**Personal Vision**

* Students curious about the natural world not the virtual world
* Students developing critical thinking skills regarding global/local environmental policies
* Students participating in self-driven research projects that are not bound by the 4 walls/45 minute constraint of my classroom; collaborating with other students/researchers locally and globally

**Teaching Method Changes**

* I would like to provide more research projects that are student driven
* In any one unit, I would like to have a variety of projects being explored that meet the needs of the individual students but at the end of the unit, each project addresses the same common understandings/benchmarks
* I would like to provide more real-time data for students to access in their research projects to enable students to understand the importance of supporting ideas with actual evidence

**Expectations From Experience**

* I expect to gain a better understanding in the decision making process as to where/what type of data will provide the most evidence for the research question/problem
* I expect to gain a better understanding of the science involved in dating vegetation utilizing UV exposure and sediment core techniques-proxy data
* I expect to gain a better understanding of the challenges that must be overcome in researching in remote locations

**Concepts to Improve Upon**

I would like to continue to develop units that present/support the idea of proxy data. As I stated in my vision statement, I want my students to access the science curriculum through more student driven projects. I need to explore ways to identify and dispel science misconceptions that arise within student driven projects.

**Equity Issues**

Over the course my teaching career, I have seen a reversal in gender 'confidence' within the science field. I have many more girls interested in science and taking advantage of programs offered for students. I would like to bring a balance back for both genders. I feel that there was such a push to get girls 'into science' that we have not addressed the needs of the male students. I feel the dynamic of the research team that I am part of will support the idea of equality of gender in the research field. Due to the demographics of my community, I do not have a variety of students with different ethnic backgrounds.