/2jcr1tT>, believes that the arts hold a key to unlocking all that STEM has to offer the world. On the one hand, she notes that STEM "encourages students to think innovatively, to experiment and to master technical know-how." However, humanities foster another avenue of learning and invention: they teach "creativity, global awareness and literacy." These skills not only enhance innovation and critical thinking in the science and technology fields, but are also needed for both the "current economy and moving forward in the 21st century," Gaskins adds.

In fact, Jolly believes that "arts is such a natural part of STEM that I would say it's not just complementary; it's integral." In other words, the arts inherently work hand-in-hand with science, technology, engineering and math. "You have to apply artistic principles if you're going to improve the appearance, design, or usability of a product."

The process is something that develops from both "sides" - STEM

and STEAM. "Design doesn't come from the STEM side solely; it comes from art... from the artistic or creative expression," Gaskins explains. "That then becomes an idea. Then, it becomes an experiment or something to tinker with. It becomes a design." It is the reason not to silo subjects (i.e. treat art and math as separate), but instead to find "the places of intersection," Gaskins says.

Peter Osgood, Director of Admissions at Harvey Mudd College ([www.hmc.edu](http://www.hmc.edu)), advises us that subjects did not always have the opportunity to "co-exist" and feed off each other. In the past, "we tended to treat each discipline as a discrete unit and almost didn't see all the parts connecting. So math stayed within the math confines, and physics didn't wander away from physics. Chemistry stayed within its confines, etc. And it turns out that that's not a very good model for science." Nor is it a very good model for solving problems - in the world, or for our enjoyment of the world.

Referencing the incredible strides in computer graphics for movies and video games, Jolly comments that, even though science and analytical processes are used to create them, ultimately, innovation is often "mind boggling. And that takes an artistic brain."

Gaskins believes that STEAM increases cross-disciplinary study. Within businesses and corporations that recruit from STEM fields, "they'll tell you how the lines are blurring" and students are expected to be able to work across fields and disciplines. She believes that STEAM came about as a result of seeing how STEM might not fully prepare students to be globally competitive in the 21st century workforce.

## IS STEAM NEW?

In speaking with these three experts regarding STEAM in education, it became clear that the arts were far from new to science, technology, engineering and math.

The "A" in STEAM is not just an addition to the science and technology

"The most exceptional thinkers in fields like science or math are also highly creative individuals who are deeply influenced by an interest in, and knowledge of, music, the arts and similar areas" Henriksen, D. (2014)

# Are Artists the New Interpreters of Scientific Innovation?



By GISELA WILLIAMS SEPT. 12, 2017



A self-portrait by the artist Hiroshi Sugimoto in the Oculist Witness eyeglasses he designed in 2014. Designed by Hiroshi Sugimoto. Produced by Lizworks and Selima Optique. @Hiroshi Sugimoto

WHEN WE THINK OF ARTIST residencies today, we think of the [MacDowell Colony](#), in the woods of New Hampshire, and of the [Skowhegan School](#), in Maine. There's the [Rome Prize fellowship](#), at the city's American Academy, and Donald Judd's [Chinati Foundation](#), in Marfa. To be an artist in residence means removing yourself from the noise and obligations of regular life, and instead getting to concentrate on your creative life, often in a beautiful locale.

But once, an artist residency meant something very different: being embedded squarely within regular life, an experience meant both to inspire artists and to infuse what were seen as artless environments with creativity. In

1966, an artist named  
and her husband

influential British conceptual artist, started the [A.P.G.](#), in London, the goal of which was to en

## T's Sept. 24 Design & Luxury Issue

- T's Design & Luxury Issue: Editor's Letter SEP 22
- How To | Activate an Artwork SEP 22
- The Design Companies Conquering New Ground SEP 22
- Four Modern Masters of Color Reinventing Design SEP 21
- The Unique Value of Seeing Works in the Wild SEP 21

[See More »](#)

*Changes to Science and Art*

# The New York Times

# *Transdisciplinary or Transdisciplinarity?*

**Nicolescu, B. (2002) *Manifesto of Transdisciplinarity*. Voss, K-C., Tran. New York: SUNY Press.**

*Focussed on moving beyond disciplines for knowledge production*

**Mittelstraß, J. (2000) *Transdisciplinarity: New Structures in Science*. Presented at the Innovative Structures in Basic Research Conference of the Max Planck Society, 4–7 October**

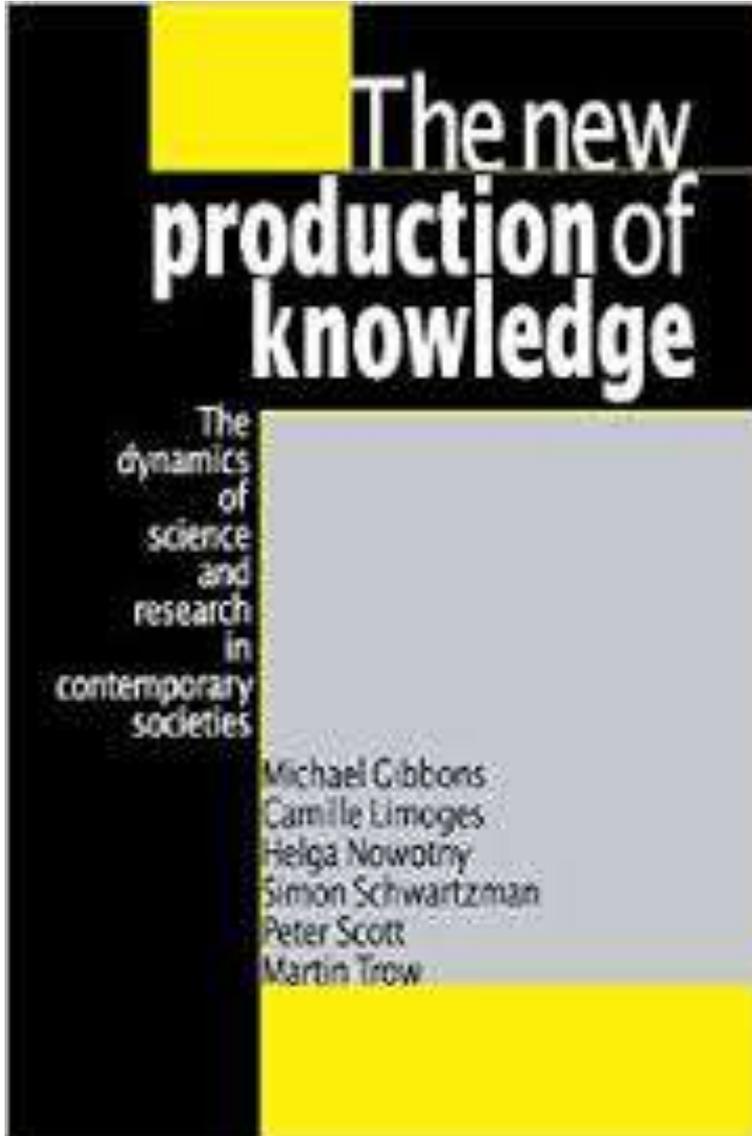
*Focussed on real world problem solving*

Nicolescu, B. (2002) *Manifesto of Transdisciplinarity*. Voss, K-C., Tran. New York: SUNY Press.

Mittelstraß, J. (2000) *Transdisciplinarity: New Structures in Science*. Presented at the Innovative Structures in Basic Research Conference of the Max Planck Society, 4–7 October



