



# Orange County CREEC

Volume 2, Issue 5

February 2005

## Hidden Question

Congratulations to Donna Carroll, the winner of the hidden question in the January 2005 issue. Donna is a Naturalist with the Newport Bay Naturalists and Friends, and decided that she would not be able to fully utilize the "From Seed to Plant" kit. She instead requested the Shorebird Sister curriculum that she can use at the Bay as well as with the Scouts she teaches.

Therefore, the Delta Education DSM II "From Seed to Plant" kit (valued at \$200) is still available! It contains approximately 30 different items ranging from magnifiers (16 of them), to a transparency showing the inside of a seed, to a teacher's guide. It also contains charts, glue, planter cups, tape and more! The seeds in the kit are expired but are easily replaceable. The kit is for lower elementary students.

Embedded within the text of this newsletter, there is a hidden question. The first educator or Provider who calls (949-548-0772) or e-mails Helen ([Hdelamaza@ocde.us](mailto:Hdelamaza@ocde.us)) with the correct answer will receive the "From Seed to Plant" kit. Good Luck! ☺



## Coordinator Communications: Cool Curricula

Are you a teacher who has successfully integrated environmental education into your classroom? Or perhaps you have used a couple lessons from Project WILD, Project Learning Tree, Project WET, A Child's Place in the Environment, or maybe even some of your own lesson plans to provide your students with an interdisciplinary approach to learning? Do you have a school garden that you use to engage, motivate, and excite your students about learning? If any of these apply to you, or even if you have taught only one successful lesson, I want to hear from you! Orange County CREEC can serve as a network for educators to share success stories.

Please send in your great ideas, lesson plans, and digital images (with parental permission for media release) of your students engaged in your creative environmental education curricula!

E-mail them to [Hdelamaza@ocde.us](mailto:Hdelamaza@ocde.us) or mail to:  
Helen de la Maza  
CREEC/Inside the Outdoors  
200 Kalmus Drive  
Costa Mesa, CA 92628

I look forward to learning about and providing a forum, through this newsletter and the website for sharing your engaging and motivational work. ✨

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1	Hidden Question
1	Coordinator Communications: Cool Curricula
2	Teacher Training Opportunities
2	Great Grants & Cool Contests
3	Rad Resources
3	Provider Highlight
7	Exciting Environmental & Science Education Events!

This newsletter is a monthly publication of the Orange County California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC) Network. The CREEC Network is administered by the **California Department of Education**, Environmental Education Program, in partnership with numerous agencies and organizations, including the **Orange County Department of Education** (OCDE) and OCDE's *Inside the Outdoors* (<http://www.insidetheoutdoors.org>)

For an EE Resource Directory, funding opportunities, workshops and more, check out the OC CREEC Reg. 9b website at <http://www.creec.org/region9b/>

## Teacher Training Opportunities

### **Marine Mammal Bioacoustics Teacher Workshop, at the Ocean Institute, February 5, 2005; 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

The Ocean Institute in partnership with Southwest Marine/Aquatic Educators' Association (SWMEA) present this workshop. Enjoy a cruise aboard the Ocean Institute's research vessel Sea Explorer interacting with bioacoustic researchers, building and deploying hydrophones, and exploring fun classroom activities using sound. The cost is \$25 and includes lunch, a two hour cruise on the R/V Sea Explorer, and classroom activities. The workshop is appropriate for middle and high school teachers. For reservations, please call 949-496-2274, extension 611.

### **ARMADA Project**

#### **Application Deadline: February 14, 2005**

The ARMADA Project provides K-12 teachers opportunities to actively participate in ocean, polar, environmental science research and peer mentoring. Master Teachers develop ways to bring their research experiences, including scientific data, methodologies, and technology, into the classroom. ARMADA teachers mentor new teachers and present at NSTA Conventions. Teachers applying to join the ARMADA Project as a Master Teacher must have at least five years of full time teaching experience and be a certified secondary science teacher or an elementary teacher actively engaged in teaching science. For more information, go to <http://www.armadaproject.org>

