

Bay Backpack

School Grounds for Learning

Review

About The School Grounds for Learning Project

The School Grounds for Learning Project is an initiative funded by the NOAA-BWET grant program and supported by a partnership between the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Maryland Association for Environmental Education with the invaluable support of national and regional partner organizations and topical experts. This exciting project will provide professional development opportunities and comprehensive online resources featuring detailed information and instructions to enable students, teachers, administrators & school facilities personnel to effectively plan, utilize and sustain a vast variety of environmental projects on school grounds including:

- Projects to provide habitat for wildlife
- Projects to improve water quality
- Projects to support a healthy school environment
- Projects to reduce environmental impact & cost
- Projects to encourage outdoor learning, play & discovery

Learn more about the School Grounds for Learning Project: (Each of the below links to a corresponding anchor lower on this page)

- [Who is developing School Grounds for Learning Project resources?](#)
- [Who is the target audience for School Grounds for Learning resources?](#)
- [What is the timeline for all of the online resources to be available?](#)
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Who is developing School Grounds for Learning Project resources?

To ensure the content is useful and applicable to a wide audience, contributors include: national & regional partner organizations representing a variety of interests including education, conservation & restoration; outdoor environmental education centers working with school grounds projects; school facilities management & personnel; teachers & administrators who have developed sustainable projects on their school grounds and have integrated their use into instruction; agency & non-governmental organizations developing best practices for the enhancement of school grounds to improve water quality, increase habitat value, support innovative agriculture programs and more; landscape architects with expertise in innovative design of school grounds; and topical experts in a variety of fields.

Who is the target audience for the School Grounds for Learning Project resources?

With the support of the above-mentioned partners and contributors, these resources are being thoughtfully developed to provide targeted information for use by students, teachers, administrators and school facilities personnel interested in effectively designing, enhancing, utilizing and sustaining environmental projects on their school grounds.

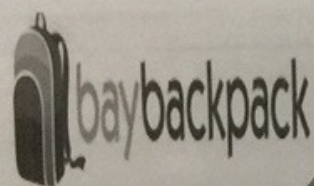
What is the timeline for all of the online resources to be available?

Initiated in 2014, the School Grounds for Learning Project is a three-year effort. A comprehensive new online [environmental literacy section](#) was added in January 2015, featuring information on national, regional and local environmental literacy initiatives, including the Maryland environmental literacy standards & graduation requirement and efforts to support implementation. Project sections are currently under development. Sections will be reviewed by stakeholders and contributors, and added gradually beginning in 2015 on the NOAA Bay Backpack and MAEOE web sites. Resources will be monitored and updated accordingly to ensure that the content is current and correct. For more information please contact Laura Collard at director@maeoe.org.

School Grounds for Learning

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SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR LEARNING

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- [Project Maintenance Basics](#) (links to 2e)

Using Your Project:

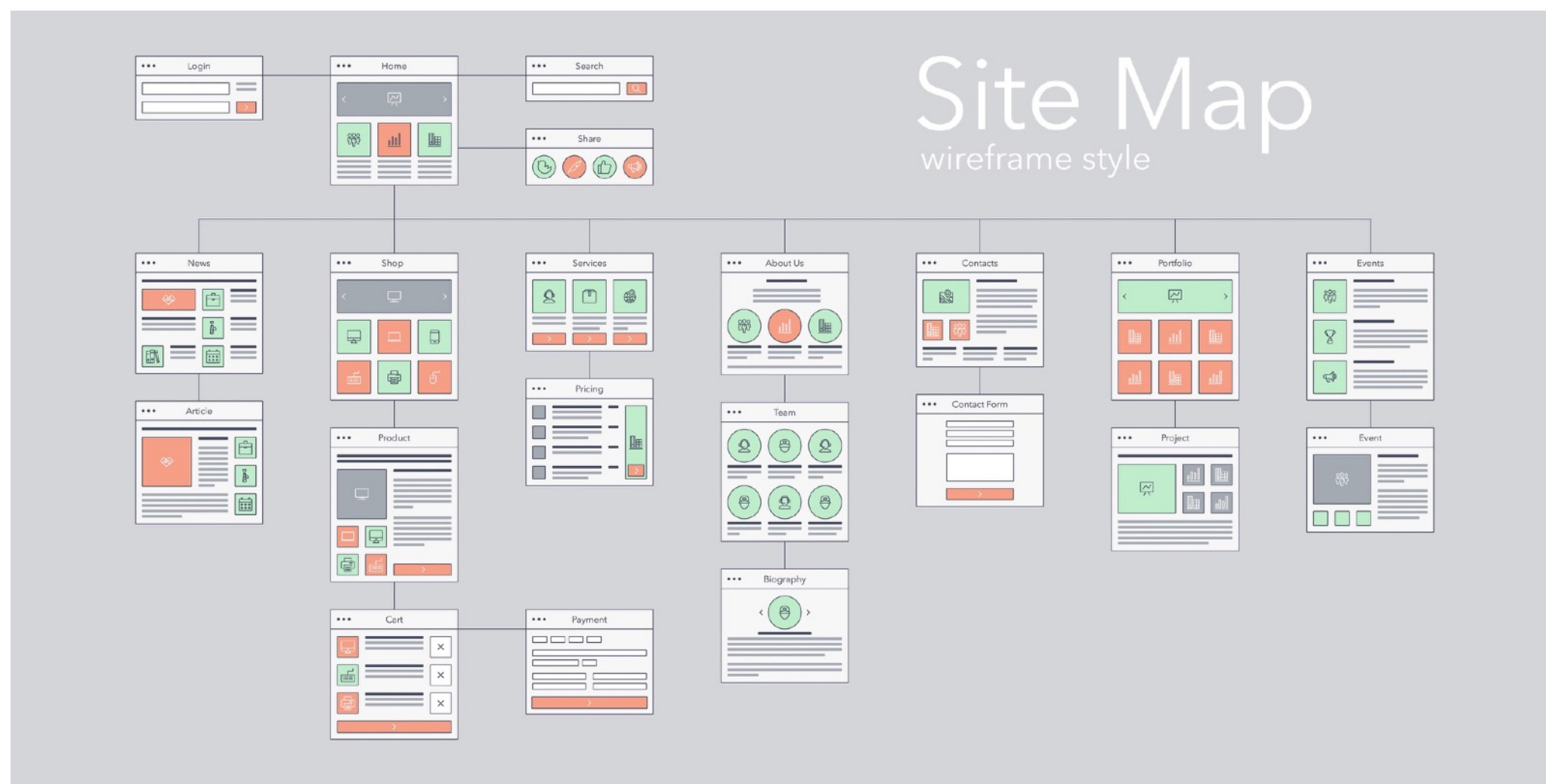
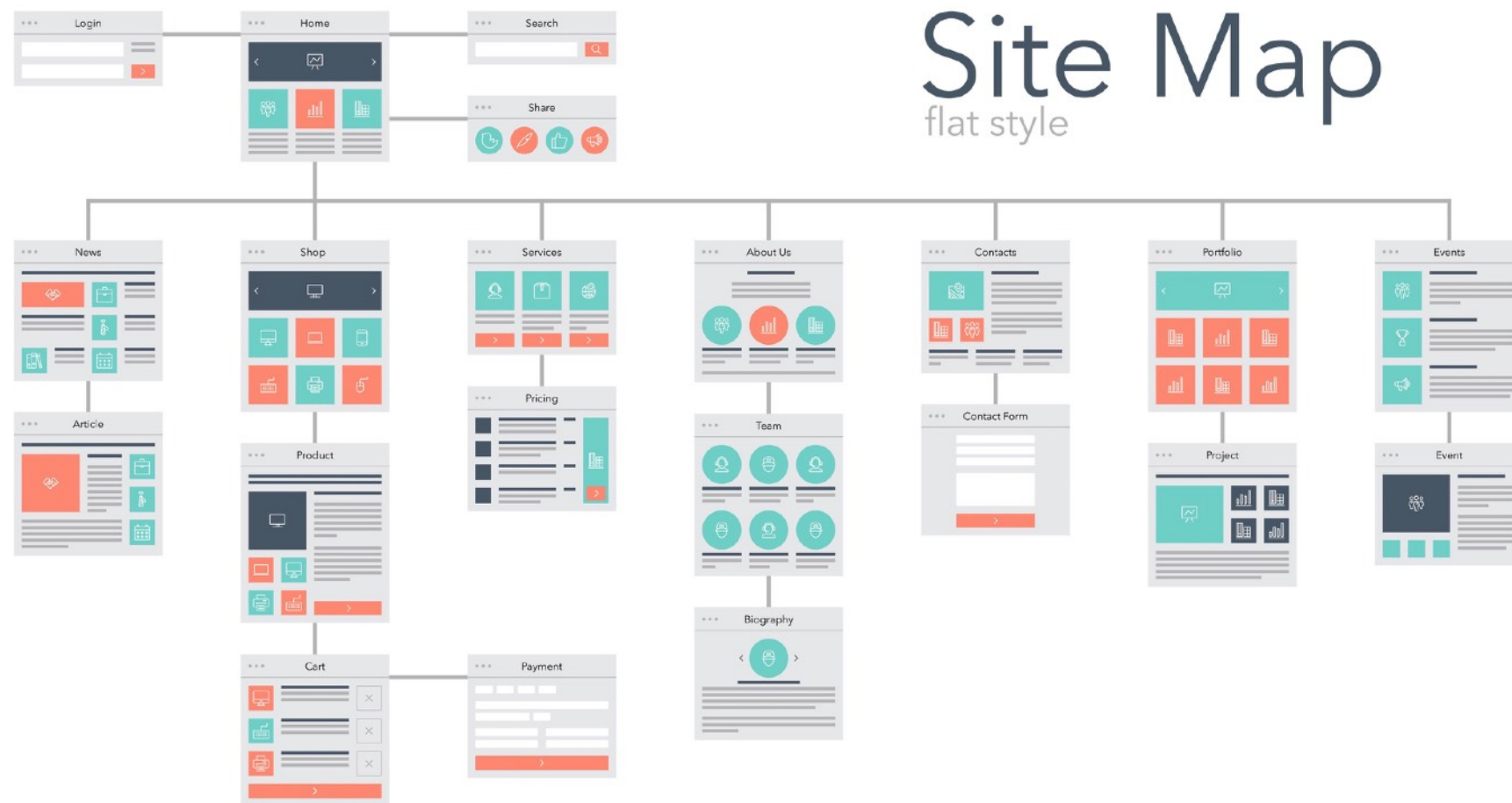
- [Using Your Project Overview](#) (links to 2f)