## Changes in Science: Mode 2: Knowledge Production



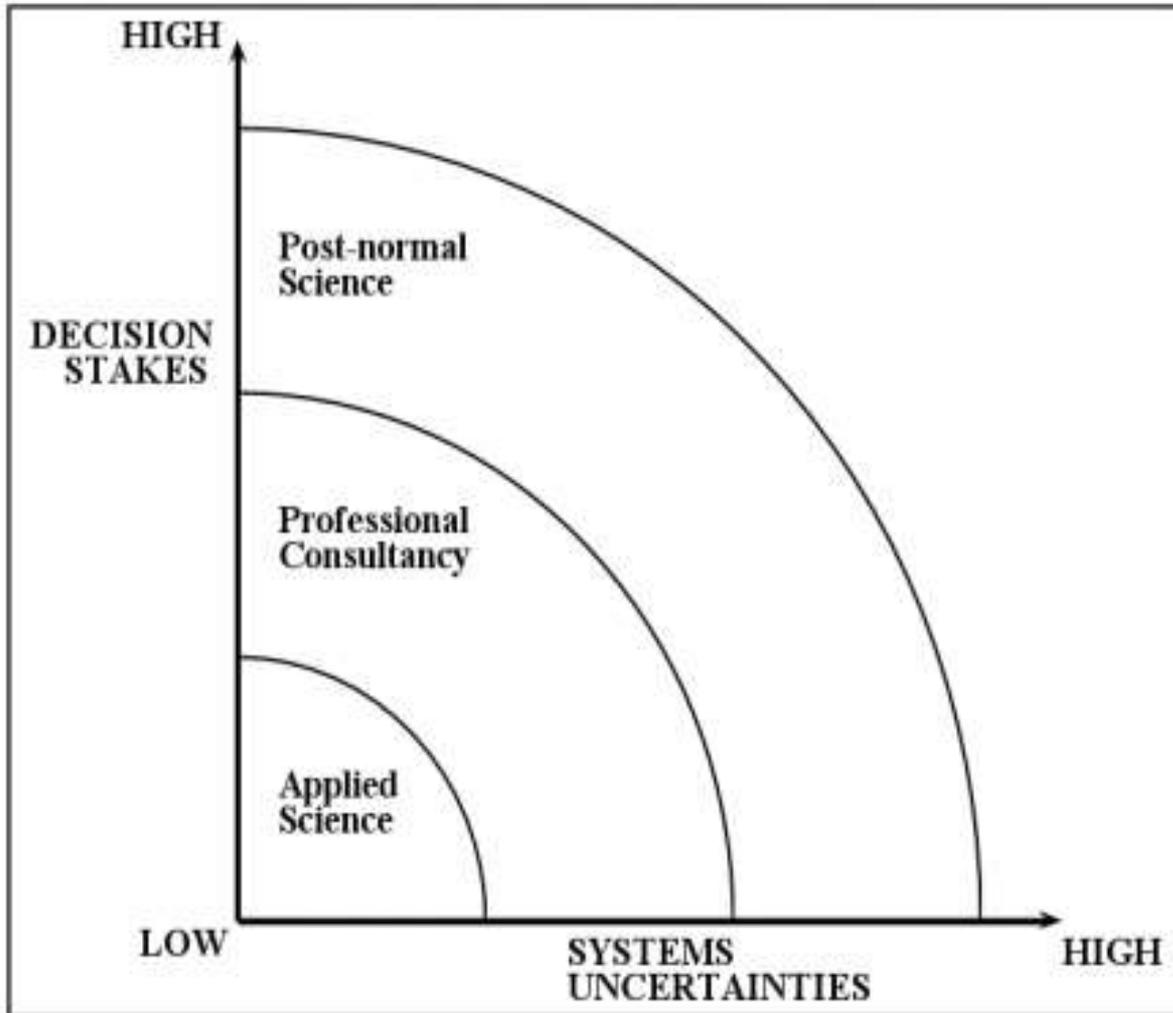
**Mode 1:** Knowledge produced by scientists and largely remains in scientific community (silo). Operates autonomous from social goals and interests.

**Mode 2:** Transdisciplinary (Heterogeneous) knowledge production by individuals from diverse backgrounds- view points.

Reflective and flexible forms of research for complex problem-solving.

Knowledge socially distributed beyond science

## Changes in Science: 'Post Normal Science'



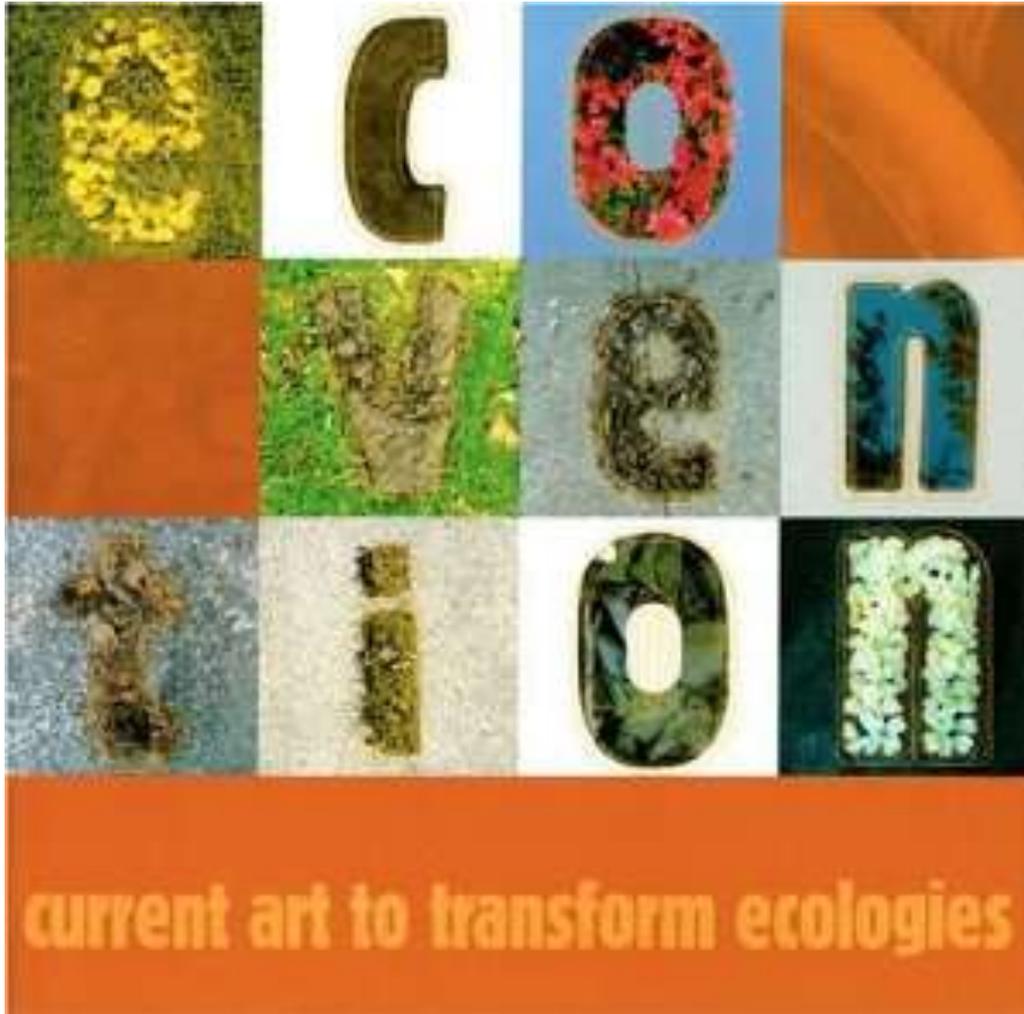
PNS Research is:  
**problem-driven,**  
**creative and**  
**participatory** (even  
local youth and  
stakeholders)

Temporal and  
adaptive to situation  
as situation constantly  
changes

Outcomes evaluated  
by larger society not  
just peers

## Changes in Art

**Ecology + Artistic Invention = *EcoVention***



Projects are problem-driven and often participatory (with local youth and stakeholders)

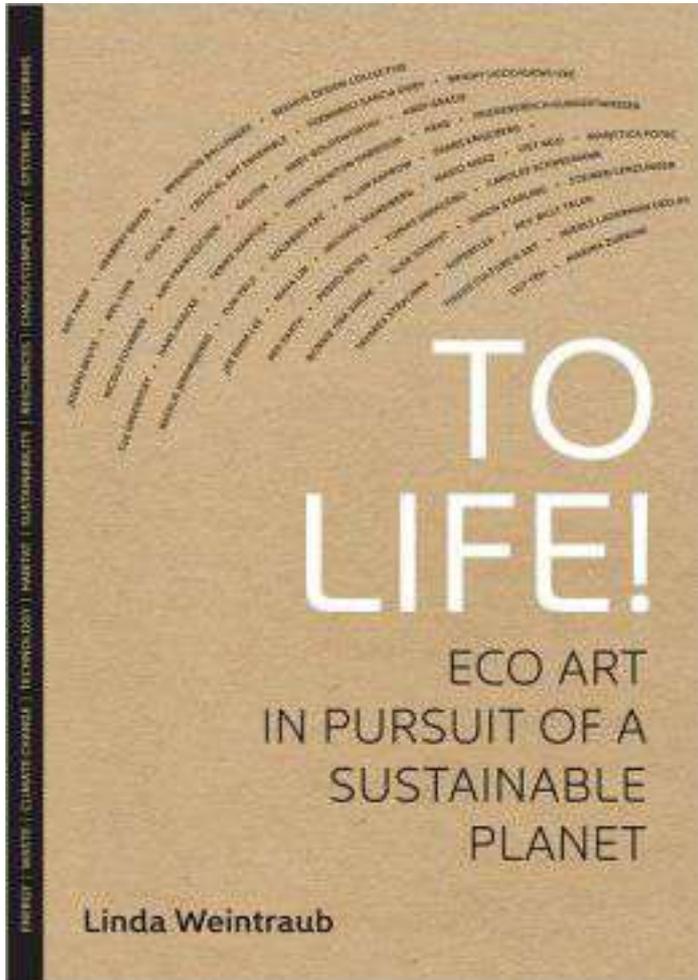
Temporal and often adaptive to situation as situation constantly changes

