



What is PLT? Project Learning Tree (PLT) is an award-winning multidisciplinary environmental education program for grades PreK-12. Through PLT, educators get tools to bring the environment into their classrooms, and their students into the environment. In Idaho, PLT materials and training are offered at 15-hour workshops for university credit. Several different PLT workshops are available, covering trees, forests, fire ecology, invasive species, wildlife, water, air quality, waste management, energy and experiences for early childhood.

PLT is timely and relevant. PLT stays ahead of the changing needs of educators and students. With a guiding principle of teaching students *how to think, not what to think*, PLT helps young people gain the knowledge and skills to think critically and make wise decisions about the environment.

PLT/Idaho offers professional development workshops for educators throughout Idaho. PLT workshops are led by specially trained facilitators. Some are educators, and some are resource professionals.

Who are the PLT Sponsors? Project Learning Tree has been in Idaho since the program's inception in 1976, and has been headquartered at the Idaho Forest Products Commission since 1993. Idaho Project Learning Tree is currently sponsored by the Idaho Forest Products Commission, U.S. Forest Service, Forestry License Plate fund, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Dept. of Lands, Idaho Firewise, Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign, and the American Forest Foundation (PLT's national sponsor.) Numerous other agencies, organizations and individuals contribute to Idaho PLT by providing meeting sites, guest presenters and other resources.

How many teachers and students does PLT/Idaho serve?

Over 6000 educators attended an Idaho PLT training since 1994.

These educators, in turn, reach thousands of students each year with quality PLT environmental education materials and activities!

PLT workshop locations in 2009-2010

Boise, Coeur d'Alene, Fruitland, Grangeville, Idaho City, Idaho Falls, Jerome, Lewiston, McCall, Nampa, Orofino, Pocatello, Riggins, Ririe, St. Maries, Sandpoint, Stanley and Wallace.

Compared to PLT programs in states of similar population size, PLT/Idaho offers more workshops and serves more educators each year.

And that's not all! PLT/Idaho educators also gain access to:

- Correlations between PLT activities and Idaho Content Standards
- Media lending library
- Free posters and other printed materials
- Educational kits for loan
- Grants
- Essay, poster and photo contests
- Comprehensive website
- Social networks
- *EarthTracks* newsletter
- Other environmental education opportunities

For more information, contact Michelle Youngquist, PLT Coordinator at 208-334-4061 or email plt@idahoforests.org. You can also find Idaho Project Learning Tree on Facebook.

PLT in Action



PLT activities engage the students and show them how science applies directly to their lives.
3rd grade teacher, Sandpoint.



Above: Elementary students explore trees through PLT activities, "Adopt a Tree" and "Tree Cookies."

Thanks a million for an eye-opening, interesting, and fun-filled class. Education student, BSU

Right: Teachers quantify forest fuels during a PLT *Wildfires & Weeds* workshop.

The activity guides are well planned and information is current/timely. 9th-12th grade Science/Social Studies/Language Arts teacher, Grangeville.



I really like the lesson book -- it has a lot of great ideas and they are well aligned with standards.
4th grade teacher, Boise.

Above: Teachers explore trade books during a *Focus on Literature with WILD, WET & PLT* workshop.

My students get so excited when I tell them that we are going to do a Project Learning Tree activity and always want to know when we will be doing more. 2nd grade teacher, Boise.

The workshop was very well done! Objectives were clearly stated, and the activities were fun. You made spending a weekend in class almost painless. K-5 Music teacher, Coeur d'Alene

Learn more about Project Learning Tree at
www.idahoforests.org/plt1.htm; www.plt.org; and www.learnoutside.org.