



# MWEE AUDIT TOOL

## MWEE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

### ISSUE DEFINITION

Evaluate the extent to which the MWEE supports student learning about a locally relevant environmental issue, problem, or phenomenon. Driving and supporting questions anchor learning about the issue, which is explored through background research, investigations, and reflection on values and perspectives. The student learning and investigations should have the potential to result in student-centered environmental action.

The driving question has the following characteristics (check all that apply). Aspire to create a driving question that includes all of these characteristics:

Supports learning objectives (i.e., knowledge, skills, and attitudes)

Serves as a context for both increasing content knowledge and practicing inquiry and methodological skills

Open-ended (i.e., arguable, with no single, final, or correct answer)

Relevant and related to students' lived experience

Anchored in real-world environmental and social problems

Affords the opportunity for continuity and coherence across the MWEE




Provides the opportunity for students to develop and explore supporting questions as knowledge and understanding evolve




Allows students to design and enact investigations that yield answers

Provides opportunities for environmental action

Calls for higher-order thinking, including analysis, inference, prediction, and evaluation

Allows for the exploration of both natural and social systems

	 <b>MISSING MWEЕ COMPONENTS</b>	 <b>NEEDS IMPROVEMENT</b>	 <b>GREAT JOB!</b>
<b>The inquiry and investigations of the defined issue will logically culminate in environmental action.</b>	<i>It is unclear if there is a solution students could implement to affect change related to the issue.</i>	<i>There is only one obvious solution students could implement to affect change related to the issue.</i>	<i>There are multiple solutions (including some that address root causes) that students could implement to affect change related to the issue.</i>
<b>Students conduct background research sufficient to explore the driving question.</b>	<i>Teachers find and provide all of the background information to students and/or background information may not be sufficient for students to fully understand the issue.</i>	<i>Teachers find and provide most of the background information for students to conduct the background research. The background research is sufficient to explore the driving question.</i>	<i>Students are actively engaged in finding and critiquing the information needed for conducting background research to explore the driving question. Teachers facilitate students exploring gaps in their understanding.</i>
<b>Students are actively involved in developing or co-developing supporting questions based on their background research.</b>	<i>All supporting questions are developed by the teacher.</i>	<i>Supporting questions are developed by the teacher with some opportunity for student input and/or co-development.</i>	<i>Students develop or co-develop their own supporting questions.</i>

	 <b>MISSING MWEЕ COMPONENTS</b>	 <b>NEEDS IMPROVEMENT</b>	 <b>GREAT JOB!</b>
<b>Students explore the driving question and supporting questions during classroom investigations.</b>	<i>Intent and activities of the classroom investigations are not related to exploring the driving and/or supporting questions.</i>	<i>Intent and activities of the classroom investigations are somewhat, generally, or in large part related to exploring the driving and/or supporting questions.</i>	<i>Classroom investigations are designed to purposefully explore the driving and supporting questions. Teachers look for opportunities to include students in planning investigations.</i>
<b>Students explore personal, stakeholder, and societal values, perspectives, and root causes related to the driving question.</b>	<i>There are no activities to explore values, perspectives, or root causes incorporated into the MWEЕ.</i>	<i>There are activities to explore values, perspectives, and/or root causes but not all are explored during the MWEЕ.</i>	<i>There are meaningful activities to explore values, perspectives, and root causes during the MWEЕ.</i>

How will you incorporate missing MWEЕ components?