Lesson Plan: Protecting Nature Trails

Subject: Social Sciences/Human Sciences

Grade Level: High School (Grades 9-12)

Duration: 2/3 class periods (90-120 minutes)

Objectives:

- Students will identify human impacts on nature trails through research of a local park trail(s)
- Students will create solutions to preserve and mitigate nature trails
- Students will present their findings to a group of stakeholders

1. Introduction to Parks and Nature Trails (15 minutes)
   - Explain to students the importance of nature trails by highlighting the biodiversity, social, and health benefits (use google slides 1-3)

2. Human Impact and Preservation Strategies Research (15 minutes)
   - Explain how human activities can negatively affect nature trails (use google slide 4)
   - Research: Students will pick a local trail and come up with their own solutions for mitigation. Students will need to research 1 to 2 strategies and be able to explain why and how it would be implemented in real life

3. Presentation (60 minutes)
   - Preparation: Students will prepare their findings and solution by creating a presentation using technology (google slides, video, etc.)
   - Presentation: Students will choose a stakeholder group to model their presentation

4. Reflection (30 minutes)
   - Discussion: Students will create a roadmap and implementation timeline for their solutions

Resources:

[Google lesson slides](https://earthday.org) by EARTHDAY.ORG (make a copy)