### **Butterflies and Butterfly Friendly Gardens February 17, 2005; 4:00 - 5:00 PM at Rogers Gardens in Newport Beach**

Ron Vanderhoff, Nursery Manager for Roger's Gardens and Mike Partelow, horticulturalist, will present an educational seminar on butterflies, planting and maintaining a Butterfly Garden. Download the flyer at the OCDE website at <http://www.ocde.k12.ca.us/hottopics.html>

### **Butterflies, Gardens, and the Arts February 23, 2005; 4:00 - 6:00 PM at Centennial Farms in Costa Mesa**

Go on a tour with the Master Gardeners for Centennial Farm and receive many arts and science lesson ideas for the classroom. Download the flyer at the OCDE website at <http://www.ocde.k12.ca.us/hottopics.html>

*continued on page 4*

## Great Grants & Cool Contests

### **New Features Added to the California Department of Education Funding Web site!**

#### **Outside Funding**

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/of/ap/>

Funding administered by agencies outside the California Department of Education (CDE).

#### **Available Funding**

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/af/>

Funding profiles, requests for applications, proposals, and other data prior to deadlines.

#### **Search CDE Funding**

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/sf/>

Search CDE funding by fiscal year, type, status, topic, keyword(s), or any combination. Use Advanced Search for more choices.

#### **Funding Results**

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/fr/>

Recipients of grants, contracts, and apportionments administered by CDE.

Note: Because the site is being reorganized, all funding may not be presented. If you have questions or suggestions for the site, contact Grace Massey Holt (916-319-0490) or Dan Holt (916-319-0378).

### **Summer Opportunity for High School Students**

#### **Deadline: February 15, 2005**

<http://www.fisheries.org/html/hutton.shtml>

The Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program, sponsored by the American Fisheries Society, is designed to stimulate interest in careers in fisheries science and management among groups underrepresented in the fisheries professions, including minorities and women. Students (Grades 10-12) spend eight weeks in the summer working alongside their mentor who is a fisheries professional in their local community. Participants receive a \$3,000 scholarship paid out in six installments over the summer months.

**To win the hidden question prize, "From Seed to Plant" kit,** be the first educator to e-mail ([HdelaMaza@ocde.us](mailto:HdelaMaza@ocde.us)) or call 949-548-0772 Helen with your great ideas and lesson plans to engage your students in creative environmental education!

*continued on page 4*

## Rad Resources

### Climate Change Information and Free Computer Model Available to Classrooms

The Educational Global Climate Model (EdGCM), available for both Windows and Mac platforms, incorporates a 3-D climate model developed at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, New York. It is free and available for high school and university desktop computers. The climate model allows teachers and students to conduct experiments identical to those scientists run on supercomputers to simulate past and future climate changes. EdGCM links the climate model to both a database and scientific visualization utilities, making it simpler to create and organize data and images. Through EdGCM, teachers and students learn about climate science by participating in the full scientific process, including experimental design, running model simulations, analyzing data, and reporting on results via the Web.

Additional EdGCM educational materials are currently in development. For example, a curriculum module will walk students through a complete scientific project involving the Global Climate Model and climate change analysis. Additional lesson plans will elaborate on how students can use a climate model to study topics such as ancient climates in geologic history or future climate water cycles.

For more information about the EdGCM, visit: <http://www.edgcm.org> Appropriate for upper elementary students and older.

To download EdGCM software from the Internet, visit:  
<http://www.edgcm.org/EdGCMCooperative/Downloads.php>

For more information about climate study in the classroom, please visit:  
[http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/everydaylife/climate\\_class.html](http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/everydaylife/climate_class.html) Appropriate for upper elementary students and older.

### Findings Magazine

<http://www.nigms.nih.gov/news/findings/>  
National Institutes of Health/National Institute of General Medical Sciences brings you *Findings*, where you can learn about scientists doing cutting-edge biology and chemistry research. You can order free print copies or class sets and join the mailing list to receive future issues by mail.

