

Interview “Review”

Throughout this process of interviewing people from our community, it was captivating to hear what people thought of when it came to our environment. We tried to attain their perspective on our water supply and plants sustainability. Some of the individuals interviewed were knowledgeable on the subjects while the others were not as informed. They provided us with their insight on how they interpret the given topics. We approached our community with simple and critical thinking questions such as; “why is water management essential to our crop productions, why is 97% of the Earth’s water not usable by humans, and how do water and plants correspond with one another?” These questions are significant because they encompass three overall concepts of water, plants and the interaction between both. The questions were to evoke the importance of water to our environment and to human survival.

The first question we asked “Why is water management essential to our crop productions?” 90% of the Carol City community responded, if water supply is being used carelessly, there will not be enough to water the plants. They had the right idea but there were misconceptions. So we provided further knowledge on the subjects. For example, one of the students we interviewed spoke on water supply being limited and if there is no water to be distributed then the crops won’t grow. To further inform the participant we added that if the crops do not grow then we will have less produce in our local markets which can raise prices. Also, some people provided us with information we did not think of such as the animals that live amongst us will be affected by water management. This would lead to a crisis in the food webs of the world as well as our own for we would lack the animal proteins we consume. This led us to the following questions which highlights the fact that our world has limited fresh water resources.

For our second question we asked, “Why is 97% of the Earth’s water not usable by humans?” This question is simple but some of the responses were a little misguided. About 50% of the individuals’ surveyed said, salt water was the reason we could not use most of Earth’s resource. This indicates that the community is aware that although most of Earth is composed of water the majority of it is salt water and cannot be consumed by humans. However, some of them stated that most of Earth’s fresh water

was unsanitary and could not be used. This brought about an analysis based on the fact that some fresh water resources remain untouched in third world countries that do not have the resources to clean the water. This was a valid point we had overlooked and it made us realize that the consumption and availability of fresh water surpasses the concept of salt versus fresh water. There is a great dependency on the financial ability to clean fresh water itself. This is a current issue and it is also very important because the nation as a whole needs to not just access fresh water but also have the resource to produce “clean” water. This thinking led us to the next question which ties water to one of earth's more important organisms, plants!

Our final question was “how do water and plants correspond with one another?” this was the most simple question, and it received a variety of answers. For example many of the individuals responded with detail stating that it was necessary for the plants’ production of glucose during photosynthesis and others responded with the brief answer that plants need water to grow and survive. These answers show two different extremes in what people know and understand about plants and water. This could be directly linked to the background they have and the exposure to scientific knowledge. The individuals that answered with details clearly had a link to science whether they worked directly with the material as was the case in the interview with the professor and others had limited knowledge for they gave the most basic answer was the case with the people interviewed around the community. Essentially, it is a positive point that all the individuals involved knew that water was important for plant life and survival.

These questions can help us in educating and informing our community. We can safely say that information provided is a good indicator of where to start and what to build on. From our analysis, we can build on the knowledge of plant and water relationship, for the surveyors have the right idea in terms of one’s dependency on the other. This can then drive the other discussion on how fresh water resources are limited and how our consumption can affect other important aspects in our lives and environment. This can be done by creating pamphlets and hands on demonstrations throughout the school. In turn the students of the school will create a chain reaction by giving this knowledge to their parents and fellow neighbors. We can start with the most impact by making the youth a

part of the educational community. The key to a better world and better future starts with knowledge education. If can get our community to be more knowledgeable they in turn will become more environmentally conscious providing for a better future.

Fairchild Tropical Botanic garden

Miami Carol City