Outcomes evaluated by society not just peers

# Changes in Art



Art + Ecology = **Eco Art**

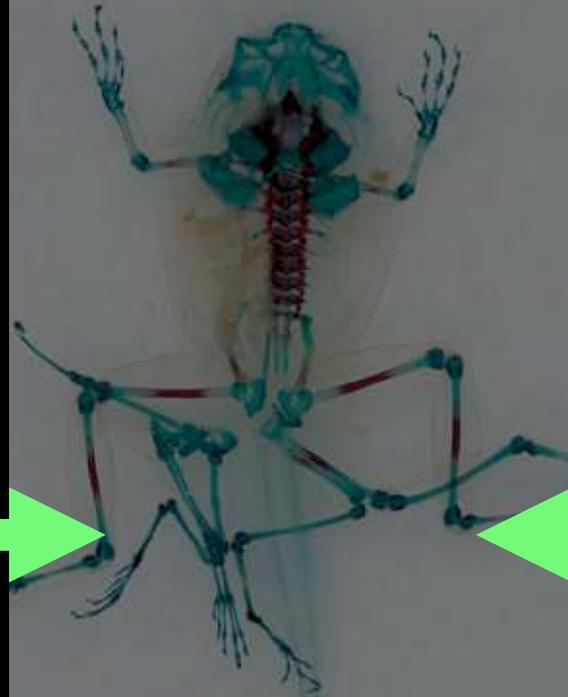
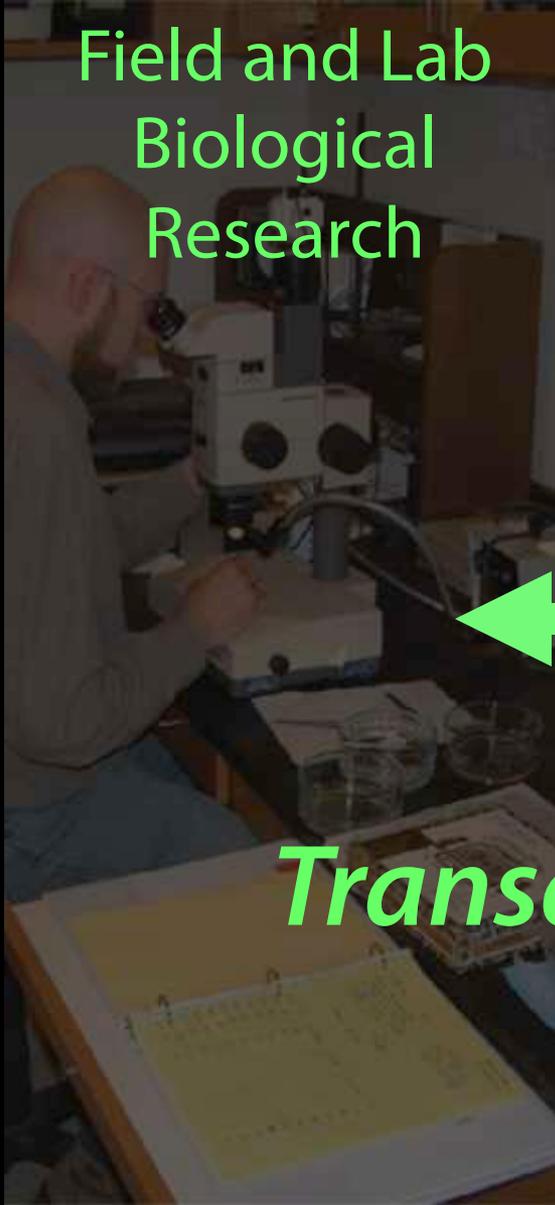


**A Survey of  
20/21<sup>st</sup> C. Artist instigated  
creative art/ science projects towards  
environmental and social  
sustainability  
+  
guides citizens to integrate  
environmental awareness,  
responsibility, and activism into their  
professional and personal lives**

**Past projects:**  
*Engaging students about **Ecology** through science and art*



Field and Lab  
Biological  
Research



Participatory  
Eco-Ed  
Programs



*Transdisciplinary Practice*

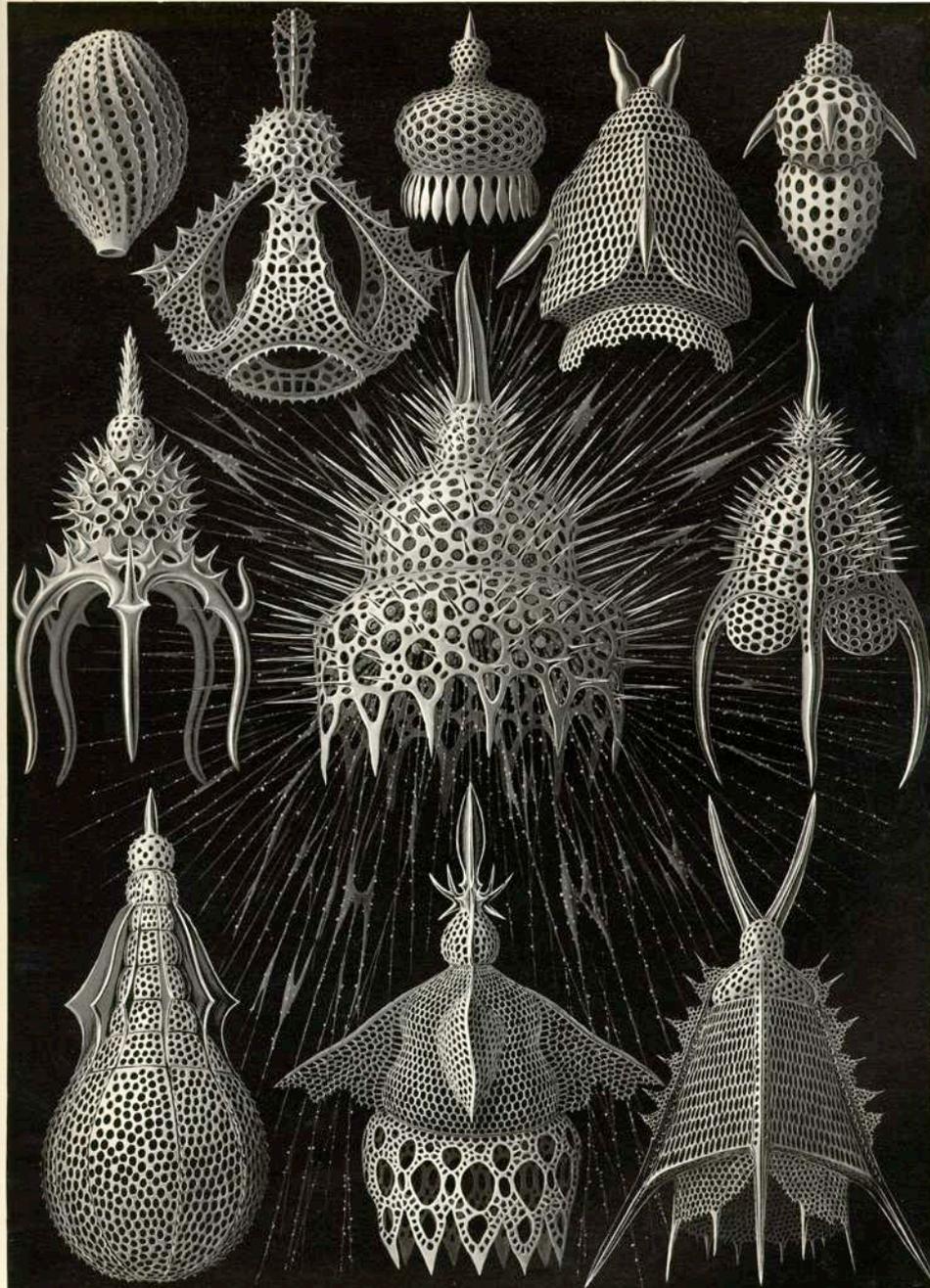
Art inspired by  
these experiences

# What is ecology?

**Artist/ Scientist Ernst Haeckel** created the term “ecology” from the ancient Greek word for “home”- “οἶκος” (oikos) in 1866.