### New Guide Helps Educators Integrate 21st Century Skills into K-12 Science Education

NSTA and the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, a public-private organization focusing on skills necessary for student success in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, have worked collaboratively to release a Science Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Literacy Map. The map demonstrates how educators can develop science lessons that combine 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills, such as information and communication skills, with 21<sup>st</sup> century tools, such as the Internet and multi-media production tools. It guides K-12 educators through a wide range of learning skill examples, as emphasized in the Partnership's report, *Learning for the 21st Century*, and cites specific student outcomes demonstrating ICT Literacy success for grades 4, 8, and 12. The map is the fourth in a series of ICT Literacy Maps. To view and download a copy of the map, go to

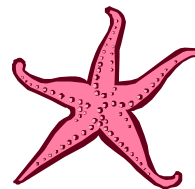
<http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/matrices/default.asp> ✨

## Provider Highlight

**Crystal Cove State Park** is a proud Member of the Orange County CREEC Provider Network. Winter Bonnin, a State Park Interpreter, is a member of the CREEC Advisory Committee.

You can find out more about Crystal Cove programs at the CREEC Resource Directory [http://creec.edgateway.net/cs/creec9bp/view/creec\\_org/755](http://creec.edgateway.net/cs/creec9bp/view/creec_org/755) For information about other school programs offered, go to <http://www.crystalcovestatepark.com/interp.htm#mar>

**Crystal Cove State Park** has 3.5 miles of beach and 2,000 acres of undeveloped woodland, which is popular for hiking and horseback riding. The offshore waters are designated as an underwater park. Visitors can explore tidepools and sandy coves. ✨



## Great Grants & Cool Contests

*continued from page 2*

### **The Environmental Art Committee's 3rd Annual Environmental Art Exhibit** **Deadline: Before March 19, 2005**

**Submit to:** Micah Henderson Justice/ Rick Hall; CREEC Coordinator Region10; San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools; 601 North E Street San Bernardino, CA 92410

This year's theme is Water. All artwork must pertain to water and/or water-related issues. Please see the environmental art lesson plans and standards-aligned ideas at [http://www.creec.org/region10/stories/storyReader\\$20](http://www.creec.org/region10/stories/storyReader$20)

#### *Guidelines and Rules*

Size Limits: 2-D art: 2'x3'; 3-D art: 24"

All artwork should be accompanied by a few sentences explaining the project.

#### *Categories*

I. Environmental Art: Art must address the cause and effect relationships of humans on the natural environment (and in the best cases offers solutions to problems). May include photography.

II. Recycle Art: Must only use recycled materials (with the exceptions of markers, paint, and glues. Please use environmentally friendly products.

III. Photo Essay: A photograph with a brief explanation.

*Art Show Reception:* Division 9 Gallery (3485 University Ave., Riverside, CA 92501) in historic downtown Riverside on Saturday, March 19, 2005; 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

For more information, please contact Micah Henderson Justice at 909-386-2797 or log onto <http://www.creec.org/region10>

*continued on page 6*



## Teacher Training

*continued from page 2*

### **The Art and Science of Butterflies** **February 24, 2005; 4:00 - 5:30 PM at Ocean Institute in Dana Point**

Receive art ideas and science activities for the classroom on butterflies and gardens to assist in the implementation of the Celebration of the Butterfly program.

Download the flyer at the OCDE website at <http://www.ocde.k12.ca.us/hottopics.html>

### **Project WET Workshop, February 29, 2005; 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM at San Juan Capistrano Community Center**

Attend this workshop to receive an activity guide that contains over 90 lessons that have been correlated to the state standards. All the activities are innovative, hands-on, interdisciplinary and easy to use. Go to <http://www.watereducation.org> for more information.

Sponsored by: Municipal Water District of Orange County, Project Pollution Prevention, and Discovery Science Center.

Call Brany Baesei at the Discovery Science Center (714-913-5012) to register.

### **Butterflies and the Miracle of Migration** **March 3, 2005; 4:00 - 5:30 PM at the Santa Ana Zoo**

Download the flyer at the OCDE website at <http://www.ocde.k12.ca.us/hottopics.html>

### **Composters Make it From the Ground Up** **March 5, 2005; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

*Who:* Elementary to middle school teachers  
*Where:* The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108

*Cost:* \$15

Many of us are familiar with recycling paper, plastic and aluminum, but what about recycling food? Explore the variety of ways to divert food scraps from the waste stream, and through composting, change them into nutrient-rich plant fertilizer. This course will include the practical "how-to" of composting as well as a variety of standards-based activities that can be included in your classroom curriculum.

