NABT BioClub Suggestion for Long Term Projects

Research, design, and set up an organism's (animal or plant) habitat. The club would be responsible for its upkeep, routine observation and ongoing data gathering.

- The rendering of supplies for this could be easily obtained by contacting pet stores, asking parents and other teachers or through fundraising. There are many possible ideas on fundraising (Pizza Hut has a program that will donate money from proceeds in a time period during one day of the week for 'volunteer' service duty. This could be so easily student driven with a lot that could be done. This could also be a good connection into the community for students if there is something that is unique to your area or even just local interest stories.

Job Shadowing or Job Mentor

- Try to bring in people from your community (with some biological connection) to let students shadow them or be some type of mentor to them. Nice community connection and also involves the guidance counselors of our schools.

Bring in guest speakers on biological topics

- Very straight forward. Organize well in advance to ensure local expert support. A great way for students to broaden their understanding of who a 'teacher' really is. Have the students prepare background information and introduce the guest speaker.

Set up the school or school grounds as an ecosystem study area

- This could involve having students looking at plant and animal life, physical setting of the school, soil analysis, soil organisms, microenvironments, seasonality, impact of the school buildings on the environment and opportunistic species just to name a few. I think detail could be focused on any of these. This could be an ongoing project; gathering data from year to year and analyzing for change.
- Maybe to work with the school principal to develop a plan for the addition/maintenance of **plants in the interior of the school.**

Red Cross Certification (i.e. CPR or First Aid)

- Some trainers will even come to the school. There may be a fee involved so be aware. This is also a great way for the school to be involved in the community.

Macro-Invertebrate and Water Testing Excursion

- Local Stream/River, lunch provided by parent volunteers with free-time to get wet. Contact the local Parks, Department of Natural Resources, Soil Conservation office for an expert to lead and train students. This project could be expanded and be made a part of the World Water Monitoring Day. Price of kits is low; perhaps the school already has kits for measuring temperature, pH, turbidity and dissolved oxygen. *See http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.org/.*

Entomophagy Activity

- Edible Insect Recipes and Preparation, delicious family event. May be very expensive and difficult to find the real thing. Consider 'faux' insects for snacking?

Adopt a park or playground

- Always popular community service project. There is always a need for volunteers to help with parks or preserves.

Know your local flora and fauna

- Contact the **local Parks System or (State) Division of Natural resources** in order to learn about local flora and fauna.

Biology Newsletter

- Written by and to the students and staff of the school with student written and reviewed reports of science news. Involves language arts.

Tree Planting Ceremony

- This is easy to do and fairly inexpensive, the club plants a tree on the school grounds and keeps it up in honor of a former teacher, for example. Request donations of the tree, fertilizer and mulch from local businesses. Try to use native species, collecting data over time. The officers of the science club do all the foot work, including the planting and up keep. Over time, the school will create an enhanced green space.

Awareness/Special Days

- For example, DNA Day, Charles Darwin Day, Earth Day and other special days to use for awareness raising of students, parents and peers. This info can make for great morning announcement material along with tying in to classroom material.

Additional Suggestions for Long-term Projects

1. Butterfly Garden – plant native species to attract birds and insects; may be used during study of behavior, ecology and classification
2. Green Schools – How can we become one? Can be part of an ecology unit to examine recycling, solid waste, energy use, etc.
3. Forest Studies – Participate in tree identification at local parks. State forestry personnel are required to conduct one during specified time cycles.

Additional Suggestions for Human/Community Resources

1. Local veterinarians would be a valuable source to consider, especially when working with animals.
2. Local, state, and federal natural resource personnel are valuable and interested in working with teachers and students. We are working with city, county, state and federal officials to conduct water and forest studies. They are helping my students learn science by doing authentic science.
3. International connections – we are working with a school in Italy to during our study on biomes. This project provides opportunities for students to examine biology and culture.