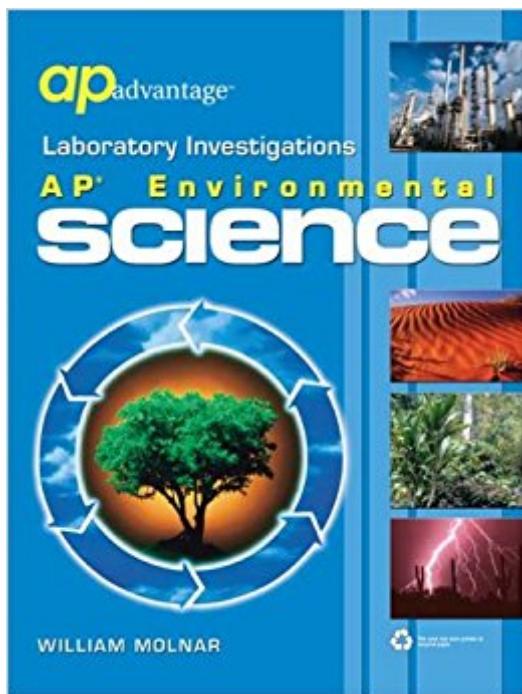


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Laboratory Investigations: AP Environmental Science Lab Manual



Synopsis

This student lab manual invites students to set out on an exploration through hands-on problem-solving activities. This approach encourages critical thinking and enables students to become active learners about their natural and human-made surroundings.

Book Information

Paperback: 216 pages

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Customer Reviews

William Molnar retired after 38 years of teaching AP Environmental Science, Chemistry, and Physics. Molnar's many teaching awards include the New Jersey Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, which he received twice. He was an American Museum of Natural History Consultant on the Global Warming Exhibit and is both a Globe and a Princeton Earth Project Physics Fellow. Molnar is a consultant for the College Board in AP Environmental Science and continues to lead AP teacher development workshops.

I found Bill Molnar's lab book very useful. Although the book's title makes it seem as if the labs are for your AP/Honors kids, any good teacher can take these labs and make them mentally accessible to your average high school kid. Some of the labs are old favorites like Stream Studies (test kit and kick net), others are more like research projects using web sites cited for their data. Will those web sites always be up and running? Maybe. Some of the labs clearly require chemistry lab equipment, but the effort to acquire the equipment, and sometimes the chemicals, will definitely be worth it. This is the first time I have EVER seen the recipe for making your own ozone test strips from 2 easy to get chemicals. What chemicals you ask? Buy Bill's book and find out! About 44 great

lab/projects/field studies make up the book and I highly recommend it not just for Environmental Science teachers but anyone who teaches a General Science class or an Integrated Science class--lots of great ideas here. Bill has definitely done his homework and you will be pleased with these labs.

This book has many good activities for the APES (AP Environmental Science) classroom as well as some for the normal ES class. BUT the caveat is there is no support for the Instructor. There are no Keys, and as every instructor knows, there is not enough hours in the day to do the work AND prep for all the labs we have to do. I only give 2 stars because of that one fact. It would be a 4 star effort to be sure (some of the questions in some of the labs are NOT obvious what the author was asking for), but A Key is needed.

This book is easy to use and adapt to the AP Environmental Studies class and yet there is a vital element missing. Being a lab. book, one would think there would be a comprehensive materials list included. Instead, I had to flip through each experiment and create my own list of equipment & supplies needed for the experiments.

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