



Orange County CREEC

Volume 2, Issue 4

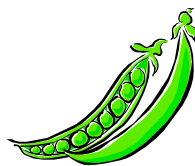
January 2005

Hidden Question

Congratulations to Anita Thompson, Stephanie Remington, Lori Whalen, Bo Glover and Alicia Cordova who each won water-related curricula developed by the Surfrider Foundation for correctly answering last month's hidden question.

Alicia, a preservice teacher, e-mailed me the following note after receiving the materials she won: "I just received the packages and I am thrilled. I am an avid environmentalist and I am looking forward to using these materials in my future classroom. I am also anxious to apply for grants for my own students so that they may come to appreciate the environment first hand. Thank you again!"

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) with the correct answer will receive a Delta Education DSM II "From Seed to Plant" kit (valued at \$200) that includes curriculum and materials to help your students learn about plants. This is for lower elementary students. Good Luck! ☺



Coordinator Communications: Climactic Climate

On the radio the host was talking to Sri Lanka's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Bernard Goonetilleke. They were talking about the devastation caused by the 9.0 earthquake off the west coast of northern Sumatra, and the resulting tsunami that affected several countries. The Ambassador decried the lack of an early warning system for the Indian Ocean (one exists for the Pacific). This natural disaster (with a death toll estimated to be above 60,000) is an opportunity to engage students in an authentic learning experience with the environment as an integrating context for student learning.

Students can learn Earth Science concepts through the study of earthquakes, tsunamis, and geography. They can learn math concepts by studying the Richter Scale and calculating the release of energy of a 9.0 earthquake. The students can learn about different cultures by studying the way of life of people affected by the tsunami. Students can practice their English skills by writing letters of support to survivors, dispatched medical personnel, and to their local and national governments urging assistance to the countries.

Here in Orange County we have experienced an unusual amount of early rainfall, and extreme temperatures, which have affected plant growth. Encourage your students to notice the early growth of wildflowers. Your students can use the scientific process to discover what happens to these plants that usually bloom in the spring. Will they survive the upcoming cold weather? What happens to the insects that usually pollinate these flowers? What happens to the animals that eat the pollinators? How do these climate changes affect crops, food production, and therefore people?

These environmental current events affect all living things and lend themselves to authentic experiences that can engage and excite your students! See "Rad Resources" (p. 3) for websites with climate information.

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Professional Development Opportunities

Free Water Education Courses for 6th - 12th Grade Teachers & Environmental Educators

Discovery Science Center in partnership with Municipal Water District of Orange County is offering a free standards-based course on integrated science concepts such as:

- chemical components of water and how those components relate to the healthfulness of water
- water retrieval, purification, and usage
- the human impact on water and water conservation

Teachers will receive kits (valued at \$250) of resource materials for up to 200 students to use to conduct experiments and activities in the classroom. These resource materials include chemical test kits for measuring nitrates, phosphates, pH, and dissolved oxygen, as well as other science-based materials and equipment.

3- Day Courses: Jan. 4, 18, Feb. 1 **OR** Feb. 8, 15, 22 **OR** Feb. 24, Mar. 10, 24. Classes are held from 4:30 to 7:50 PM. A light dinner is provided. Call 714-913-5012 to register.

“Drip Drop” Teacher Workshop, Jan. 20, 4:30 - 6:30 PM at the Newport Sea Base

Come see how Orange County Department of Education’s *Inside the Outdoors* can help you address the 5th grade science standards!

- Participate in the "Drip Drop" Traveling Scientist program
- Receive Surfriider Foundation curriculum
- Learn about the new field trip "What's in your H₂O?"

• Receive a \$25 stipend and refreshments
RSVP by January 7, 2005 to 949-548-1175, ext. 23 or insidetheoutdoors@ocde.us

Sponsored by: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Orange County Department of Education and the Newport Sea Base.

The hidden question is: Do you prefer the Calendar section as it was laid out in the December and January issue (by Provider), or chronologically as it has been in all the other issues? The first person to e-mail Helen at HdelaMaza@ocde.us or call 949-548-0772 with his/her answer will win the “From Seed to Plant” kit described on the first page of this newsletter.