The branch of science that is concerned with **the relationships between organisms and their environments** + the study of the detrimental effects of modern civilization on the environment, with a view towards prevention or reversal through **conservation**.



Cyrtoidea. — Flaschenstrahllinge.

Ernst Haeckel

Primary focus of scientific research and ecological art: 1996-2015:  
*Amphibians as 'bio-indicator' species*

Of the known 7000+ species, over 1/3 up to 43% are already gone or are declining.



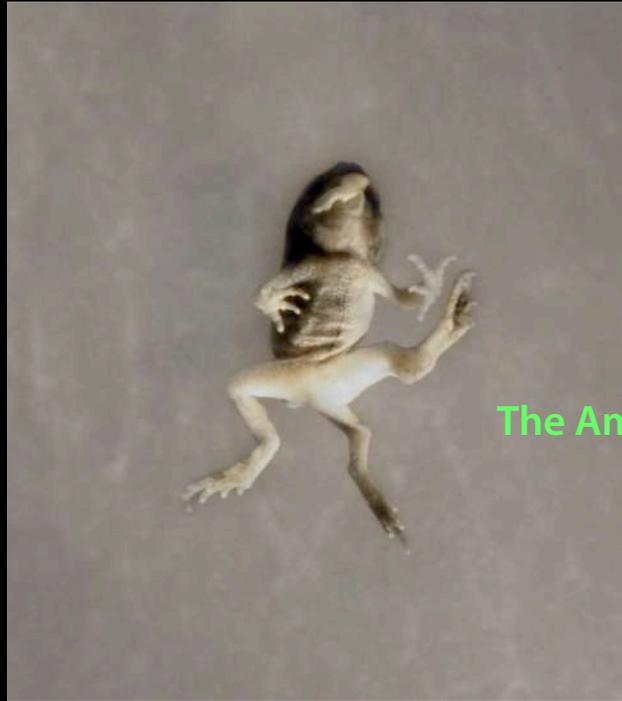
Amphibian deformities have been reported in six continents and appears to be increasing (at least among some populations)



Essonne, France 2012



Asia



The Americas



Africa



Australia



**Eco-Actions=** Public participation in preliminary and primary field research/  
experiential environmental field-trips



Yorkshire Sculpture Park, England *Eco-Action* from 2006-08 Malamp UK studies. Photograph 2008 by Jonty Wilde



Piedmont, Italy *Eco-Action* from 2010 Malamp IT studies. Photograph 2010 by Orietta Brombin



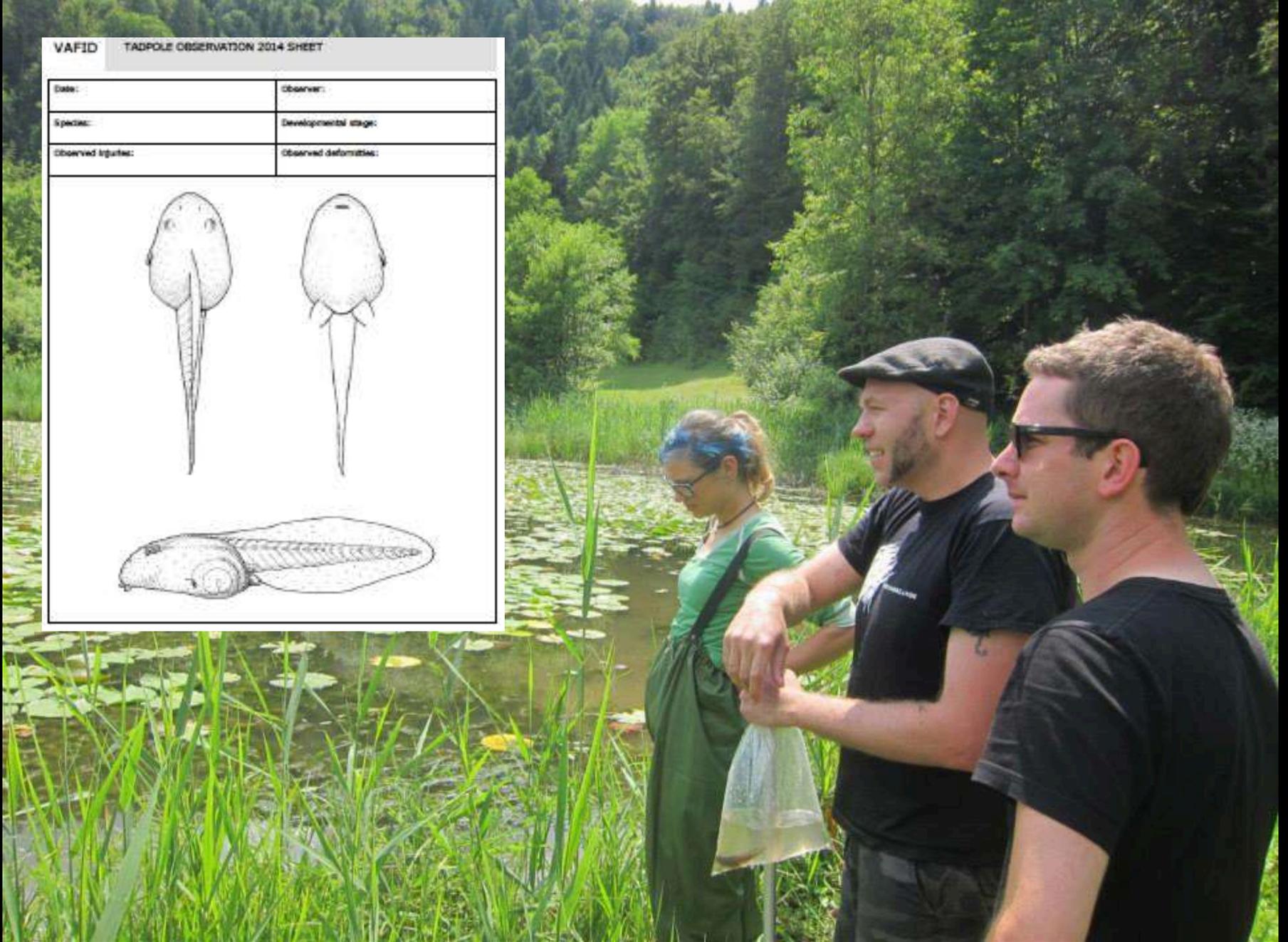
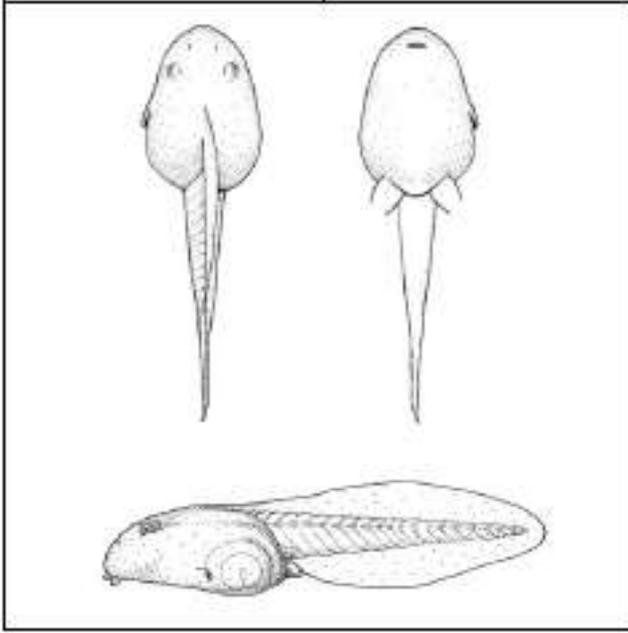
Lough Boora, Ireland *Eco-Action* from 2010 Common frog/ *Rana temporaria* studies. Photograph 2010 by Kevin O'Dwyer



Chamarande, France *Eco-Action* from 2012-13 anuran studies. Photograph 2012 by Maeva Blandin

VAFID TADPOLE OBSERVATION 2014 SHEET

Date:	Observer:
Species:	Developmental stage:
Observed injuries:	Observed deformities:



Greater Ljubljana, Slovenia *Eco-Action* from 2013 anuran studies. Photograph 2013 by Marc Dusseiller Dusjagr













**ZARAGOZA**

**ECO-ACCIONES //**

# Public Bio-Art Laboratories: England 2008



138 visitors to the lab answered questionnaires, of which 91% answered “yes” when asked “Did you learn anything about amphibians by visiting this open laboratory?” (Figure 8). However, the majority of visitors (51%) deemed the YSP Public Bio-Art Lab as “science” when asked “Is this art or science or both?”

