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CEEF Educator Survey

The California Environmental Education Foundation (CEEF) is requesting **ALL EDUCATORS** complete a survey designed to reveal the current needs and constraints to teaching EE inside the classroom and outdoors. The survey data will be used by CEEF to determine its programmatic and funding priorities as it strives to implement the six strategic initiatives identified in *Education and the Environment: Strategic Initiatives for Enhancing Education in California* (available at [http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader\\$198](http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader$198).) The deadline has been extended to **April 15th**. To complete the survey, please go to the link below. http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=StHCb35n5k04m2RmE8RIQw_3d_3d.

EEl Writers Sought



The San Luis Obispo County Office of Education is seeking Statements of Qualifications from highly qualified, experienced writers of **8th to 12th** grade instructional materials, curricula, and/or textbooks to work on the development of a Model Curriculum for EEI. The deadline to apply is **Friday, April 18, 2008**. Selected individuals must participate in a workshop April 28th to May 2nd. For information about the application process, visit [http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader\\$198](http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader$198).

National EE Week



Carbon Footprints is the theme for this year's National EE Week, **April 13-19, 2008**. Educational resources for teachers and students at all grade levels are available at <http://www.eeweek.org/>.

Living in a Global Forest



Living in a Global Forest, from the *If Trees Could Talk* middle school curriculum, is an excellent module to use during National EE Week or anytime this month to celebrate EE. Students compare the ecological footprint of an average home built in 2000 with that of an average home constructed in 1950. Students learn where our wood comes from now and analyze global efforts to manage the world's forests. For more information, visit <http://www.foresthistory.org>.

Disney Environmentality Challenge Winner

Congratulations to Sylvia Rodriguez and her 5th grade class at **Phoebe Hearst Elementary School** in Sacramento. They were selected as the Grand Prize winners and will be recognized for their efforts at Disneyland on May 1-2, 2008. Their project focused on protecting and preserving the American River. For more information about the Disney program, visit <http://disney.go.com/environmentality/dec/index.html>.



Population Education Training



Population Connection's Education Program is hosting a leadership training workshop on **August 2nd – 3rd** in San Francisco. This workshop is designed to prepare educators to facilitate population education workshops using Population Connection's hands-on curricula. This institute is open to teacher educators from colleges and universities around the state, K-12 teachers, and non-formal educators who work with teachers at science museums and nature centers. Lodging and a travel reimbursement will be available for those traveling to the Bay Area from other parts of the state. Deadline to apply is **April 30th**. For more information, visit <http://www.populationeducation.org>.

Outdoor EE and Recreation Legislation

Sierra Club California has sponsored **AB 2989** to establish an outdoor education and grant program within the Department of Parks and Recreation, introduced by Assemblymember Fuentes. Specifically AB 2989 would create a permanent Outdoor EE and Recreation Program in the Department, award grants to formal school programs and non-profit community groups that provide outdoor education and recreation opportunities, provide various funding options, require the Department to give priority to underserved populations in urban and rural areas. Additionally, AB 2989 has criteria that require priority be given to programs that contribute to healthy lifestyles, maximize the number of participants, commit in-kind resources, include a curriculum that fosters environmental stewardship, and include service-learning and community outreach components. The bill will be heard in committee next week. To read the bill, visit <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov> and search AB 2989.

Earth Day 2008

There are numerous events planned for April 2008 for teachers, students, and the general public throughout California and the world. I hope you can participate!



History of Earth Day

Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson, a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, proposed the first nationwide environmental protest "to shake up the political establishment and force this issue onto the national agenda." "It was a gamble," he recalls, "but it worked." On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment. Senator Nelson was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom -- the highest honor given to civilians in the United States -- for his role as Earth Day founder.

As 1990 approached, a group of environmental leaders asked Denis Hayes to organize another big campaign. This time, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting the status of environmental issues on to the world stage. Earth Day 1990 gave a huge boost to recycling efforts worldwide and helped pave the way for the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.



EPA Administrator William K. Reilly with former Senator Gaylord Nelson
Earth Day 1990

Earth Day in a Box



Here you can find all the information you need to plan your event, get involved, and help protect the environment. Visit

<http://ww2.earthday.net/~earthday/node/88>.

Earth Day Network

The **EDN Educator Network** provides resources in Sustainability, Climate, Natural Resources and Wildlife, Energy, Civics Education, Thoreau, Organics and Food, and many other lessons. Visit <http://ww2.earthday.net/~earthday/lessonplans> to access these Earth Day resources.

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Upcoming Conferences, Events & Activities

National EE Week
April 13-19, 2008
www.eeweek.org

National Park Week
April 19, 27-, 2008

National Sky Awareness Week
April 20-26, 2008

Earth Day
April 22, 2008

AEOE Statewide Spring Conference
April 25 - 27, 2008, Malibu
www.aeoe.org

American Wetlands Month
May 1-31, 2008

Disney Environmental Challenge Celebration
May 1-2, 2008, Disneyland
www.deckids.org

Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT)
June and July 2008, Four different locations in northern CA
www.forestryinstitute.org

NAAEE Annual Conference
October 15-18, 2008, Wichita, KS
www.naaee.org

CSTA Annual Conference
October 30 - November 2, 2008, San Jose
www.cascience.org

National Association for Interpretation Annual Conference
November 11-15, 2008, Portland, OR
www.interpret.com

Check the CREEC Network Calendar at www.creec.org for additional events.



Those who contemplate
the beauty of the earth
find reserves of strength
that will endure as long
as life lasts.

Rachel Carson