

Situation

When youth participate in environmental science education programs who do you think wins? The environment we live in! Environmental science is a very broad topic, but W.O.L.F. Camp was designed as an easy-to-use virtual resource utilized to incorporate many environmental components for use by youth, volunteers, and agents alike. The camp focused on topics such as wildlife ecology, marine sciences, survival skills, and careers. In addition, these natural resource programs highlight the complexity of available natural resources and the connections to other fields of discovery like engineering.

Objectives

- 1. Participants will learn how to identify wildlife and plant species of Florida.
- 2. Demonstrate their knowledge of best management practices for wildlife.
- 3. Have a greater understanding of the complexity of natural resource management.

Methods

A team of Agents created videos to introduce a wide variety of wildlife management techniques, adventure guides, survival techniques, art, and trivia games. These instructional components were transferred to a Google Site to provide this asynchronous opportunity virtually. An in-person camp was also added where agents and volunteers hosted stations that instructed participants on wildlife management, nutrition/health, teamwork, art, and marine science.



W.O.L.F. CAMP CROSSES DISCIPLINES TO LEAD THE PACK IN 4-H DAY CAMP PROGRAMMING



W.O.L.F. Camp Google Site

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Results

Over 300 youth enrolled in virtual and in-person camps. Evaluations revealed that over 80% of participants reported a knowledge increase in concepts and identification. Furthermore, 90% considered the importance of teamwork. Participants were inspired to do a beach cleanup. All participants indicated consideration of personal impact on wildlife habitat.

Replication

W.O.L.F. Camp's impact as a high quality, cross-discipline environmental educational program can be replicated virtually or in-person by Extension Agents for years to come.

