

Gussman Pedagogy Option 8: Community Science Engagement #2

<https://oceanfirsteducation.blue/taxonomy/term/134>

<https://oceanfirst.blue/about-tides>

The resource that I chose comes from Ocean First, which is an experiential education program focussed on educating youth about the ocean through marine science curriculum, training, excursions and more. The goal of the program is to encourage students to be stewards of the ocean and help spread that knowledge to their communities. This program has a location that is based in Boulder Colorado at the CU campus and has several options of excursions that students can choose from. While I know that an activity like this is very cost and time intensive, I do believe that encouraging students from our community to participate in this program would greatly impact that student community. Not only do they become an advocate and steward of the ocean, they gain irreplaceable experiences and skills.

Prior to bringing this program to the school, two teachers must champion the program themselves. The minimum size would be 8 and the maximum capacity is 24, further limiting those who can participate. The program provides teachers with an NGSS aligned curriculum, online resources and professional development opportunities when partnering with the program. There are already 4 Colorado school that participate, so its possible! As a 7th and 8th grade science teacher and the only teacher in my K-8 that actively teaches science, I know that I can find a variety of areas where an Ocean literacy unit could be placed in various grade levels, or this could be done as programming for Gifted and Talented students within the district. While the opportunity

is limited by price and capacity, the idea and concept would be so beneficial to communities.