



North Coast CREEC Network

Region 1 Newsletter

October 2006

Welcome to the North Coast California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC) Network's print newsletter that provides information about the CREEC Network and environmental education and environment-based opportunities. *On the back of this sheet is information specific to your county.* To locate a calendar of events, grants, teacher resources, and past copies of newsletters visit www.creec.org/Region1.

The CREEC Network's purpose is to increase and improve environmental education (EE) in California classrooms by linking educators with high quality resources. It is an educational project supported by the California Department of Education, Environmental Education Program, in collaboration with state, regional, and local partners. The **Online Resource Directory** is designed to be used by teachers to identify and select EE programs and resources for themselves and their students. Go to www.creec.org, click on "Resource Directory," and search by topic or other criteria to locate a resource.



The North Coast CREEC Network (Region 1) serves Sonoma, Mendocino, Lake, Humboldt, and Del Norte counties. The information on local EE providers and their programs is regularly updated. In addition, the CREEC website provides information on local programs, events, and opportunities as well as statewide grants, contests, and other EE resources.

To suggest topics for newsletters or to receive quarterly e-mails on local events and resources, contact Olga Clymire, Region 1 Coordinator: olganc@pacific.net; 707-263-7249.

Bright Ideas - PG&E Solar Schools Program

Schools may apply for solar installations, teacher training, and Bright Ideas Grants of \$2,500 or \$5,000. Call 800-875-5029 or go to www.pge.com/solarschools. The deadline is October 27, 2006. However, this is an on-going grant, so if you miss this deadline, visit the website later for future deadlines. For a list of other grants go to www.creec.org/Region1 and click on "Funding Opportunities."



"Water and Energy Use in California" is a new middle school curriculum produced by the California Department of Water Resources and is available for a free download in PDF format at <http://www.wowue.water.ca.gov/>.

Jiminy Cricket Environmental Challenge for 3rd - 5th grade Teachers and Students.



This year third- and fourth- as well as fifth-grade classes are invited to submit the Environmentality Pledge, due by December 15, 2006. Fifth-grade classes may submit the pledge and participate in the project component which is due by March 15, 2007. State Content Standards can be incorporated into the JCEC by using the environment as a context to strengthen students' skills and knowledge in science, mathematics, and language arts while the students learn meaningful environmental concepts. For more information, go to www.jceckids.org or call 800-290-0299 for FREE environmental education resource materials.

Free Curriculum on Recycling & Waste Reduction For curriculum that encourages "reducing, reusing, and recycling," go to the California Integrated Waste Management Board's website www.ciwmb.ca.gov/schools/curriculum.



Offerings include *Closing the Loop*, a popular, hands-on guide for K-6 and *The Worm Guide: A Vermicomposting Guide for Teachers*. High school teachers can use the *Earth Resources - A Case Study: Oil* (most lab materials are provided free). For curriculum requests or questions call 916-341-6769.

Education and the Environment Initiative

The development of a model curriculum for K-12 schools is under way and specific districts are being contacted to field test the units. The California Integrated Waste Management Board is the lead agency that is coordinating the EEI effort. For more information on the EEI visit: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Education/AB1548/>

Enter the California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest! The California Coastal Commission invites students in kindergarten through 12th grade to submit artwork or poetry with a California coastal or marine theme to the annual Coastal Art & Poetry Contest. Up to eight winners will be selected to win \$100 gift certificates and each winner's sponsoring teacher will receive a \$40 gift certificate. Entries must be postmarked by January 31, 2007. For rules and entry form, visit www.coastforyou.org, Email coast4u@coastal.ca.gov, or call (800) Coast-4U.



The CREEC Network partners include the California Department of Education, CA Department of Water Resources, Walt Disney Company, and the CA Integrated Waste Management Board.