To register contact Huntington Education at 626-405-3586 or e-mail Mike Kerkman at [mkerkman@huntington.org](mailto:mkerkman@huntington.org).

*continued on page 5*

## Teacher Training

continued from page 4

### **Butterflies, Metamorphosis, and Plant Life: A Delicate Balance; March 7, 2005; 4:30- 6:30 PM at the Discovery Science Center in Santa Ana**

Teachers may arrive at 4 PM to take a self-guided tour of the science center. The workshop starts at 4:30 PM. Topics will include butterflies, insect anatomy, classification and metamorphosis, native plants, drought-resistance, and relationships between insects and plants.

### **16<sup>th</sup> Annual National Service-Learning Conference: Educating for Change March 16 - 19, 2005 at the Long Beach Convention Center (300 Ocean Blvd.; Long Beach 90802)**

This conference connects participants with service-learning leaders through plenary sessions, over 200 workshops, and featured forums and service projects. For more information or to register, visit <http://www.nylc.org>.

### **The Sierra Institute Teacher Field Study Training Program, April 5 - 8, 2005 (Yosemite Sierra Field Study); June 7 - 9, 2005 (Eastern Sierra Field Study)**

*Who:* Grade 3-12 teachers

*Cost:* \$390/field study

Teachers will engage in a variety of exciting, hands-on, field study research activities with field scientists and science educators. Many unique sites have been selected for the study of ecological and geological concepts. Science concepts, instructional strategies, and instructional materials received by teachers can be used by participants upon returning to their schools. GLOBE Programs protocols will be employed in the field studies. The Sierra Field Studies experience is aligned with the California Science Standards and is presented by the Los Angeles County Office of Education. Call Mim Small (562-922-6330) for information.

### **The ABCs of Developmental Botany:**

### **Integrating Plants into the High School Classroom**

**Deadline to apply: March 1, 2005**

*Who:* High School Biology Teachers

*When:* July 11 - 15 and July 28 - 29, 2005; 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (with support workshops throughout the year)

*Where:* The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens; 1151 Oxford Road; San Marino, CA 91108

*Cost:* Participants receive a \$350 stipend and a \$500 classroom grant

This workshop explores the fundamentals of plant genetics, development, and current scientific research using state science standards as the base to create inquiry lessons for your classroom. Guest speakers from Caltech and UCI will be present. For more information and an application, contact Dr. Martha Kirouac at 626-405-3537, [mkirouac@huntington.org](mailto:mkirouac@huntington.org) or visit <http://outreach.caltech.edu/computableplant>

### **Grounding in Botany: Addressing Standards with Fast Plant Science**

*Who:* High School Biology Teachers

*When:* Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

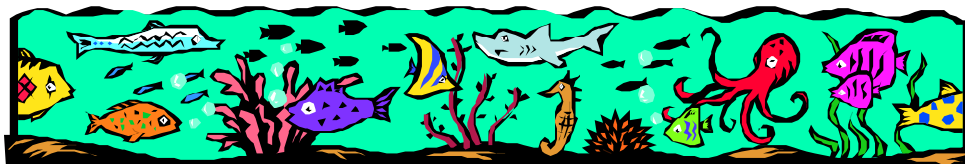
July 6 - August 5, 2005; 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM (with support workshops throughout the year)

**Deadline to apply: March 21, 2005**

*Where:* The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens; 1151 Oxford Road; San Marino, CA 91108

*Cost:* Participants receive a \$1500 stipend and a \$500 classroom grant

This workshop series centers around the use of Wisconsin Fast Plants as a model organism for standards-based, science inquiry lessons. During the course, follow the plant's short, 30-45 day seed-to-seed lifecycle while learning growing techniques, forming a solid botanical foundation, and practicing exciting and accessible labs for your classroom. For more information, or for an application, contact Mike Kerkman at 626-405-3586, [mkerkman@huntington.org](mailto:mkerkman@huntington.org) \*



## Great Grants & Cool Contests

*continued from page 4*

### **FEDCO Foundation Teacher Grants Program**

**Deadline: February 18, 2005**

<http://www.oc-cf.org/Default.asp?Page=166>

The FEDCO Charitable Foundation, in partnership with the Orange County Community Foundation, is providing grants for full-time public school teachers serving students in grades K-12 in Orange County. FEDCO teacher grants provide up to \$500 per teacher for hands-on, classroom or field trip projects that help bring learning to life in language arts, math, science, or social studies. Highest priority will be given to projects that incorporate classroom-linked or community-based experiential learning that is connected to the core curriculum standards.

