

Those Were the Good Old Days

A Study of Pest Controls Over the Years

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Standard Statement:

Explain how pest management affects the environment.
Identify issues related to IPM that affect the environment.
Explain various IPM practices used in society.
Compare IPM to past practices.

Content Objectives:

1. Students will learn how society has managed pests from past to present.
2. Students will learn how pests are managed in their own homes. (rightly or wrongly)

Assessment Strategy:

Students will produce two items from this lesson.

1. A timeline showing how pests were and are managed
2. An inventory of pest management products from their homes

Procedure:

1. Students will interview their parents, grandparents, relatives, neighbors, friends etc. to gather information on pest control from past generations to present day. Using this information, the students will construct a timeline with appropriate dates for various types of pest controls. The student must cite the person they interviewed for each entry on their timeline. Using these timelines, the class will produce a “master timeline” which incorporates the data.
2. By interviewing their parents, students will make a list of pest control items (plant and animal) in their homes. The class will then make a master list and discuss where these pest controls rank on the IPM pyramid and their relative safety to the user and the environment. (Optional: During the class discussion, the teacher can lead students into a comparison of the pests “then” and the pests “now”. Have there been changes? Why or why not?)

References:

IPM for Teachers Information

Web Sites:

Suggested Level:

5th – 8th Grades

Standard Category:

Integrated Pest Management,
Environmental Health,
Humans and the Environment
4.5.7.B, C

Materials:

Poster-making Materials

Instructional Strategies:

Research (Interview)
Discussion