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Great Grants & Student Contests

Second Annual P3 Award

Applicants: College students

Deadline: January 27, 2005

This is a national student design competition for sustainability focusing on people, prosperity and the planet. The P3 competition will provide grants to teams of college students to research, develop and design solutions for challenges to sustainability. The Environmental Protection Agency and its affiliates offer the P3 Award competition to respond to the technical needs of the developed and developing world in moving toward the goal of sustainability.

http://es.epa.gov/ncer/p3/designs_sustain_rfp_2005.html

Remember Me Rose School Garden Awards

Deadline: January 31, 2005

This new award sponsored by Messenger, Edmunds' Roses, and "Remember Me" Rose Gardens will help 20 schools establish rose gardens to commemorate the events of September 11, 2001. Beyond their commemorative significance, each garden also will be a catalyst for education in conflict resolution and mediation skills, preparing students to seek and achieve fair and peaceful solutions. Each winning school will receive 10 rose bushes, Messenger plant biostimulant, and educational materials from National Gardening Association. To download an application, go to

<http://www.kidsgardening.com/awards.asp#rose>

Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision Awards

Deadline: February 1, 2005

ExploraVision is a competition for all K-12 students. It is designed to encourage students to combine their imagination with their knowledge of science and technology to explore visions of the future. Teams of students select a technology, research how it works and why it was invented, and then project how that technology may change in the future. They must then identify what breakthroughs are required for their vision to become a reality and describe the positive and negative consequences of their technology on society. Winning ideas have focused on things as simple as ballpoint pens and as complex as satellite communications. The student teams write a paper and draw a series of Web page graphics to describe their idea. Students can win up to \$10,000 in savings bonds. Visit <http://www.exploravision.org>

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Rad Resources

Websites with Information on the Dec. 26, 2004 Earthquake and Tsunami

United States Geological Survey article about the earthquake and resulting tsunami:

<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/eqinthenews/2004/usslav/>

Understand Earthquakes with the Earthquake Hazards Program

<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/4teachers/>

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration article on the early warning system in the Pacific Ocean and NOAA's response to the tsunami:

<http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2004/s2357.htm>

CBS News articles available on Dec. 29, 2004
(updated daily and articles may change)

“Hunger, Disease Menace Survivors”

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2004/12/26/world/main663057.shtml>

“Quake's Power: 1 Million A-Bombs”

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2004/12/27/tech/main663188.shtml>

“Disaster Struck Without Warning”

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2004/12/27/world/main663111.shtml>

“Struggle to Reach Tsunami Victims”

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2004/12/26/world/main663057.shtml>

Websites with Information on Climate

Weather Underground: This website allows you to look up current and historical weather data almost anywhere in the world (including, of course, Orange County):

<http://www.wunderground.com> Once you're here, type in the name of the place you're interested in. A new page comes up with the current conditions. You can click on a link called “history” to look at daily, weekly, or monthly historical data (this is an example of Santa Ana's weather in December 2003:

<http://www.wunderground.com/history/airport/KSNA/2003/12/29/MonthlyHistory.html>) A

calendar feature enables you to compare the temperature and precipitation between years,

months, locations, and more. This is a great resource for students studying and tracking weather!

National Weather Service: Climate Prediction Center: Educational Materials

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/outreach/education.shtml>

“NOAA Reports Wet, Warm Year for the U.S. in 2004”

<http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2004/s2355.htm>

Watershed Education Resources

Pollution Pipe: Street to Stream

<http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/action/background/Pipe.pdf>

This is a two-page PDF for students in 6th - 12th grades on non-point sources of pollution found in runoff and the effects of development on watersheds. It provides a list of pollutants found in runoff, as well as some steps that can be taken to prevent water pollution.

Watershed Action: Educate the Public

http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/action/projects/public_ed.htm

This website has information for 6th - 12th grade teachers to plan educational activities for students to protect and clean up watershed environments. Projects include trash cleanup, stenciling storm drains, testing soil nutrients, composting, planting to prevent erosion, and water quality monitoring.

Food Safety from Farm to Fork

This teacher guide provides 5th - 7th grade students with a better understanding of food safety through real-life examples and enjoyable activities.