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Resource & Training Center:

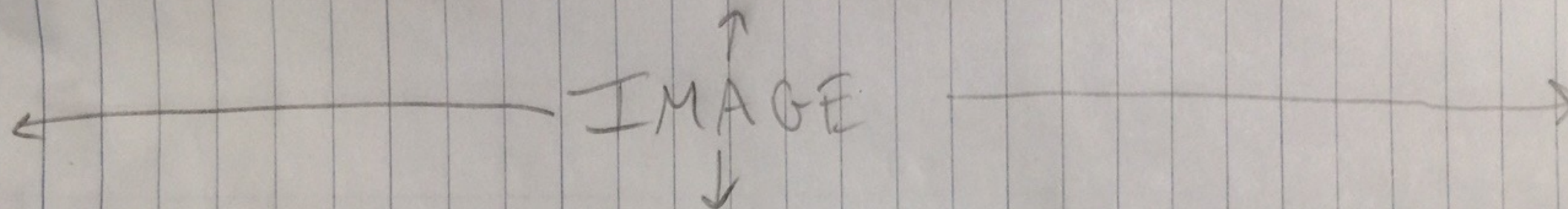
- [Tree & Woodland Project Resources](#)
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TEXT

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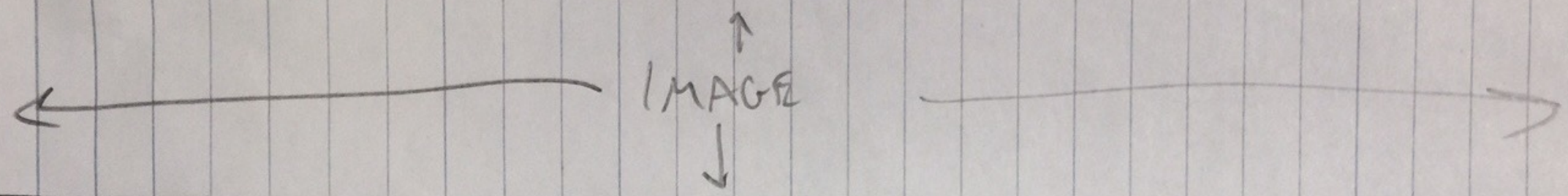
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WOODLANDS PROJECTS

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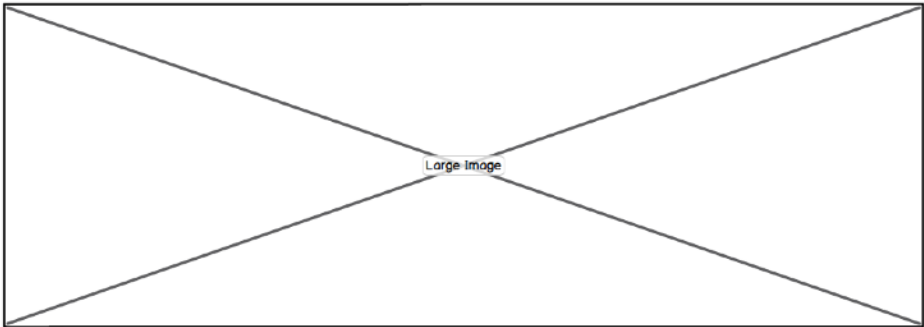
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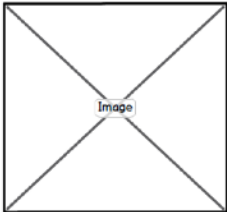


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Wildlife Habitat Projects

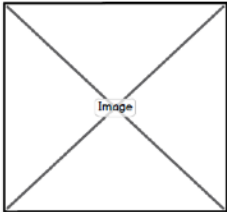
Wildlife habitat projects are a great way to teach students about the importance of protecting the environment. These projects can be done in the classroom, on the schoolyard, or in a local park. They can help students learn about the different types of habitats and the animals that live in them. They can also help students understand the importance of conservation and the role of humans in the environment.

Wildlife habitat projects can be done in a variety of ways. Some projects are simple and can be done in the classroom. Others are more complex and require more resources. The key is to find a project that is appropriate for the students' age and interests.



