

Eagle Students Experience the Outdoors

This school year, Ness City students in Mr. Clay's environmental science class are undertaking a soil and water quality monitoring program of the local area. Utilizing new equipment purchased utilizing the Wolf Creek Grant for Excellence, students will sample throughout the county and tag samples utilizing GPS. The class is designed to allow students to learn and practice skills for environmental science related careers. As a part of the course, students will be contacting landowners to ask permission to sample water from creeks or ponds, as well as soil on their land. Students will then share the results back with landowners while also mapping them to get an overall picture of the area.

This new course joins the summer Field Geology course as an additional upper level science course featuring outdoor experiences for students. Four Ness City juniors participated in the Field Geology course this summer, including a camping trip in Estes Park, Colorado. The students camped and hiked in Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park, including summiting 9,786 foot Lily Mountain. This year marked the second year for the course. Ms. Bernbeck accompanied Mr. Clay as sponsors on the trip. Local landowners who would like to support these outdoors experiences for students are encouraged to contact Mr. Clay at matt.clay@usd303.org or call the school at 785-798-3991 if they would be willing to let students collect water and soil samples on their land.

Field Geology students along Glacier Creek in Rocky Mountain National Park



Kassidy McGranahan, Ashley Foos, and Rylee Starr on the summit of Lily Mountain in Rocky Mountain National Park

