Title: Leave No Trace Inside and Out: Claymation Animation

Abstract/Vignette: This unit focuses on the learner’s ability to incorporate the principles of Leave No Trace (outdoor ethics) as an integral addition by merging with three of our four themes: Communication & Culture, Ethics & Perspectives, and Technology & Engineering. This will empower students to become future stewards/ambassadors by identifying social and ethical issues (problems) in and around our school and community, collaborating as a group, and designing a creative story and resolve the problem through Claymation animation. The Claymation animations created by the design teams will go beyond the classroom by serving as public service announcements for our school and community.

Grade level(s): Please check all that apply.

☐ K-2  ☑ 3-5  ☑ 6-8  ☐ 9-12  ☐ College and Lifelong Learning

Discipline: Please check all that apply.

☑ Art and Music  ☑ Health and PE  ☐ Foreign Language

☑ Literature and Language Arts  ☑ Mathematics  ☐ Science

☐ Social Studies and Geography  ☐ History  ☑ Technology

Year Developed: 2013

Period (month, week, year): variable

Teaching environment:

☑ In the Classroom (indoors)  ☐ Outdoors

☑ In the Community  ☑ Online/Virtual
# A Trail to Every Classroom (TTEC) Unit Design Overview Chart

**Unit Title:** Leave No Trace Inside & Out – Claymation Animation  
**School:** Blue Ridge Middle School, Purcellville, VA  
**Grade level/s:** 8  
**Discipline/s:** Communications, Technology, Engineering, Art, Music, Health & PE, & Mathematics  
**Unit Designer/s:** Jayne Bowen

## Stage 1 – Desired Results

### Big Idea(s):

- This unit focuses on the learner’s ability to incorporate the principles of Leave No Trace (outdoor ethics) as an integral addition by merging with three of our four themes: Communication & Culture, Ethics & Perspectives, and Technology & Engineering.

- This area of study will empower our students to become future stewards/ambassadors by identifying social and ethical issues (problems) in and around our school and community, collaborating as a group, and designing a creative story and resolve the problem through Claymation animation.

- The Claymation animations created by the design teams will go beyond the classroom by serving as public service announcements for our school and community. The unit will include a variety of communication skills such as: reading, research, written and oral communication, listening, cooperative problem-solving, art design, musical elements, and technology, visual and production communication tools.

### Enduring Understanding (s)

1. Successful engineering and creative development require constant inquiry, creative problem-solving and team decision-making from communication and cooperation.
2. Protecting and preserving our school environment is the duty of every student.
3. Behavior and actions impact the environment in both positive and negative ways.
4. Leave No Trace principles are applicable within the school and community.
5. Public service is essential for a thriving community.
6. LNT principles are the expected ethical behavior (do the right thing). Continual practices are necessary for maintaining the landscape/environment in and around our school and community.

### Essential Question(s):

1. How do the actions of humans change the environment?
2. What is meant by the concept of Leave No Trace?
3. What are the seven principles of LNT?
4. How is LNT relevant to our school community?
5. How can we incorporate the seven principles of LNT to be practiced to preserve our school campus and environment?
6. What actions are necessary to create a public service announcement to get the word out to students and the public?
**Content Standard(s):**
- **English 10.1** – The student will engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feeling and emotion, and exchange opinions.
- **English 8.7** – The student will identify unfamiliar words associated with the seven principles of Leave No Trace (ethics in the outdoors)

**Social & Emotional Issues C/T 9-12.4** - Practice responsible use of technology systems, information, and software
- Adhere to fair use and copyright guidelines.
- Adhere to the school division’s Acceptable Use Policy as well as other state and federal laws.
- Model respect for intellectual property.

**Social & Emotional Issues C/T 9-12.5** - The students will demonstrate knowledge of technologies that support collaboration, personal pursuits, and productivity
- Respectfully collaborate with peers, experts, and others to contribute to an electronic community of learning.
- Model responsible use and respect for equipment, resources, and facilities.

**Technology Communication Tools: C/T 9-12.9** – The students will use a variety of media and formats to communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences.
- Determine the most effective tool, format, and style to communicate to specific audiences.
- Use technology-based options, including distance and distributed education, to collaborate, research, publish, and communicate.
- Practice self-directed use of advanced technology tools for communicating with specific audiences.