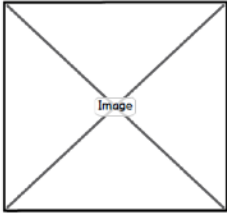
Woodlands

Woodlands are a type of habitat that is home to many different animals. They are also a very important part of the environment. Woodlands provide a home for many different types of trees and plants. They also provide a home for many different types of animals, including birds, insects, and mammals.



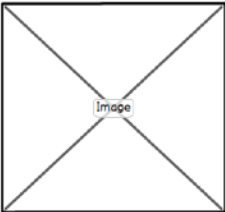
Meadows

Meadows are a type of habitat that is home to many different animals. They are also a very important part of the environment. Meadows provide a home for many different types of plants and flowers. They also provide a home for many different types of animals, including birds, insects, and mammals.



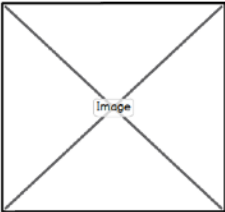
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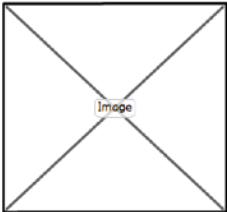
Wetlands

Wetlands are a type of habitat that is home to many different animals. They are also a very important part of the environment. Wetlands provide a home for many different types of plants and flowers. They also provide a home for many different types of animals, including birds, insects, and mammals.



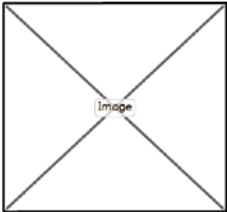
Streams

Streams are a type of habitat that is home to many different animals. They are also a very important part of the environment. Streams provide a home for many different types of plants and flowers. They also provide a home for many different types of animals, including birds, insects, and mammals.



Native Plants and Invasive Species

Native plants and invasive species are two types of plants that are found in the same area. Native plants are plants that have been in the area for a long time. Invasive species are plants that have been introduced to the area from somewhere else. Invasive species can be a problem because they can outcompete native plants and change the habitat.



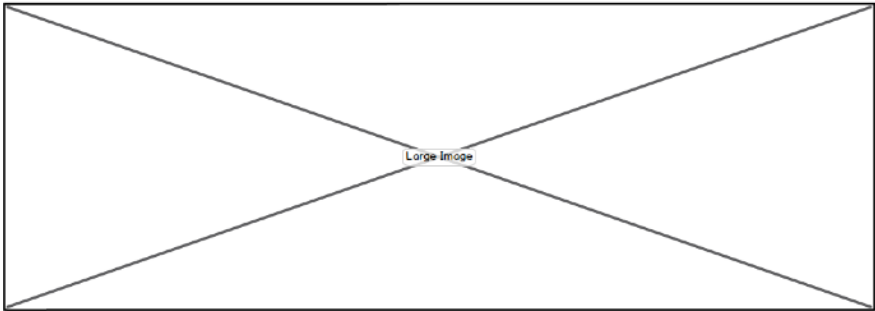
Grow-Out Stations

Grow-out stations are a type of habitat that is home to many different animals. They are also a very important part of the environment. Grow-out stations provide a home for many different types of plants and flowers. They also provide a home for many different types of animals, including birds, insects, and mammals.

ABOUT

The School Grounds for Learning Project is a new initiative funded by the NOAA-BWET grant program and supported by a partnership between the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and MAEOE, in cooperation with the Maryland State Department of Education and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

[Read More >>](#)



The School Grounds for Learning Project

At the end of the project, you will have a better understanding of the school grounds and the role of the school in the community. You will also have a better understanding of the school's role in the community and the role of the school in the community. You will also have a better understanding of the school's role in the community and the role of the school in the community. You will also have a better understanding of the school's role in the community and the role of the school in the community.

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Project Importance

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Environmental Literacy

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Achieving Green School Status

Achieving US Green Ribbon School Status

Project Benefits for Students, Schools & the Environment

Resource Development

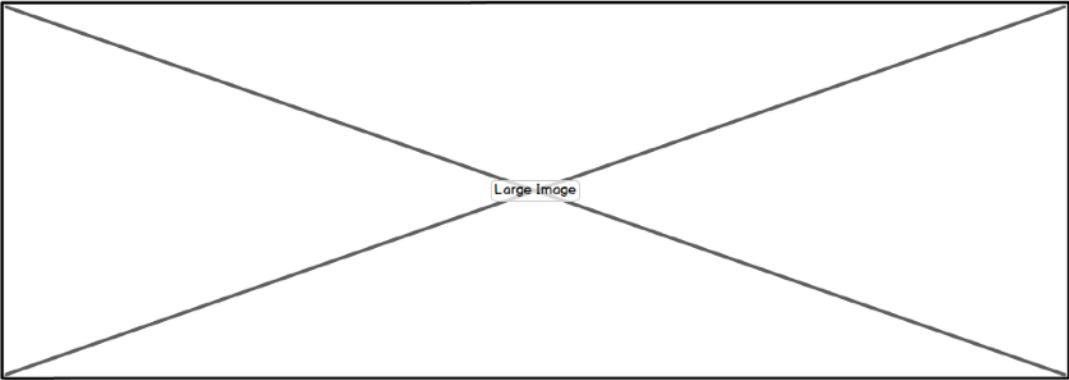
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Target Audience