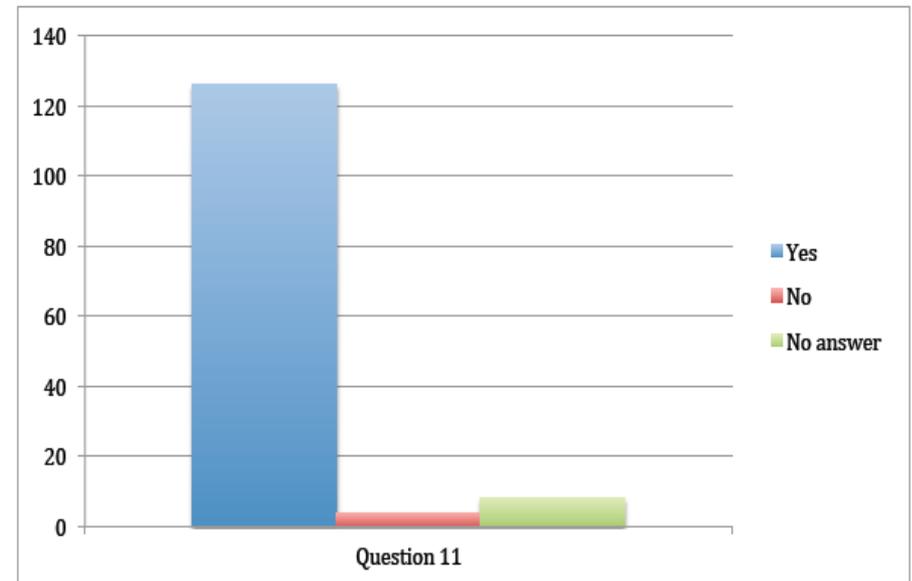


Figure 8: YSP Public Bio-Art Lab Questionnaire (June 1- August 1, 2008). Question 11. “Did you learn anything about amphibians by visiting this open laboratory?”

# Public Bio-Art Laboratories: Canada 2010



Here only 56 visitors answered questionnaires, of which only 62% answered “yes” when asked “Did you learn anything about amphibians by visiting this open laboratory?” (Figure below). Additionally, most **people (73%) viewed the lab as a dually art and science by answering “both”** when asked “Is this art or science or both?”

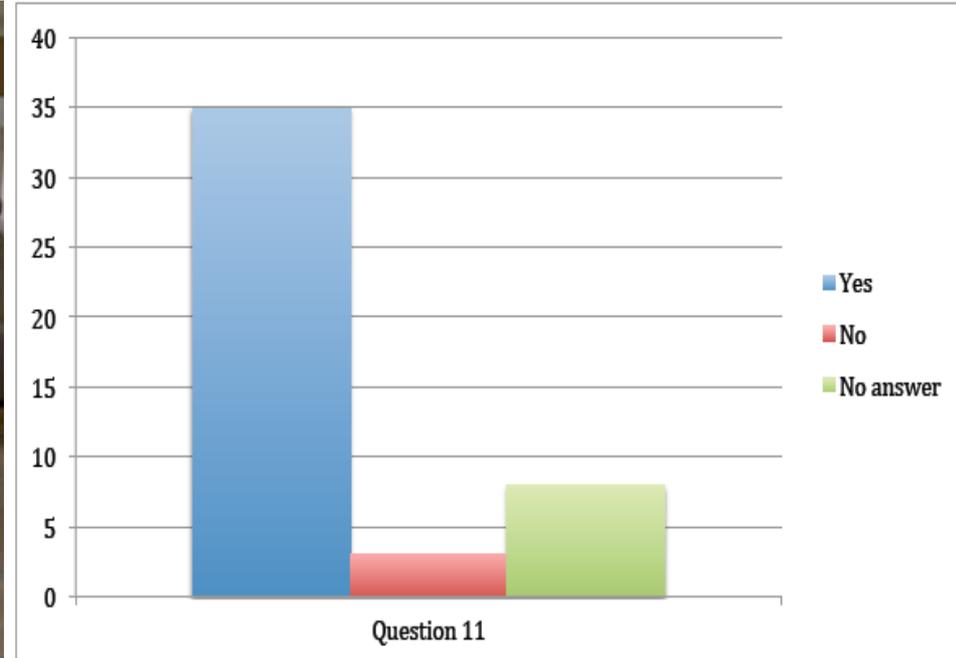
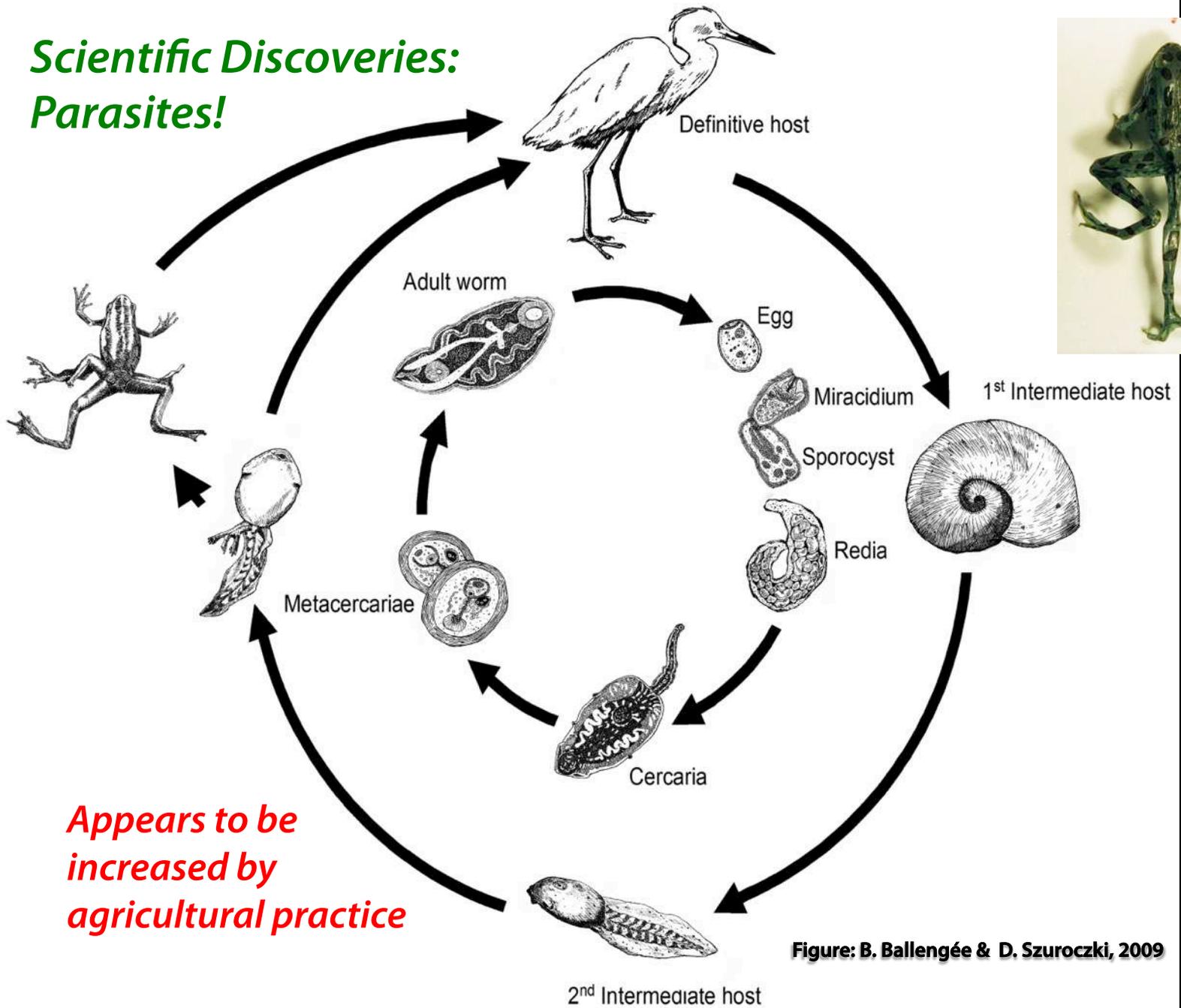


Figure 10: SAT Public Bio-Art Lab Questionnaire (May 15- September 1, 2009). Question 11. “Did you learn anything about amphibians by visiting this open laboratory?”