**Visual Communication & Production**
- **AIII.4** – The students will use technology to create works of art that integrate electronic and traditional media
- **AIII.6** – The students will develop skill, confidence, and craftsmanship in the use of media, techniques, and processes to achieve desired intentions in works of art
- **AIII.8** – The students will demonstrate initiative, originality, fluency, commitment to tasks, and openness to new ideas in the creation of works of art
- **AIII.9** – The students will maintain a high-level of integrity in ethical procedures when producing works of art

**Place-based Service Learning Lens** (Assumes PBSL Principle #5 Integrated & Principle #6 Rigorous):

**Grounded in Place**

*In what ways is your unit a direct reflection of local landscapes, resources, culture, and values?*

- Blue Ridge Middle School, a cornerstone within our community, sits on roughly 30+ acres of land and provides both students and our community with multiple opportunities to engage in outdoor activities.
- The school’s campus provides the perfect acreage necessary for both the Paradise Island Quest and orienteering activity for the 6/7 grade simulation (see photos).
- Also, in connection with the Leave No Trace principles, the 8th grade students spent the class period exploring the Outdoor Classroom and collaborating as a design team to compare and contrast LNT principles inside and outside our school (see photos)
• The Leave No Trace principles will be incorporated into an already established unit, Integral for the 8th grade unit.
• Both Bears Den and Raven Rocks provide spectacular views of the Shenandoah Valley on the AT and are important to Blue Ridge in that they are depicted within the hallways of our school. Both vantage points are within a 15 minute drive from our school’s location.
• The Blue Ridge Four Seasons Hiking Club, started this year as a result of the TTEC sessions, will allow our TTEC teachers ample opportunities to invite students with parental supervision to experience hiking on trails in and around of school’s community.
Fall Hike: Sky Meadows State Park
Winter Hike: Weverton Cliffs.

\textbf{Real}

\textbf{What authentic, real-world need or opportunity will students address through their project?}
• As our school year gets underway, students will arrive to find gleaming tile floors and cleanliness throughout the hallways and cafeteria. However, within a few weeks into the school year, debris and clutter has invaded our school due to the lack of empathy and respect for our school.
• Students need to be cognizant of the alarming amount of debris and clutter often left by students in our lunchroom, classroom, and the hallways.
• Students need to practice and maintain a clean, learning environment throughout the year by revisiting the Leave No Trace principles.
• Students will observe areas within our school and determine implement how best to utilize the LNT principles through the implementation of multiple means of expression.
• Through identifying the areas of need within and around our school and community, students will understand the importance of incorporating the Leave No Trace principles back inside our facility.

\textbf{Empowering}

\textbf{What opportunities exist or can be created for students to have meaningful roles in project design, decision-making, and evaluation?}
• Leave No Trace principles (TTEC handbook) will be used throughout the beginning of the school year to instill the need for long-term LNT practices to be put into motion within our school.
• Ethics: Our unit of ethics falls right in line with the LNT principles, which can be easily integrated throughout the unit through multiple means of recognition, expression, and engagement. Although the project is to work collaboratively as design teams to identify, and solve a problem by incorporating principles of LNT through a public service announcement utilizing Claymation animation, students have multiple options other than Claymation animation. Other options include but are not limited to: create and record original skits, design posters for display throughout our school, hold public speaking engagements, recite poetry, and perform songs (with or without musical accompaniment).

\textbf{Collaborative}

\textbf{What opportunities will students have for mutually beneficial collaboration with other disciplines, community or public land partners?}
• In connection with Health & PE, the 8th grade students not only benefit from the use of the Outdoor Classroom situated on the Blued Ridge campus, they will be able to identify the seven principles of Leave No Trace and gain knowledge regarding hike safety guidelines through outdoor exercises in orienteering.
• Blue Ridge Hiking Club is a collaborative effort stemming from the TTEC teachers at Blue
Ridge. The hiking club provides students from any grade level and their parents the unique opportunity to hike nearby trails with teachers.

- This unit provides my students in 8th grade with multiple opportunities to collaborate in small groups (no more than 4) to incorporate the subject areas of language arts, health/PE, music, history, science, and technology. The final Claymation animations will be shown on classroom Promethean boards within our school to our student body, and they will also be presented to parents and the community during our school’s spring festival.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 2 – Assessment Evidence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PBSL Performance Task(s):</strong></td>
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Creation of a Claymation animation depicting various problems being resolved through LNT principles to be showcased during school and during our spring festival.

Creating an original product instilling the LNT principles through multiple means of expression. The project is focused on first identifying problems in and around of school. Next, students will form small groups to determine which problem would be addressed by the group. From there, students are provided with options in order to resolve the problem.