Students will learn that everyone has a responsibility in minimizing food borne illnesses - farmers, transporters, restaurants, grocery stores... and the consumer! Through reading, games, puzzles, math problems and science investigations, participants identify the roles each one of us plays to ensure the food we enjoy is safe to eat. Download it at <http://www.cfaitec.org> or request a printed version by calling 800-700-2482 or e-mailing cfaitec@cfaitec.org

Great Grants & Student Contests

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NASA Summer High School Apprenticeship Research Program

Applicants must be at least 16 by June 2005

Deadline: February 14, 2005

The NASA Summer High School Apprenticeship Research Program is designed for students who have demonstrated a strong interest in and aptitude for science, technology, engineering, mathematics and geography (STEM+G). One objective is to encourage the career paths of pre-college students who have been traditionally underrepresented in STEM+G fields. Some of NASA's top science professionals mentor qualified students during this eight-week summer program. For more information visit <http://www.nasasharp.com>

Christopher Columbus Awards

Deadline: February 14, 2005

This is a hands-on science competition for middle school students that encourages community partnerships. Participating in the Christopher Columbus Awards program is a cross-curricular activity that meets science education standards. Students work in teams with the help of an adult coach to identify an issue they care about, and use science and technology to develop an innovative solution. Eight finalist teams will receive an all-expense-paid trip to Disney World to attend National Championship Week, plus a \$200 grant to further develop their ideas. Two teams will receive a \$2,000 U.S. Savings Bond and a plaque for each team member along with a plaque for their school. One team will receive the \$25,000 grant as seed money to help bring its idea to life in the community.

<http://www.christophercolumbusawards.com>

Ronald McDonald Scholarship Programs

Deadline: February 15, 2005

Ronald McDonald House Charities offer scholarships to graduating high school seniors from communities who face limited access to educational and career opportunities. The three scholarship programs are: The African American Future Achievers, Asian Students Increasing Achievement, and Hispanic American Commitment to Educational Resources. For more information, visit

<http://www.rmhc.com/mission/scholarships/index.html>

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Provider Highlight

The **Environmental Nature Center** is a proud Member of the Orange County CREEC Provider Network. Bo Glover, the Executive Director of the ENC is a member of the CREEC Advisory and CREEC Work Plan Committees.

You can find out more about ENC programs online at the CREEC Resource Directory (http://creec.edgateway.net/cs/creec9bp/view/creec_org/758)

Address:

1601 16th Street; Newport Beach, CA 92663

Telephone: 949-645-8489

Open Monday through Friday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM and Saturday 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM (free admission for the public)

The Environmental Nature Center is 3.5 acres of what was once a litter-filled gully behind Newport Harbor High School. Today, it is a fascinating combination of 14 California native plant communities (including desert, oak woodland, fresh water marsh and redwood forest), wildlife habitats and walking trails. For over 30 years, the ENC has been shaped into a landscape for learning, a sanctuary from life's pressures and a place of preservation and instruction. Serving over 15,000 students and welcoming thousands of visitors annually, the ENC's mission is to provide quality education through hands-on experience with nature.

The ENC is a non-profit 501(c)-3 public benefit corporation. It relies on funding provided by individuals (through both memberships and gifts), corporate contributions, educational awards and operational grants. The Center is administered by a small, hard-working staff under the policy guidance of a volunteer board of directors comprised of dedicated community leaders committed to the goals of the ENC. In addition, the Center depends on volunteers to run programs and help maintain the plant communities.

Educational opportunities include: school programs offered through Orange County Department of Education's *Inside the Outdoors* (<http://ito.ocde.us/enc.asp>), toddler and family programs, summer Nature Camp, and volunteer and community service projects. See the calendar (p. 7) for January 2005 events. ☼

Great Grants

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Igniting Creativity Challenge

Deadline: February 19, 2005

Johnson Controls and the National Energy Foundation are launching this educational competition designed to encourage K-12 students to learn more about energy and the environment. Students should submit entries that reflect the competition theme, "Igniting Creative Energy," and demonstrate an understanding of what an individual, family or group can do to make a difference in their home, school or community. Students may express their ideas on energy conservation and the environment in the form of science projects, essays, stories, artwork, photographs, music, video or Web site projects. Rules and an entry form can be found at