# Scientific Discoveries: Parasites!



*Appears to be increased by agricultural practice*

Figure: B. Ballengée & D. Szuroczi, 2009

# *Scientific Discoveries: Predators!*



*UK Studies 2005-08*

2008 7 13



**Appears to be  
increased by  
agricultural practice**

Figure 4. Deformed hind limbs in wild-caught *B. bufo* tadpoles (top row) compared with hind limb deformities in tadpoles ((bottom row) induced by selective predation by captive dragonfly nymphs. Note protruding bone in the tadpoles second from left end in each row.

# Explanation for Missing Limbs in Deformed Amphibians

BRANDON BALLENGÉE<sup>1</sup> AND STANLEY K. SESSIONS<sup>2\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*School of Computing, Communications and Electronics, University of Plymouth, Plymouth, United Kingdom*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Biology, Hartwick College, Oneonta, New York*

**ABSTRACT** We present evidence that the most commonly found deformities in wild-caught amphibians, those featuring missing limbs and missing limb segments, may be the result of selective predation. Here we report that predatory dragonfly nymphs can severely injure and even fully amputate developing hind limbs of anuran tadpoles. Developmental responses of the injured/amputated tadpole limbs range from complete regeneration to no regeneration, with intermediate conditions represented by various idiosyncratic limb deformities, depending mainly on the developmental stage of the tadpole at the time of injury/amputation. These findings were reinforced by experimental amputations of anuran tadpole hind limbs that resulted in similar deformities. Our studies suggest that selective predation by dragonfly nymphs and other aquatic predators may play a significant role in the most common kinds of limb deformities found in natural populations of amphibians. *J. Exp. Zool. (Mol. Dev. Evol.) 312B, 2009.* © 2009 Wiley-Liss, Inc.

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**How to cite this article:** Ballengée B, Sessions SK. 2009. Explanation for missing limbs in deformed amphibians. *J. Exp. Zool. (Mol. Dev. Evol.) 312B*:[page range].

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Art

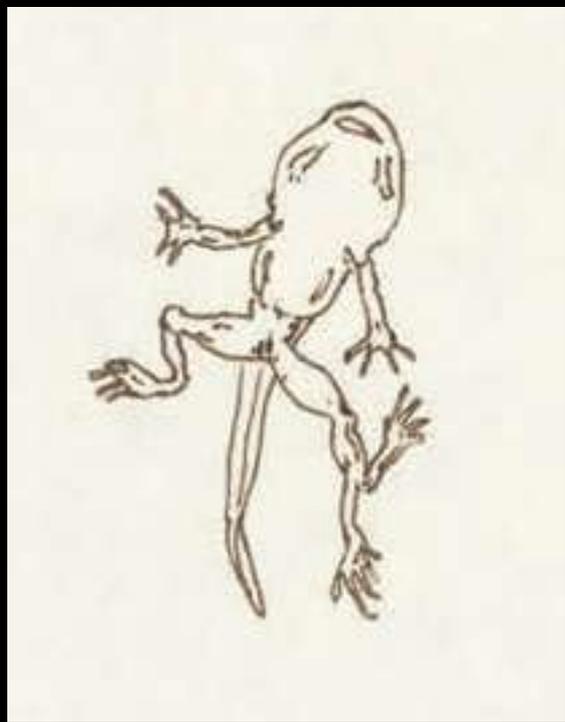


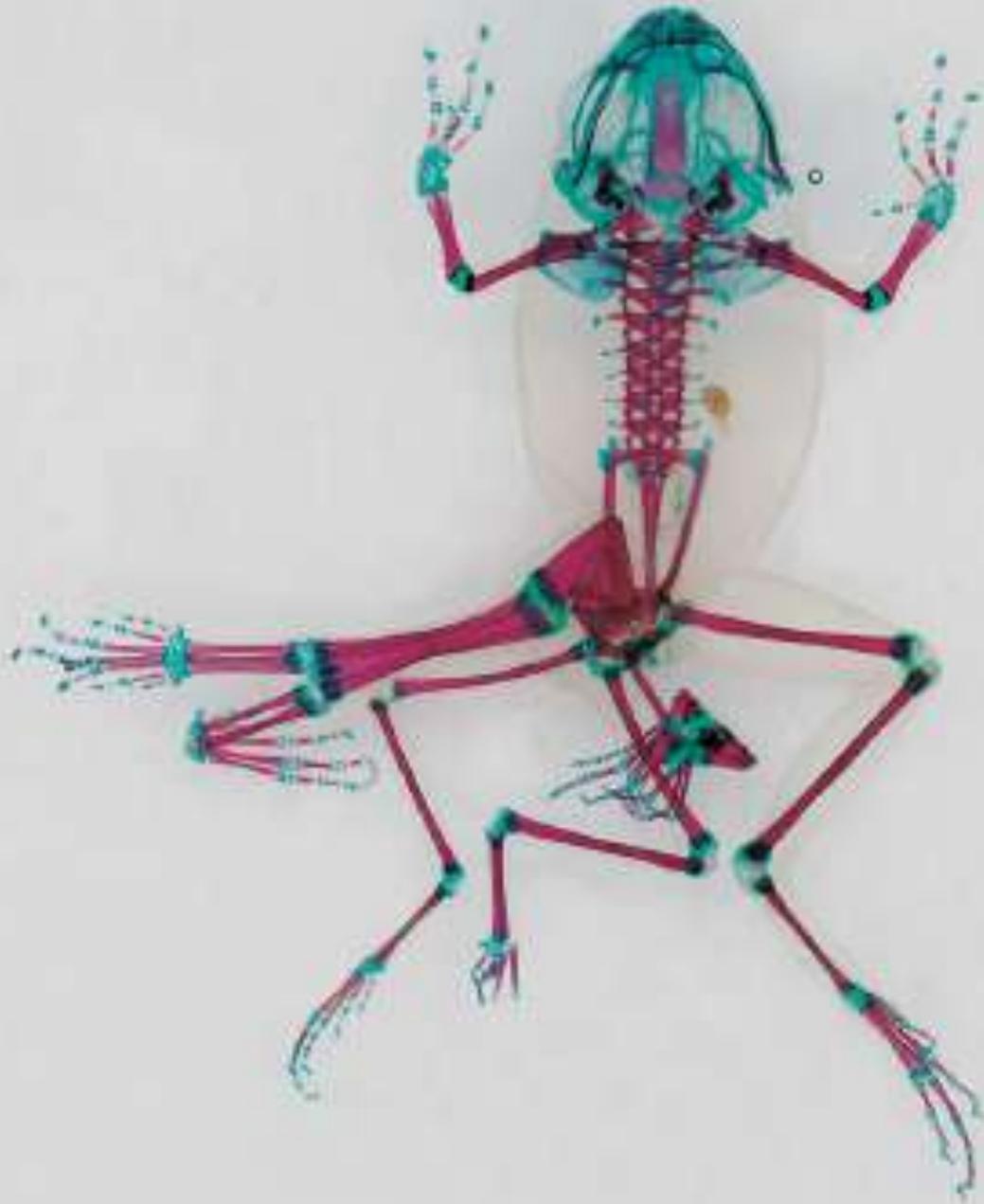
Figure 24. *Planétaire* by Nolwenn Gonszel, 2009. Digital-C photograph on acrylic resin. 57x72 cm.



Figure 25. *Untitled* by Zoé Brunelli, 2009, urethane casts of preserved deformed frog and vellum banner. 1.5 m x 3 m x 1.5 m



*DFA 83, Karkinos*  
In scientific collaboration with Stanley  
K. Sessions. Titles in collaboration with  
the poet KuyDelair  
2001/07





*DFA 186, Hades*  
2012

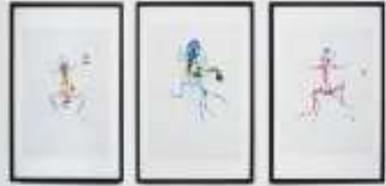




Taxonomia, COMAFOSCA, Noce de Aze y Pezamiento en Azeite, Da Calona, Spais, 2007. Photograph by Erika Jaramila



IN Water, Zia, Hasselt, Belgium, 2008. Photograph by Kikirot Vancan



Mozzetta Sacra, Northern Gallery, Milan, Italy, 2009. Photograph by Luigi Acena



## Recent Exhibitions



Biotechnique, Yerba Buena Art Center, San Francisco, USA, 2002. Photograph by Phillip Rose

Biological Agents Gallery 400, Chicago, USA, 2008. Photograph by Tomi van Ighoe



Biotechnique, Yerba Buena Art Center, San Francisco, USA, 2002. Photograph by Phillip Rose

# 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico



## Largest spill in history (Crone & Tolstoy 2010, Rabalais 2014)



John Amos, Skytruth: "Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill - Cumulative Oil Slick Footprint, April 25 - July 16, 2010"

Graphic showing the cumulative oil slick footprint for the BP / Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the northeast Gulf of Mexico. Created by overlaying all of the oil slicks mapped by SkyTruth on satellite images taken between April 25 and July 16, 2010.