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Resource Timeline

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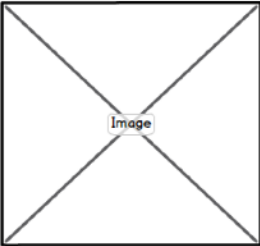


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Woodlands Projects

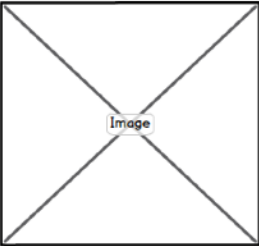
Woodlands are a vital part of our environment, providing a home for many different species of plants and animals. They also play a crucial role in the carbon cycle, helping to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. By creating and maintaining woodlands, we can help to improve the health of our environment and the lives of the people who live in it.

There are many different ways to create and maintain woodlands, and the best way for you will depend on your location, the size of the area, and the resources you have available. However, some general principles can help you to get started.



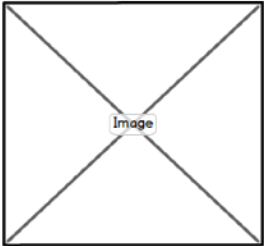
Woodland Starter Projects

Woodland Starter Projects are designed to help you get started with creating a woodland. They are simple and easy to do, and they can be done in a small area of your garden or school grounds.



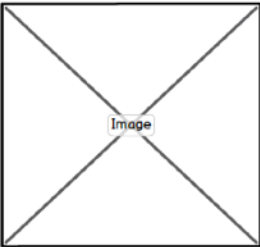
Woodland Enhancement Projects

Woodland Enhancement Projects are designed to help you improve an existing woodland. They are more complex than Starter Projects, but they can have a much greater impact on the health of the woodland.



Forest Buffers

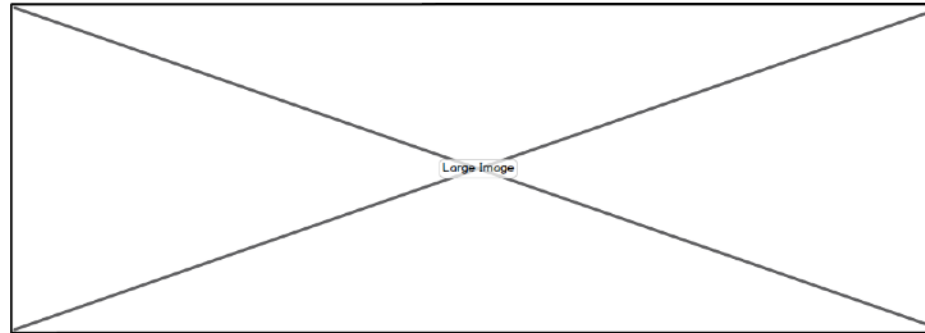
Forest Buffers are designed to help you create a buffer zone between a woodland and a nearby road or building. This can help to reduce the impact of the road or building on the woodland, and it can also help to improve the appearance of the area.



Permaculture

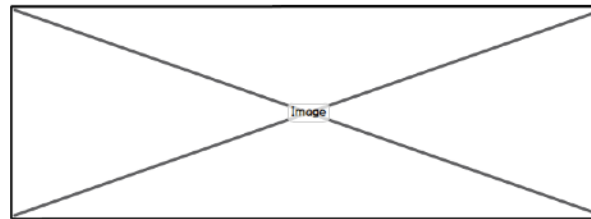
Permaculture is a design approach that aims to create sustainable, self-sufficient systems. It can be used to design woodlands, gardens, and other outdoor spaces.

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Project Design Basics
Project Implementation/Installation
Project Maintenance Basics
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Sharing Your Project

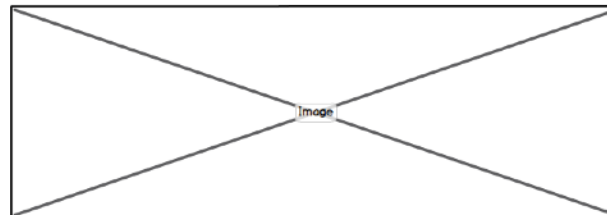
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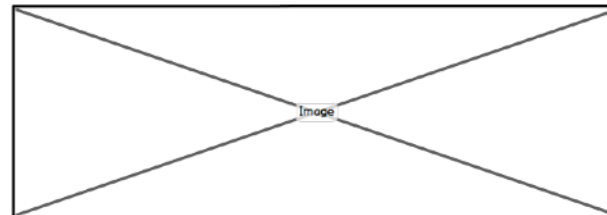
Woodland Starter Projects

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Tree and Shrub Planting

[illegible]

Tree & Shrub Nursery

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Provide & Enhance Wildlife Habitat