<http://www.ignitingcreativeenergy.org>

Action for Nature Young Eco-Hero Awards

Deadline: February 28, 2005

Action for Nature is seeking applications from students ages 8-16 for its 2005 Young Eco-Hero Awards program. This program recognizes the individual accomplishments of young people who have carried out environmental action projects. Projects must concern environmental advocacy and health, protection, or research. Winners will receive a cash award. For more information or to apply go to <http://www.actionfornature.org/eco-hero/>

My Community, Our Earth Project

Applicants: Middle School, Secondary School, or University Students

Deadline: March 1, 2005

This Geographic Learning for Sustainable Development program encourages students to take a hands-on approach to learning geography by developing a project that proposes solutions to issues of sustainable development in their communities. The focus is water, sanitation, and human settlement in support of the UN Millennium Goals to reduce poverty and improve the lives of people around the world. MyCOE provides free online resources. Students are to create sustainable development solutions using the tools and concepts of geography. For guidelines go to

<http://www.aag.org/sustainable/2003-2004programs/4hrrequirements.html#duedate>

Scholarships to the Amazon Rainforest Workshop

Deadline: March 8, 2005

K-12 teachers and environmental educators can win a \$1000 scholarship to travel to the Amazon and work with scientists in one of the most diverse environments in the world. The Amazon Rainforest Workshop for Educators, scheduled July 5-14, 2005, is a professional development opportunity for teachers to experience a canopy walkway and visit the indigenous people who call the rainforest ecosystem their home. Academic credit is available. A simple application form is available online. For information on this and other programs, contact Dr. Frances Gatz at 800-669-6806, e-mail fgatz@earthlink.net or visit

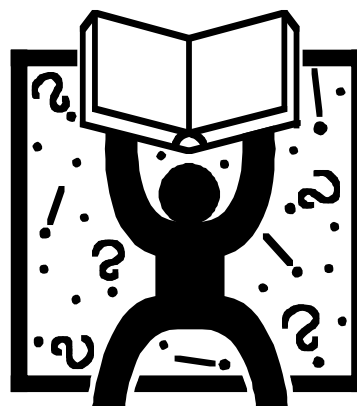
<http://www.travel2learn.com/grants.htm>

Craftsman/NSTA Young Inventors Awards

Deadline: March 15, 2005

Problem-solving skills take center stage in the Craftsman Young Inventors program. Open to all students in 2nd - 8th grades, the program challenges students to use creativity and imagination along with science, technology, and mechanical ability. Students must work independently to conceive and design their tool inventions. The student, with guidance from a teacher-advisor, parent, or significant adult, will design and build a tool. The tool must perform a practical function, including (but not limited to) tools that mend, make life easier or safer in some way, entertain, or solve an everyday problem. Top winners receive \$10,000 savings bonds. For information go to

<http://www.nsta.org/programs/craftsman/> ❁



Professional Development

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Project WET Workshop, January 29; 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM at Santiago Oaks Park

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 714-913-5012 to register.

Coast Alive! Teacher Training Workshop and Field Study

Learn how to explore the biology of southern California's marine environment, coastal wetlands and related watersheds. Coast Alive! is a new project created by the California Institute for Biodiversity, California State Parks Foundation, and California State Parks for 5th - 9th grade teachers and their students. It incorporates interactive computer technology and lessons in literacy, science, math and social science.

Thanks to the generosity of the Coastal Conservancy, Toyota, EFA and California Coastal Commission, resource materials, classroom activities and field study are complimentary, less a \$10 registration fee upon enrollment. Teachers completing the two-day workshop will receive a \$100 stipend. Friday night dinner and Saturday refreshments and lunch will be provided.

Three Workshop Dates

- February 18, 4:30 - 9:30 PM (Acorn Naturalists) and February 19, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Crystal Cove State Park).
- March 11, 4:30 - 9:30 PM (Acorn Naturalists) and March 12, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Audubon Starr Ranch Sanctuary).
- April 29, 4:30 - 9:30 PM (Acorn Naturalists) and April 30, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Crystal Cove State Park).

