

INCORPORATING DIATOMS INTO THE CLASSROOM

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Due to their global prevalence, diversity, and ecology, diatoms provide an excellent example of various aspects of biological and environmental sciences. This presentation will describe several activities that have been created or adapted as short classroom-based experiential learning activities. This includes a matching activity for diatom ecology and morphology, an activity for community change over time in response to environmental and anthropogenic stressors, an activity for community change over time and evolution. Additionally, a brief description of inexpensive stream mesocosms that can be used for long-term manipulation of diatom communities for laboratory-based classes. These activities are appropriate for courses in limnology, marine biology, phycology, ecology and evolution.