### **2005 Junior Duck Stamp Program**

**Deadline: March 15, 2005**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service oversees the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Program. Each year, students are invited to create duck stamp drawings to show what they have learned about waterfowl, wetlands and more. These drawings can be entered into the annual Junior Duck Stamp art competition. Entries are judged at the state level. Every student receives a certificate of participation, and one hundred winners from each state receive beautiful ribbons and other exciting prizes.

The national winner is featured on that year's Federal Junior Duck Stamp. For an entry form or more information, call 916-648-1406 or visit <http://duckstamps.fws.gov/junior/junior.htm>

A free Federal Junior Duck Stamp Program curriculum guide to teach conservation through the arts, filled with lessons about creating field journals, observing wildlife, stamp collecting and much more, is available at the Web site above and also by e-mailing Helen de la Maza at [HdelaMaza@ocde.us](mailto:HdelaMaza@ocde.us)

### **BP's A+ for Energy Grant Program**

**Deadline: April 4, 2005**

<http://www.aplusforenergy.com>

BP will award up to \$2 million in grants to K-12 California teachers for innovative classroom, after-school, extra-curricular, or summer activities focused on energy and/or energy conservation. Grants of \$5,000 or

\$10,000 will be awarded directly to teachers, based on the budget submitted with the application.

BP is proud to partner with the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project to support energy education in California. Winning teachers will also receive a NEED scholarship to attend a five-day energy training conference in July and August 2005. The all-inclusive NEED scholarship will cover travel, meals and lodging expenses in addition to a NEED Science of Energy Kit valued at \$500 that includes helpful classroom tools and materials to help educators teach energy.

### **Melinda Gray Ardia Foundation Grants**

**Deadline: April 9, 2005**

<http://www.mgaef.org/grants.html>

K-12 teachers worldwide are invited to apply for grants of \$1,000 to develop or implement environmental curricula that integrates hands-on ecology exercises into the classroom. Curricula that encourage the integration of multiple disciplines (such as integrating art and science), and which include cooperative work with multiple school districts will be given special consideration.

### **Presidential Excellence Awards for Teachers**

**Deadline: May 2, 2005**

<http://www.paemst.org>

This program, established by the White House and sponsored by the National Science Foundation, identifies outstanding K-12 mathematics and science teachers in each state and the four U.S. jurisdictions. Each Presidential Awardee will receive a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation, gifts from donors, and will be invited, with a guest, to attend recognition events in Washington, D.C. in March 2006. Nominate an outstanding math or science teacher for this prestigious award. \*



## Exciting Environmental & Science Education Events!

The results of the January 2005 hidden question indicate there is an even split between those of you who prefer the chronological sorting of events versus the grouping of the events by Provider.

As a result, I will alternate between the two.

### **Environmental Nature Center**

1601 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Newport Beach, CA 92663

<http://www.ENCcenter.org>

*All programs listed below require reservations, call 949-645-8489*

### **Girls in Science After School Program**

**February 2, 9, 16 & 23 2:30 - 5 PM**

Girls in grades 4 through 6 are invited to investigate careers in science with Naturalist Lori Whalen at the Environmental Nature Center. Each day will give students a chance to experience a different branch of science. Cost: \$60 per student.

### **Lunchtime Meditation Walk with Cynthia Niermann**

**Wednesday, February 9, 12 - 1 PM**

Guests will spend their lunchtime with artist and meditation teacher Cynthia Niermann in the peaceful atmosphere of the ENC, practicing guided walking and sitting meditation. Donation is \$5/person.

### **Toddler Time - Exploring Nature Through our Senses**

**Thursday, February 10, 10 - 11 AM**

Join us for this parent and child playtime when we'll use all our senses to experience Nature! Enjoy hands-on fun for 3-5 year olds. Cost is \$5/child.