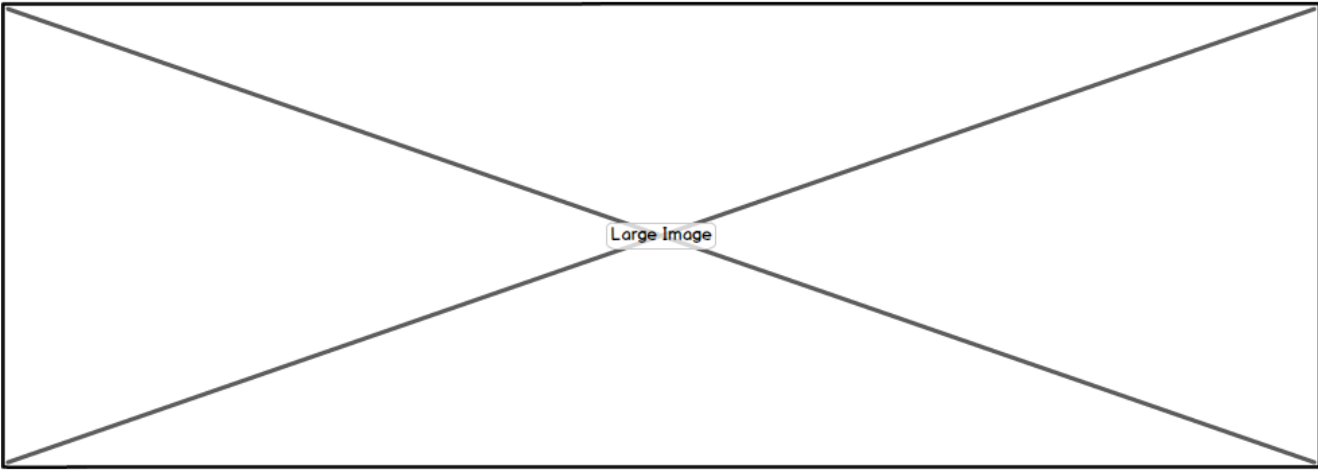
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Tree and Shrub Planting

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Before You Start

[i-Tree Analysis Tools for Assessing & Managing Community Forests](#)
[Forests for the Bay Landserver Property Mapping Tool](#)

Design

[Choosing, Sourcing & Determining Numbers](#)

Implementation

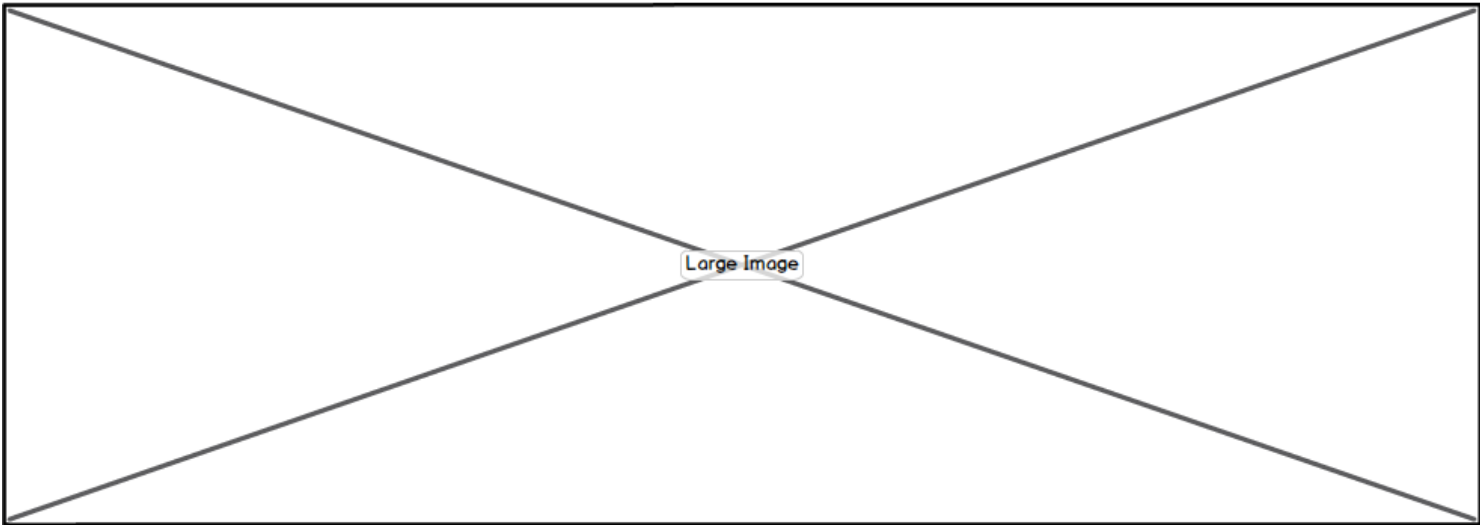
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Site Management: Short and Long Term

[Tree and Shrub Maintenance Tips](#)

Additional Resources

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Project Planning Basics

Project planning is the first step in creating a successful schoolyard project. It involves identifying the goals of the project, determining the resources needed, and developing a timeline for completion. This process is essential for ensuring that the project is well-organized and that all stakeholders are on the same page. The planning phase also allows for the identification of potential challenges and the development of strategies to address them. By taking the time to plan thoroughly, you can increase the likelihood of a successful outcome for your schoolyard project.