Additional options for gifted learners (independent study) may include:

1) Creating an original skit (role-play), video-taped, and presented to our school.
2) Creation of poetry readings, songs, and musical accompaniments.
3) Photography & Artwork
4) Creating a public service speech for the school and community.

**Students will know…**

5) Identify the seven LNT principles and provide examples for each.
6) The LNT principles are taught and expectations to maintain and educate others are on-going.
7) Practicing LNT principles at school can be continued at home and throughout the community as a life-long practice for maintaining and preserving our environment both inside and outside.

| **Other Evidence:** |

Think/Pair/Share – Brainstorming a list of problem areas needing addressing in and around our school and community

Team Collaboration to reach consensus on selection of problem to be addressed.

Team discussion of which LNT principles will be incorporated to solve problem.

Team creation of a written and sketched story structure (beginning to end)

Clay is introduced, and the team members begin the creation of characters, props, and background for the story.

Technology Review (iPad/iPhone apps, Stop Motion HD, iMovie) are used to capture each individual movement for the animation.

Editing, music and captions (optional) are incorporated as each snapshot is loaded into iMovie or Moviemaker to create the final Claymation animation.

**Evaluative Criteria:**

Six Facets of Understanding Rubric for Pre-Assessment

Think/Pair/Share Handout/Discussion

Head/Heart/Hand Handout/Reflection

Story Structure Handout

Compare/Contrast LNT Inside & Out Handouts
Students will be skilled at…

8) Collaborating as a design team at identifying problems in and around our school and community that need assistance through the implementation of LNT principles
9) Continuing learned behaviors by maintaining their implementation while in the school.
10) Becoming AT Ambassadors by going beyond our classroom and educating others utilizing the principles of LNT both inside our school and within our community.

Outdoor Classroom Activity
Claymation Animation 4 Point Scoring Rubric
Six Facets of Understanding Rubric for Post Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 3 – Learning Plan</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Activities:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pre-Assessment</strong> (open-ended essay)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• <em>In the space provided, please identify the seven principles of Leave No Trace, explain how each principle incorporates appropriate, ethical guidelines for citizens to follow, and how might the principles be integrated into our school to demonstrate ethical practices?</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Time: 45-minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Think/Pair/Share</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• iMovie Introduction (visual on Promethean)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Handout (Principles of Leave No Trace)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Head/Heart/Hand</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• “A Day in the Life of a Tree” iMovie</td>
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<td>• Individual Reflection</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Group Activity – Volleyball/Sharing of Ideas</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Outdoor Classroom Activity</strong></td>
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<td>• Compare/Contrast Expert Team</td>
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<td>• Handout LNT Inside &amp; Out</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction of Claymation Animation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Show examples of Claymation designs (YouTube &amp; Harmony Middle School samples)</td>
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<td>• White Room Clay Animation <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XC6f4YPJJs">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XC6f4YPJJs</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Claymation: Make a Friend <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AtV4veTUMUs">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AtV4veTUMUs</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Technology Tools</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Stop Motion HD &amp; iMovie Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>• <em>A Day in the Life of a Tree</em> – Movie Maker Presentation/ Artwork: Jayne Bowen</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Music: <em>A Day in the Life of a Tree</em> By: Brian Wilson</td>
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<td>• Introduce Scoring Rubric (handout &amp; Promethean view)</td>
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<td>• Group Formation (3-4 students per team)</td>
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<td>• Story Structure Format Handout</td>
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<td>• Team Brainstorming – Story Board Format</td>
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<tr>
<td>• <em>Claymation creations (characters and props to be animated)</em></td>
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</table>
• Story background

Note: This unit will not be completed until mid-December, which is after the deadline of the TTEC timeline.

Adaptations

I. This unit is originally a communications unit incorporating technology, so it was easily adapted to include the outdoor ethics of Leave No Trace.

II. Design teams selected the problem and the LNT principles relating to their story. Therefore, some teams incorporated more than one principle.

III. Optional Assignments: Students on independent study may elect to work on optional projects for this unit.

Reflections

• Photo Slideshow (depicting group progress)
• Post Assessment will be scored using the Six Facets of Understanding Rubric
• Presentations of Claymation animations to student/faculty of Blue Ridge (Promethean)
• Presentations of Claymation animations to parents/community (Spectrum Spring Festival)

*Below are pictures of some of the Claymation characters/props before the taping is complete. Students are preparing to capture each movement, and then the snapshots will be put together to create an original iMovie. It has been an awesome project, and they have thoroughly enjoyed it!