### **Walk with a Founder, Robert House**

**Thursday, February 17, 12-1:30 PM**

Take a walk with ENC founder, Robert House and learn about the history of the ENC and the plant communities of California while enjoying the beauty of the Center. Admission is free and there are no fees. Bring a sack lunch.

### **Environmentally Responsible Gardens**

**Friday, February 18, 7-8 PM**

Join landscape architect Julia Jones Ufkes to learn about environmentally responsible gardening, runoff management, drought tolerant and native plants, organic gardening, and more. Julie will have free seeds for everyone, as well as a free CD-rom gardening guide. Some native plants will be available for purchase. Free.

### **Environmental Nature Center** (*cont'd*)

### **ENC Land Stewardship Sunday Sunday, February 20, 9 AM - 3 PM**

After the recent rains the ENC has been inundated with nasty weeds. The good news is, the ground is still moist so the weeds come out very easily! Come help us keep the Center healthy for the animals and beautiful for us humans to enjoy!

### **Eco Detectives Workshop for Kids**

**February 21-25, 9 AM - 3 PM**

Students in grades K through 4 are invited to investigate the mysteries of California's diverse ecosystems. Using the tools of scientists - including binoculars, magnifying glasses and microscopes - the young ieco-detectives will look for clues, explore who lives where and determine why each neighborhood is important. Cost: \$195 per student.

### **Toddler Time - Fabulous Frogs!**

**Tuesday, February 22, 10 - 11 AM**

Join us for this parent and child playtime with an amphibian theme! We'll get a close up look at a California newt. Enjoy hands-on fun for 3-5 year olds. Cost is \$5/child.

### **Crystal Cove State Park**

8471 Pacific Coast Highway (PCH)  
Laguna Beach CA 92651  
949-497-7647

### ***Backcountry Hike***

**February 5, 6, 12, 13, 20 & 27; 9:00 AM**

Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park").

### ***Tidepool Walk***

**February 6 & 20; 2:00 PM**

Meet at Pelican Point parking lot #2 (from PCH turn coastward at stoplight "Newport Coast," turn right at kiosk to the first lot).

### ***Gray Whales Talk***

**February 9; 7:00 PM**

Meet at Acorn Naturalists in Tustin  
(<http://www.acornnaturalists.com>)

*continued on pg. 8*

## Exciting Environmental & Science Education Events!

### Crystal Cove State Park (cont'd)

#### **Historic District Cottage Tour**

**February 12, 10:00 AM**

Meet at Lost Trancos lot near the trailer (from PCH turn inland at "Los Trancos").

#### **Winter Plant Hike**

**February 19; 9:00 AM**

Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park").

#### **Gray Whale Sunday**

**February 20; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Meet at Pelican Point parking lot #2 (from PCH turn coastward at stoplight "Newport Coast," turn right at kiosk to the first lot).

#### **Plant ID Hike**

**February 26; 9:00 AM**

Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park").

#### **Irvine Open Space**

714-832-7478 x305 Email:

IrvineRanch@tnc.org

#### **Decomposition Detectives for Kids- Baker Cyn**

**February 26; 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

Led by Helen de la Maza

#### **The Donna O'Neil Land Conservancy**

28672 Ortega Highway (office)

San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693

[laura@theconservancy.org](mailto:laura@theconservancy.org)

RSVP to 949-489-9778

#### **Trail Clearing**

**February 12; 8:00 AM -12:00 PM**

Help clear the DOLC trail. Lunch provided. Free.

#### **Mother Oak Weed and Party**

**February 12; 2:00 - 5:00 PM**

Mother Oak is the largest Coast Live Oak on The Conservancy. It takes about seven people to completely encircle her trunk. She is being threatened by milk thistle, a non-native, invasive plant that grows in dense stands to a height of five feet. The milk thistle grows right at the drip line of Mother Oak and her neighbors. Help free Mother Oak and then celebrate with drinks, snacks, and good company. Free.

### The Donna O'Neil Land Conservancy

(cont'd.)

#### **Family Nature Walk - Make a Nature Journal**

**February 19; 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**Donation:** \$5.00 adult/ \$2.00 child

What inspires you? What catches your attention? A Nature Journal can help you see the world more clearly, by directing your attention as you describe the natural world in words or pictures. Spend a couple of hours creating your own Nature Journal.