- **estimated at 206 million gallons of oil released with an immediate 'kill' zone greater than 200 kilometers wide** (GRN, 2011)
- **PB utilized 2 million gallons of chemical dispersants such as Corexit 9500, which made the effluents as much as 52% more toxic than the oil itself, inhibited hydrocarbon-degrading bacteria** (Hamdan & Fulmer, 2011; Rico-Martinez et al, 2013)
- **Thousands of kilometers Gulf floor layered with toxic sludge, shore impacts at greater than 1000 miles of fragile estuary ecosystems and beaches** (CRS Report R42942, Ramseur & Hagerty, 2014). **Increased reports of malformations in marine life** (GRN, 2012)
- **2013 United States Congressional Report estimates that after clean up efforts over 100 million gallons of oil and materials remain in the Gulf** (CRS Report R41531, Ramseur, 2013)

600-1000 species of fishes  
(77 of which are endemic)



\* Sources Chakrabarty et al. 2014

# ***Crude Life: A Citizen Art and Science Investigation of Gulf of Mexico Biodiversity after the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill (2016-ongoing)***



Prosanta Chakrabarty, Ph.D.: Professor of Biology and Scientist (Fish expert) at Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge, Louisiana).

Sean Owen Miller: Artist, designer, and Professor at the University of Florida (Gainesville, Florida).

Rachel Mayeri: Artist, Designer, and Professor of Media Studies, Harvey Mudd College, (Claremont, California)

Lise M Frandsen Autogena: Artist, Filmmaker, and Professor of Cross-Disciplinary Art, Sheffield Hallam University (Sheffield, England).

Suzanne Fredericq, Ph.D.: Professor of Biology and Scientist (Algae expert) at University of Louisiana Lafayette (Lafayette, Louisiana).

And others!!!





General Article

# Five Years Later: An Update on the Status of Collections of Endemic Gulf of Mexico Fishes Put at Risk by the 2010 Oil Spill

Prosanta Chakrabarty<sup>‡,§</sup>, Glynn A. O'Neill<sup>|</sup>, Brannon Hardy<sup>|</sup>, Brandon Ballengee<sup>¶</sup>

<sup>‡</sup> Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, United States of America

<sup>§</sup> National Science Foundation, Arlington, Virginia, United States of America

<sup>|</sup> Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, United States of America

<sup>¶</sup> Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science, Baton Rouge, United States of America

The occurrence records of the 77 endemic species of the Gulf of Mexico were tallied using The Global Biodiversity Information Facility and FishNet2 from October-December of 2015

**18% MIA (n=14 species)**

# WANTED

fish species missing since the 2010 Oil Spill



Mexican goby or Blackfin goby



Spreadfin Skate



Unnamed hagfish/  
*Eptatretus minor*



Saltmarsh topminnow



Irsone eel



Fringefin lanternshark



Yucatan flagfish



Mardi Gras wrasse



Yucatan killifish



Yucatan or Golden silverside



Redface moray eel



Black driftfish



King snake eel



Key Brotula

If you find please contact  
Brandon Ballengée and Prosanta Chakrabarty at  
the Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University  
119 Foster Hall  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803  
email: [bballengee@lsu.edu](mailto:bballengee@lsu.edu)  
phone: 646-726-1387















Campsite  
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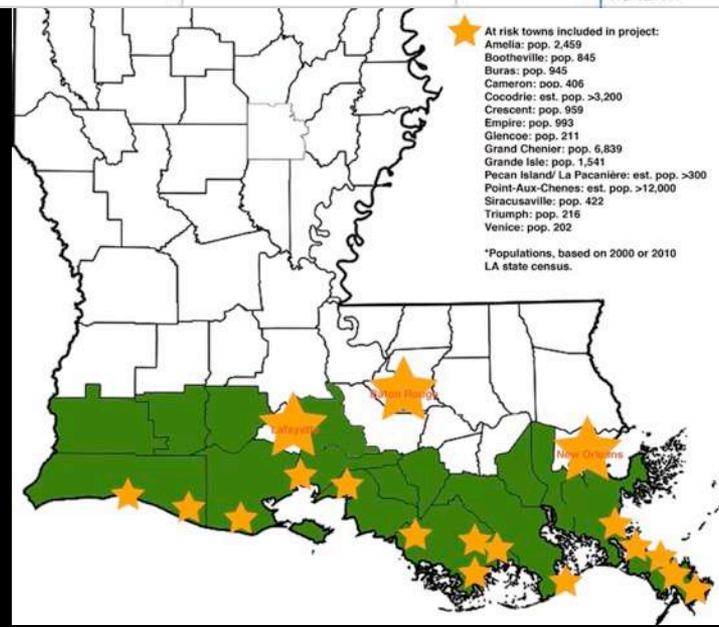


FAMILY ATTEN

KREATIVE KIDZ



Date	Location Name	Town	Parish	State	Event	Reach
29-Apr-17	NUNUs Artist Collective	Arnaudville	Saint Landry	LA	Semaine de Francaise Creative Summit	61
30-Apr-17	Pointe-aux-Chenes Marina	Pointe-aux-Chenes	Terrebonne Parish	LA	Blessing of the Fleet	60
6-May-17	Houma Civic Center	Houma	Terrebonne Parish	LA	Rougerou Ball	146
13-May-17	Army Core of Engineers Indian Bayou	Butte La Rose	Saint Martin	LA	Acadiania Master Naturalist Group	24
17-May-17	Studio in the Woods	New Orleans	Orleans Parish	LA	SYMBOLS Event	93
18-May-17	Five Points Brewery	New Orleans	Orleans Parish	LA	CSA Talk Series	50
19-May-17	NUNUs Artist Collective	Arnaudville	Saint Landry	LA	Community Potluck	80
25-May-17	Louisiana State Capital Building	Baton Rouge	East Baton Rouge	LA	Louisiana State Senate Natural Resource Committee	70
3-Jun-17	Bayou Teche Brewery	Arnaudville	Saint Martin	LA	Burning Crawfish Festival	150
8-Jun-17	Grand Isle Marina	Grand Isle	Jefferson	LA	Swollfest Fishing Rodeo	200
9-Jun-17	LUMCON	Cocodrie	Terrebonne Parish	LA	Friday Seminar Series	54
10-Jun-17	Cypremort Point State Park	Cypremort Point	Saint Mary	LA	Free Fishing Weekend	24
13-Jun-17	Paradise Bend Bar and Grill Dock	Pensacola	Escambia County	FLA	Beach Pop-Up	60
14-Jun-17	Pensacola Fishing Marina	Pensacola	Escambia County	FLA	Fishing Peer Pop-Up	40
15-Jun-17	EO Wilson Biophilia Center	Freeport	Walton County	FLA	Special exhibition	120
22-Jun-17	Docville	Arabi	Saint Bernard Parish	LA	Mississippi Delta Institute Teacher Training	73
23-Jun-17	Studio in the Woods	New Orleans	Orleans Parish	LA	Studio in the Woods Summer Youth Camp	27
23-Jun-17	City Park	New Orleans	Orleans Parish	LA	Summer Solstice Party	200
24-Jun-17	Acadiana Park Nature Station	Lafayette	Lafayette	LA	Special presentation	13
26-Jun-17	Pointe-aux-Chenes Marina	Pointe-aux-Chenes	Terrebonne Parish	LA	St. Benedict Academy Summer Camp	64
27-Jun-17	Pointe-aux-Chenes Marina	Pointe-aux-Chenes	Terrebonne Parish	LA	St. Benedict Academy Summer Camp	58
28-Jun-17	Pointe-aux-Chenes Marina	Pointe-aux-Chenes	Terrebonne Parish	LA	St. Benedict Academy Summer Camp	76
30-Jun-17	The Art and Science Museum	Baton Rouge	East Baton Rouge	LA	Special exhibition	36
					Total:	1779



## Example for you to try! **From Scales to Feathers**



**STEAM Approaches towards increasing Environmental Awareness through Urban Species Encounters**

Utilizing urban species and pigeons in **STEAM** teaching ecology and natural history to grade-school students