Project planning is a critical component of any schoolyard project. It allows you to define the scope of the project, set realistic goals, and allocate resources effectively. This phase is also an opportunity to involve students and staff in the decision-making process, which can lead to increased buy-in and ownership of the project. By following a structured planning process, you can ensure that your schoolyard project is well-managed and achieves its intended purpose.

Establish Your Team

Establishing a team is the first step in planning your project. It is important to select team members who have a variety of skills and interests, and who are committed to the project. The team should be responsible for developing the project plan, identifying resources, and implementing the project. Regular communication and collaboration among team members is essential for the success of the project.

Brainstorm Schoolyard Ideas

Brainstorming is a key part of the planning process. It allows team members to share their ideas and thoughts about the project, and to develop a list of potential schoolyard ideas. This process can be facilitated by asking questions such as "What do we want to achieve with this project?" and "What resources do we have available?" Brainstorming can also be a fun and engaging activity for students.

Survey the School Community

Surveying the school community is an important step in the planning process. It allows you to gather input from students, staff, and parents about their interests and needs. This information can be used to inform the development of the project plan and to ensure that the project meets the needs of the school community. Surveys can be conducted in a variety of ways, including through questionnaires, focus groups, and public meetings.

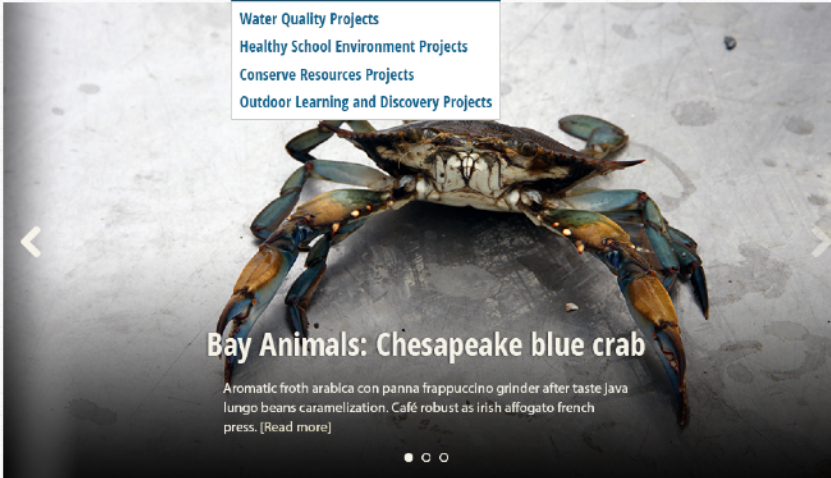
Brainstorm Schoolyard Possibilities

Brainstorming schoolyard possibilities is a key part of the planning process. It allows team members to think creatively about the potential uses of the schoolyard and to develop a list of potential projects. This process can be facilitated by asking questions such as "What are the different ways we can use the schoolyard?" and "What are the different types of projects we can implement?" Brainstorming can also be a fun and engaging activity for students.

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Project Maintenance Basics
Using Your Project
Sharing Your Project

Mockup Desktop



Bay Animals: Chesapeake blue crab

Aromatic froth arabica con panna frappuccino grinder after taste java lungo beans caramelization. Café robust as Irish affogato french press. [Read more]



Recent Blog Posts

President Celebrates STEM at the 3rd White House Science Fair

June 02, 2014 by Julie Walker

President Obama celebrated students achievements in STEM by hosting the third annual White House Science Fair on May 27 2014. 30 states were represented in the group of 100 hundred students. From designing new apps, to solar panels, to making football helmets more concussion proof projects encompassing a wide range of STEM fields. This year the fair had a special focus on encouraging girls to pursue a career in science

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Come Celebrate Maryland's Green Schools at MAEOE Green Schools Youth Summit!

June 02, 2014 by Julie Walker

The Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) will honor the 133 schools that have successfully fulfilled the requirements of the Maryland Green Schools Program at the MAEOE Green Schools Youth Summit on May 30, 2014 at beautiful Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis. The Youth Summit presents students and teachers with an opportunity to be recognized for their leadership in enacting significant change in their communities, while the Summit's interactive sessions provide a platform for them to build upon the skills and knowledge that they have already acquired during the Maryland Green Schools certification process.

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Inspiring Future Green Leaders

June 02, 2014 by Julie Walker

If you are high school teacher (and maybe even if not) now is the time of year that student will be reaching out for guidance on the future. With questions ranging from colleges, tech schools, majors, careers, and life in general. Many times it is difficult and stressful to pick just one interest to pursue. But that's where your sage wisdom comes in handy. Many careers today require a multitude on interest, especially careers involving the environment.