#### **In Search of Wildflowers and the Sonora Blue Butterfly**

**February 19; 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**Donation:** \$9.00/adult

The wildflowers started blooming early this year and on warm days, butterflies have been active. Come and see the shooting stars, wild hyacinth, and other February bloomers. While we're enjoying the flowers, we'll search for the rare Sonora Blue butterfly, whose caterpillar feeds on Lance-leaf live-forever.

#### **Weed Warriors of Shady Canyon**

**February 20; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Shady Canyon is home to hundreds of beautiful Coast Live Oaks. Italian thistle has become a serious problem, covering the ground beneath the oaks, stealing precious water and minerals to support its weedy growth habits, and if allowed to mature, dropping hundreds of seeds per plant. In three hours, you can easily remove hundreds of plants while the soil is moist, in this way preventing the production of tens of thousands of seeds! Snacks are provided. Free.

#### **Middle Ridge (3-4 mile) Hike**

**February 26; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Donation:** \$5.00/adult; \$2.00/child

Hike the Middle Ridge Trail of DOLC and see the reserve on a beautiful morning. Learn about the precious wilderness in Orange County and the native plants and animals that live there.

#### **Biology Research Day**

**February 26; 1:00 - 5:00 PM**

Join The Conservancy Biological Research Team. Help with real research projects at DOLC. We meet the last Saturday of every month. Everyone welcome! Free.

*continued on pg. 9*

## Exciting Environmental & Science Education Events!

### **Oak Canyon Nature Center**

6700 E. Walnut Canyon Road, Anaheim 92807  
Call 714-998-8380 for fees and reservations  
Open 7 days a week, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Go to <http://www.anaheim.net/ocnc> for details about Special Programs, Outreach School programs and Naturalist-Led Tours of the Center.

### ***Hikes for Tykes***

For ages 2-4 from 10-11 AM; \$3.00/participant  
*Wide-Eyed Nature Walk*; February 10  
*Hug a Tree*; February 19  
*Who Was Here?*; February 21

### ***Tykes on the Go***

For ages 4-6 on specified days, from 2-3 PM,  
\$3.00/participant.  
*Textures of Nature*; February 10  
*What's that You Say?*; February 18  
*Big Tracks, Little Tracks*; February 21

### ***Canyon Explorers***

For ages 7-8 on Tuesdays, from 3:30-5:00 PM,  
\$4.50 per participant.  
*Nature's Chorus*; February 8  
*Super Science Sleuths!*; February 15  
*It's Not Easy Being Green*; February 22

### ***Afternoon Adventures***

For ages 9-12 on Thursdays, from 3:30-5:00 PM,  
\$4.50 per participant.  
*Super Science Sleuths!*; February 10  
*Tic-Tac-Toad*; February 17  
*Alien Invaders!*; February 24

### ***Art a la Naturale***

For ages 9-12 on Wednesdays, from 3:30-5:00  
PM, \$4.50 per participant.  
*Quilted Hearts*; February 9  
*Comic Art Pop*; February 16  
*The Three P's: Poems, Painting, and  
Printmaking*; February 23

### ***Roots & Shoots***

Young adults ages 12 & up on Mondays, 3:30-5  
PM. Free.  
*Quail Trail Dry Brush Removal/Trail  
Maintenance*; February 7  
*Trailside Non-Native Plant Removal*; February  
14

### **Oak Canyon Nature Center (cont'd.)**

*Roadrunner Ridge Trash Clean-Up*; February 21  
*Bluebird Trail Dry Brush Removal/Trail  
Maintenance*; February 28

### ***Discover Nature Saturday Program***

For families and individuals, Saturdays;  
10 - 11 AM. Free.  
*Family Bird Walk*; February 5  
*Urban Wildlife*; February 12  
*Animal Homes*; February 19  
*Reptiles Native to Oak Canyon*; February 26