## Urban bird-watching! How can we engage students with pigeons?



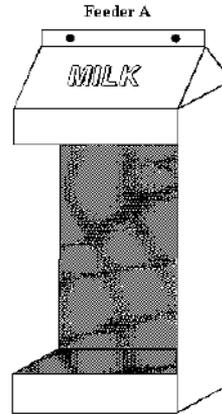
1. Change sensory input =  
binoculars or change of framing
2. Learning to look=  
Development of search image
3. Specific observations=

What do they see individually? As a group? Describe through drawings or writing (can be done as a game- as species scavenger hunt) **collect data**

# Creative Environmental Stewardship: Human beings build!



## Milk Carton Feeder by Alice J. Turner



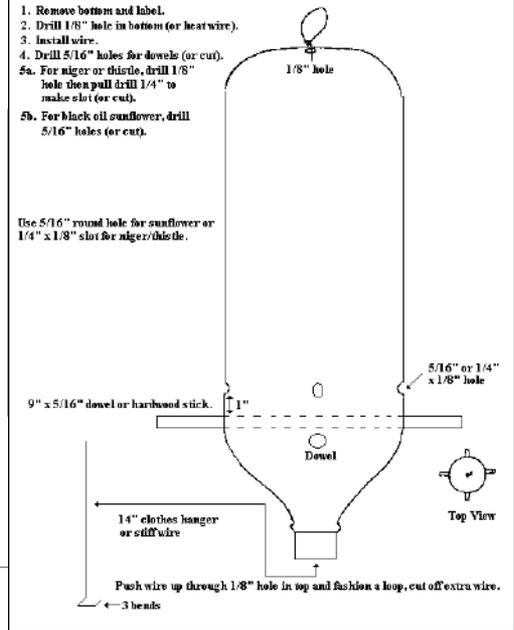
Empty one-half gallon milk cartons can be turned into a variety of bird-related items. To make a bird feeder, you can cut away two adjoining sides of a carton, leaving two solid sides at the top and bottom. You will have two solid sides (see Feeder A). Another plan is to cut windows in all four sides of the carton, again leaving about two inches at the bottom (see Feeder B).

Next punch two holes in the top of the carton. Thread some strong string through the holes and tie it, making a loop for hanging. Now you can put the feeder wherever you want. Both of these designs can also be used as bird baths.

## 2-Liter Plastic Soda Bottle Bird Feeder

1. Remove bottom and label.
2. Drill 1/8" hole in bottom (for heat wire).
3. Install wire.
4. Drill 5/16" holes for dowels (or cut).
- 5a. For niger or thistle, drill 1/8" hole then pull drill 1/4" to make slot (or cut).
- 5b. For black oil sunflower, drill 5/16" holes (or cut).

Use 5/16" round hole for sunflower or 1/4" x 1/8" slot for niger/thistle.



A few ideas:

1. Creating individual or larger “team” built bird feeders (can be made from recycled materials- embedding basic stewardship ideas) use **engineering, design and art**
2. Creating temporary habits or shelters for migratory birds with the entire class- imparting team building skills



How do we demonstrate principles of **Darwinian evolution** through pigeons?

Where do these birds come from and where are they now?

**Darwin Principle: Movement or migration is the key to species adapting to new constantly changing environments**

Can we use **technology** to track these movements?

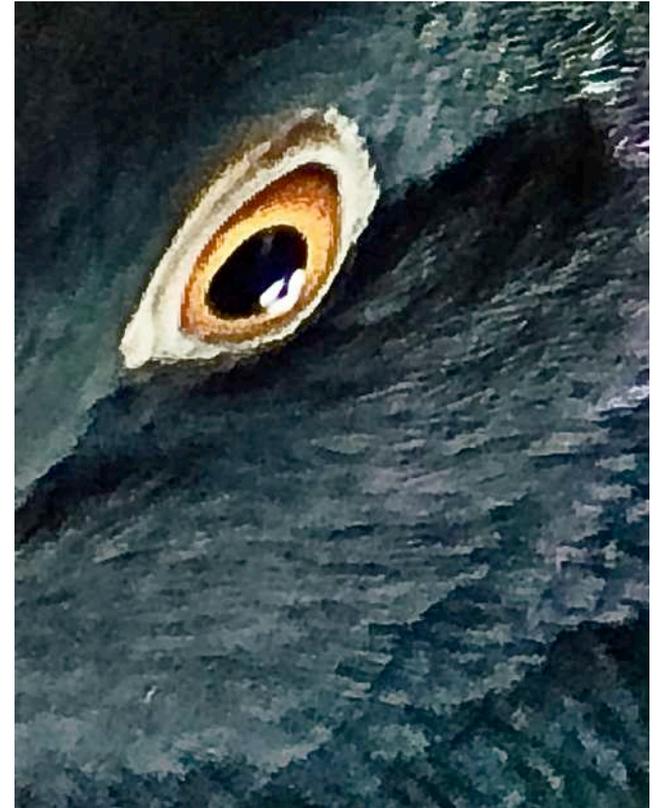
1. Pigeon-cams
2. Bird migration satellite data
3. Citizen science data (your students can contribute)



What do the pigeons themselves tell us about **genetics**?

What varieties can we see? Domestic? Wild-types? Urban?

Inheritance and variations of characteristics (genetics & phenotype plasticity)- **collect the data through science and art!**



How do we demonstrate principles of *urban ecology* through pigeons? Organisms in complex systems

How do these birds live (survive)? What do they eat? Where do they nest? How do they survive the winter?

*Natural selection in a post natural world*- organisms change!  
Behavioral and physical adaptations to changing environments



**“Education is a social process. Education is growth. Education is, not a preparation for life; education is life itself.”**

**“Experience has its geographical aspect, its artistic and its literary, its scientific and its historical sides. All studies arise from aspects of the one earth and the one life lived upon it.”**

**-John Dewey**  
***The School and Society***



***Mucho  
gracias!***

# What is Experiential Environmental Education?

## The 3 E's to use with STEAM

### Experience

a particular instance of personally encountering or undergoing something. the process or fact of personally observing. knowledge or practical wisdom gained from what one has observed, encountered, or undergone

### Environment

The whole of surrounding things, conditions or influences. The social and cultural forces that shape the life of a person or a population *In the ecological sense* the air, water, minerals, organisms, and all other external factors surrounding and affecting a given organism at any time.

### Education

the act or process of imparting or acquiring general knowledge, developing the powers of reasoning and judgment, and generally of preparing oneself or others intellectually for mature (HAPPY AND HEALTHY) life.

## Helpful Books

- 1. Dewey, J 1938, *Experience and Education*, Collier Books, New York, New York**
- 2. Freire, P 1971, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, Continuum Press, New York, New York**
- 3. Hammerman, D R, W M Hammerman, E L Hammerman 1985, *Teaching in the outdoors*, Interstate Publishing, Danville, Illinois**
- 4. Louv, R 2005, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*, Workman Publishing, New York, New York**
- 5. Reed, E 1996, *The Necessity of Experience*, Yale University Press, New Haven, Connecticut, pp. 68-90**
- 6. Rogers, C R 1969, *Freedom to Learn*, Merrill Publishing, Columbus, Ohio**

Journal, Book articles & websites (just google Experiential Education or Environmental Ed-lots will come up!)

1. Gibbons, M & D Hopkins 1986, 'How experiential is your experience-based program?' in R. Kraft & M. Sakofs (eds.), *The Theory of Experiential Education*, Association for Experiential Education, Boulder, Colorado, pp. 135-140

2. Leopold A 1991, 'The Role of Wildlife in Liberal Education' in S L. Flader & J. B. Callicott (Eds.), *The River of the Mother of God and other essays by Aldo Leopold*, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, pp. 302-303

3. Light, A 2006, 'Ecological citizenship: The democratic promise of restoration efforts' in R Platt (ed.), *The Humane Metropolis: People and Nature in the 21st Century City*, University of Massachusetts Press, Amherst, Massachusetts , pp.169-180

4. Science Technology Society and Environment Education 2008, 'STSE Education Pedagogy' , STSE Website, Retrieved 10 January 2009, from utoronto.ca, <http://webspaces.oise.utoronto.ca/~benczela//STSEEd.html>

5. Solomon, J & G Aikenhead 1994, *STS Education: International Perspectives in Reform*, Teacher's College Press, New York, New York

7. Orr, D 1999. 'What is Education For?', in C Meine & R L Knight, *The Essential Aldo Leopold: Quotations and Commentaries*, University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, Wisconsin, pp. 255-268

8. Resznick, T 1995, 'Where Gaia Meets Mind' in M Gomes (ed), *Ecopsychology: Restoring the Earth, Healing the Mind*, Sierra Club Books, New York, New York, pp 1-20