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Resources

FieldScope: Explore this interactive mapping system.

Green School Program: Ways to make your school

No Child Left Inside: Learn about this exciting program.

CBIBS Curriculum: Use real-time data to teach the Bay.

United States Global Change Research Program

National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)



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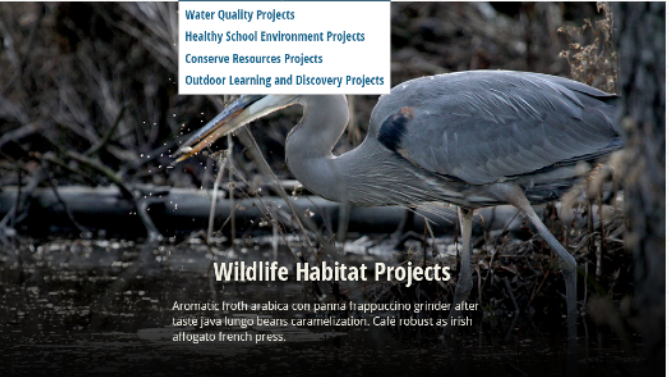
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Wildlife Habitat Projects

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Wildlife Habitat Projects

The Chesapeake Bay is a diverse and productive ecosystem that supports more than 2,000 species of plants and animals both on land and in the water. Bay animals can be some of the most charismatic organisms in the Bay and include a variety of fish, shellfish, birds, and mammals. Each species plays an important role in the Bay food web and relies on a healthy Bay ecosystem to survive. A healthy ecosystem is one with a balanced food web — not too much production or consumption of any one of the producers or consumers. For example menhaden must have enough plankton available to sustain themselves. Striped bass and bluefish, part of a higher trophic level, rely on menhaden and bay anchovies as their primary food source.

An ecosystem must be enormously productive to support substantial populations of species at the highest trophic levels. For example, for every pound of commercial fish taken from the Bay, almost 8,000 pounds of underlying producers and consumers had to be produced.

Like any other system, the Bay ecosystem is composed of interrelated parts that interact with each other to form a whole. All of the plants and animals the bay ecosystem depend on each other in some way. Every living thing needs a healthy ecosystem to survive. Human activities affect the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem by adding pollution, using resources and changing the character of the land. However, we can make better choices in our everyday lives to lessen our footprint on the Bay ecosystem's health.

About

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Projects



Woodlands

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Wetlands

Aromatic froth arabica con panna frappuccino grinder after taste java luno beans caramelization. Café robust as Irish affogato french press.

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Native Plants and Invasive Species

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Meadows

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Environmental Literacy

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Project Benefits for Students, Schools and the Environment

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Resource Development

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Target Audience

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Resource Timeline

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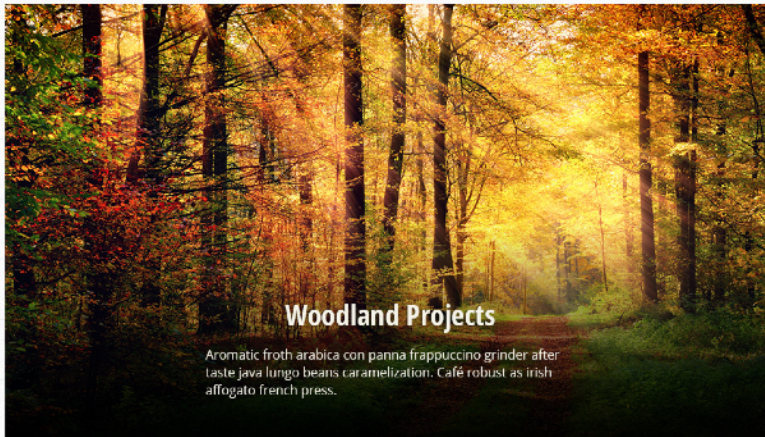
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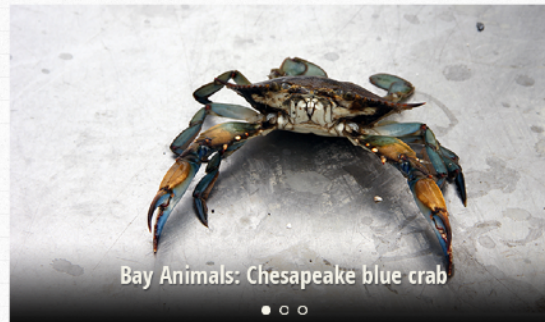


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President Celebrates STEM at the 3rd White House Science Fair

June 02, 2014 by Julie Walker

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beans caramelization, Café robust as Irish affogato french press.

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Grow-Out Station
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bees caramelization, Café robust as Irish affogato fresh press.

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Environmental Literacy

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Project Benefits for Students, Schools and the Environment

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Resource Development

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Target Audience

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Resource Timeline

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Step 5: Mockup Desktop

Next Steps

- Hire support intern
- Review mockup
- Provide feedback
- Make changes
- Team meeting
- Begin work