



PROGRAMMING SNAPSHOT

FROM THE
MOUNTAINS TO
THE SEA



2020 COVID-19
PANDEMIC
RESPONSE

FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA

MELANIE BIERSMITH

The Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program provides students with an opportunity to participate in hands-on learning activities in the natural settings of the 4-H facilities located from the mountains to the sea. Since 1979, well trained, professional Environmental Education staff have connected students to nature through our vast natural classrooms without walls. With a variety of lessons, the staff delivers a research-based curriculum that correlates with the Georgia Department of Education standards and utilizes Georgia's unique and varied ecosystems to teach science and ecology, living history, and more. Georgia 4-H Environmental Education programs are offered at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, Wahsega 4-H Center in Dahlonega, Fortson 4-H Center in Hampton, Burton 4-H Center on Tybee Island, and Camp Jekyll and 4-H Tideland Nature Center on Jekyll Island.

Since its inception, Georgia 4-H Environmental Education programs have reached over 1.1 million participants. Typically, during the academic year, youth gather at all five centers with their peers to bring learning to life by exploring science in the context of the environment.

50 VIRTUAL
SESSIONS REACHING
MORE THAN 186,700
PEOPLE



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
EXTENSION

georgia4h.org | 1-800-ASK-UGA1

The University of Georgia 4-H program is the largest youth leadership organization in the state.
An Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Veteran, Disability Institution

4-H
FROM THE MOUNTAINS
TO THE SEA:

Mondays at the Mound

Tuesdays on Tybee

Wahsega Wednesdays

**Thursdays with
Camp Jekyll/Tideland**

Fortson Farm Fridays

Extension programming during the COVID-19 pandemic provides the opportunity for innovative and non-traditional delivery methods. As a response, the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education program created a virtual series, From the Mountains to the Sea. This series highlighted one of the five Georgia 4-H centers each day of the week, and streamed live or recorded videos on Georgia 4-H's social media platforms (archived lessons were closed captioned and available on YouTube).

These live lessons covered a range of topics such as herpetology, entomology, and beach or stream ecology. From March to May, From the Mountains to the Sea provided 50 virtual sessions, reaching more than 186,700 people. After launching the program, one teacher stated, "We spent the last couple of weeks of sixth grade remote learning...your videos were great starters for the students who then went outside to do their own tree walks, pond explorations, bug hunts, sunset watches...thanks so much for making these available". This program was so successful, it was reintroduced in the winter months.



THE PROGRAM

From the Mountains to the Sea, a virtual Environmental Education program, highlighted one of the five Georgia 4-H centers each day of the week, and streamed live or recorded videos on Georgia 4-H's social media platforms (archived lessons were closed captioned and available on YouTube). These live lessons covered a range of topics such as herpetology, entomology, and beach or stream ecology.

OBJECTIVES

Through this online program, youth:

- Identify various Environmental Education concepts
- Explain different science-related concepts related to the speaker's presentation
- Apply the information learned to everyday scenarios

CONTACT

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THE SCOPE



VARIETY OF CONTENT

50 episodes aired and were archived on YouTube for future viewers.



RANGE OF TOPICS

Each episode focused on a different Environmental Education concept.



DIVERSITY OF ENVIRONMENTS

Virtual sessions featured all Georgia 4-H centers, including a variety of ecosystems.



EXPANSIVE AUDIENCE

More than 186,700 people reached through 50 virtual sessions.