A Collection
of
Case Studies


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Preface

Ken Barbarick

As noted by the Vanderbilt University Center for Teaching, “Case studies are stories that are used as a teaching tool to show the application of a theory or concept to real situations” (https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/case-studies/; accessed 6 July 2017). Case studies are important tools for active learning and student participation.

The American Society of Agronomy published the case studies compiled from 1992 through 2005 by the *Journal of Natural and Life Sciences Education* (pre-cursor to *Natural Sciences Education*). This book presents the case studies published in *Journal of Natural and Life Sciences Education* and *Natural Sciences Education* from 2006 through 2016. I believe they provide examples of highly successful teaching/learning activities and they can provide templates for the development of new case studies.

Please take the opportunity to scrutinize these excellent opportunities that contribute very well to the pedagogy of active learning. They will allow students to experience real-world situations and to hone their analytical skills.

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