### **Santiago Oaks Regional Park**

2145 Windes Drive  
Orange, CA 92869  
714-571-4288 [santiago\\_park@yahoo.com](mailto:santiago_park@yahoo.com)

### ***Gardening With Natives***

**February 3, 10, 17, 24; 6:00 - 7:00 PM**  
\$35/person

### ***Environmental Book Club***

**February 2 - May 4; 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of each month**  
\$20/person

### ***Bikes, Birds, and Bagels on the Santa Ana River***

**February 5, 12, 19; 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**  
\$25/person

### ***Wilderness Exploration, Santiago Peak, Santa Ana Mountains***

**February 26; 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**  
\$10/person/hike

### ***California Western Monarch Butterfly Day***

**February 5 & 19; 9:00 AM -12:00 PM**  
(planting days)  
Native Plant Nursery propagation and  
maintenance are ongoing

### ***Ongoing Research***

- Bird List Analysis
- Industrial Restoration Versus Holistic  
Restoration
- Nocturnal Wildlife Monitoring

*continued on pg. 10*

## Exciting Environmental & Science Education Events!

### **Santiago Oaks Regional Park** (cont'd.)

***Santiago Creek Watershed Awareness Week***  
Planning Meeting - Tuesday February 8 & 22;  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

***Santa Ana River Watershed Alliance***  
Meeting - February 3; 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
(1<sup>st</sup> Thurs. of every month)

***Santa Ana Butterfly Extravaganza***  
February 26; 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

### **City of Irvine Open Space Programs**

To register or for information, go to  
[http://www.cityofirvine.org/depts/cs/openspace/event\\_calendar.asp](http://www.cityofirvine.org/depts/cs/openspace/event_calendar.asp)

### **City of Irvine Open Space Programs**

To register or for information, go to  
[http://www.cityofirvine.org/depts/cs/openspace/event\\_calendar.asp](http://www.cityofirvine.org/depts/cs/openspace/event_calendar.asp) or call 949-724-6738.  
Programs are FREE unless otherwise indicated.

### ***Meditation Hike (Course #21782)***

**February 5; 9:00 - 10:30 AM**  
**Location: Bommer Canyon**

Leave your worries behind as we explore the philosophical side of life in the canyon. This program will enlighten you with surprises and food for thought. Includes stretching, a hike, group discussion and a chance to experience a morning at Bommer. Maximum distance is 2 miles. Recommended for ages 12+.

### ***Second Saturdays***

**February 12; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
**Location: Bommer Canyon**

Help make a difference in the Open Space Preserve. Bring the family to get fresh air and exercise when you join us for our monthly land steward day. Projects include: trail maintenance, non-native plant removal and general conservation. Bring your own gloves and tools (labeled), water, hat, and wear closed toed shoes. Parents must accompany children under 18. Ages 16+. Sign ups not required.



### **City of Irvine Open Space Programs** (cont'd.)

***Starry Night (Course #21806)***  
**February 18; 7:30 - 9:30 PM**

**Location: Bommer Canyon**

Explore the night sky in Bommer Canyon. Telescopes will bring the planets and star clusters closer to you, as the Orange County Astronomers host this stellar evening. All ages.

***Cardio Conditioning Hike (Course #21776)***  
**February 20; 8:00 - 10:30 AM**

**Location: Hicks Canyon**

Get your blood pumping and enjoy the outdoors. This fast paced hike will take you into Irvine's Open Space to explore local wilderness areas. Maximum distance is 8 miles and includes some steep sections. Recommended for ages 12+.

### **Orange County Harbors, Beaches, and Parks**

For information about events at the County-owned and operated parks, go to  
<http://www.ocparks.com/events/default.asp> and choose the event month.

### **Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center at Upper Newport Bay**

Go to <http://www.newportbay.org/progic.htm> for event information.

### **Santa Ana Zoo**

<http://www.santaanazoo.org/>

### **Discovery Science Center**

<http://www.discoverycube.org/>

### **Ocean Institute**

<http://www.ocean-institute.org/>

### **Sea and Sage Audubon Society**

<http://seaandsageaudubon.org>



### **Would you like to see an event listed in the "Local Events Calendar"?**

E-mail Helen de la Maza ([Hdelamaza@ocde.us](mailto:Hdelamaza@ocde.us)) with the event's date, time, location, cost, brief description, and contact information by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the event occurrence.