



# ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL) AND POPULATION EDUCATION

## ABOUT ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES EDUCATION:

*English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) education programs are targeted toward individuals whose native language is not English.*

*The goal of ESOL is to help students develop language and social proficiency through integrated content-based instruction.*

*ESOL programs are offered for English language learners of all levels and ages ranging from elementary to adult education.*

## HOW DOES POPULATION EDUCATION FIT INTO AN ESOL CURRICULUM?

The aim of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) education is to provide recent immigrants and non-English speakers with opportunities to improve communication skills in the English language and learn about American culture and customs. Immigrants make up a significant portion of the US population (roughly ten percent). The environment can benefit if new arrivals are interested in and educated about the importance of our natural environment and our resources.

## WHAT CONCEPTS RELATED TO POPULATION EDUCATION ALIGN WITH ESOL EDUCATION?

Through Environmental Education and Population Education, students with limited English proficiency are challenged to think about complex issues. The hands-on and visual nature of Population Education activities make them not only accessible to ESOL students, but also highly meaningful and relevant to the well-being of the community. Effective environmental decision-making requires involvement of local stakeholders and citizens. Organizations often hold meetings to gain input and comment from the public; it is common that the audience does not reflect the ethnic diversity of the affected community. Population Education teachers these values using strategies that are effective for English language learners. Students are educated on issues that affect their environment and lives and are given the opportunity to reflect, discuss, and act on what they have learned.

### Population Education provides students with experiences that are:

- **Hands-on:** *Interactive and engaging.*
- **Relevant:** *Relates to real-world issues and solutions.*
- **Interdisciplinary:** *Cross-cut a variety of subjects.*
- **Action Driven:** *Inspires and empowers students to take action in solving environmental issues*

## WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP INTEGRATE POPULATION EDUCATION INTO THE ESOL CURRICULA?

Population Education offers a variety of classroom resources, lesson plans, and professional development opportunities to help teachers effectively implement environmental education with ESOL students. In Population Education lessons, students kinesthetically, visually, and verbally partake in scenarios that apply concepts of math, science, social studies, and English language arts to experience and explore contemporary environmental challenges. Lesson plans and resources are available on the Population Education website and through professional development opportunities offered nationwide each year.

**POPULATION EDUCATION**

A PROJECT OF POPULATION CONNECTION

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