Call Rachel Kau-Taylor at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden 909-625-8767 x 224 to register. <http://www.coastalive.org>

Fuel Cell Teacher Workshop, February 24; 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM at South Lake Middle

School (655 West Yale Loop, Irvine 92614, Rm 201) Participate in this FREE fuel cell teacher workshop and receive a fuel cell car and curriculum kit (valued at \$250) for your classroom! Fuel cells are an exciting new technology which generate electricity cleanly and efficiently through an electrochemical reaction. The hands-on workshop allows you to use the kit and preview the curriculum. In exchange for the kit, you will be required to use it in a minimum of 3 classes by 12/15/05 and provide feedback. Clock hours and Professional Development Credits may be available for a fee. As part of this program:

- Students will be invited to participate in fuel cell essay and poster contests.
 - Fuel-cell related field trips to the National Fuel Cell Research Center at UCI will be available.
- For more information, e-mail fuelcells@bpa.gov, or call 714-300-9755. To register go to: http://www.bpa.gov/energy/n/projects/fuel_cell/education/workshopregistration.cfm

Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT) Application deadline: March 15, 2005

It is not too early to plan for the summer! These week-long workshops provide participants with forestry and wildlife background information, forestry resources guides, Project Learning Tree and Project Aquatic WILD training, curriculum, teaching resources and materials, and a \$100 stipend, plus housing and meals. In 2005, three institutes will be offered:

- University of California Forestry Camp, Plumas County, June 12-18, 2005
- Camp Latieze, near Lassen National Park, Shasta County, June 19-25, 2005
- Humboldt State University, Humboldt County, July 10-16, 2005

For information, call 800-738-8733 or visit <http://www.forestryinstitute.org> ☼



Exciting Environmental & Science Education Events!

Environmental Nature Center

1601 16th Street
Newport Beach, CA 92663
<http://www.ENCcenter.org>

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

Winter New Moon Walk

Friday, January 7; 6:00 PM

People of all ages are invited to experience the New Moon and celebrate the chilly darkness of Winter. Warm drinks and snacks will be served. Cost is \$2/person.

Lunchtime Meditation Walk

Wednesday, January 12; 12:00 - 1:00 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 - Terrific Trees!

Thursday, January 13; 10 - 11:00 AM

Join in this parent and child playtime with a tree theme! Enjoy hands-on fun for 3-5 year olds. We'll read *The Lorax* and plant trees to take home. Cost is \$5/child.

Astronomy Night

Friday, January 14, 6:30-8:00 PM

Join in for a view of the deep sky and the Moon at its best phase. Andreas Dandler will provide a telescope and a tour of the night sky. Space-themed crafts, activities and snacks will be provided. Cost is \$2/person. Program may be cancelled due to weather; call for updates.

Mushroom Walk

Saturday, January 15; 12:00 - 1:00 PM

The moist winter months are when you're most likely to find fruiting bodies of fungus. Join Gregg Miller, wildlife biologist, as he searches the Center to see what's popping up. Find out how experts identify fungi! Cost is \$2/person.

Walk with ENC Founder, Robert House

Thursday, January 20, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Take a walk with 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. Bring a sack lunch.

Environmental Nature Center *(continued)*

Toddler Time - Coyote Capers!

Wednesday, January 26, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Join in for this parent and child playtime with a coyote theme! Enjoy hands-on fun for 3-5 year olds. We'll read "Coyote Dreams" and make coyote puppets. Cost is \$5/child.

Trail of Beauty

Saturday, January 29, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Spend some time in quiet reflection at the ENC. The Trail of Beauty was developed by renowned environmental educator Joseph Cornell. Inspirational quotes are placed along the trail. Guests walk silently along the path, reading and reflecting while feeling inspiration from the natural world. The self-guided walk takes approximately 1 hour.

Crystal Cove State Park

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

Backcountry Hike

January 2, 9, 23, 29 & 30; 9:00 AM

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

Plant ID Hike

January 8; 9:00 AM

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

Historic District Walk

January 8, 10:00 AM

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

Tidepool Walk

January 9; 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).

Winter Plant Hike

January 15; 9:00 AM

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

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Exciting Environmental & Science Education Events!

Crystal Cove State Park (continued)

Gray Whale Sunday

January 16; 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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

Presentation on Hummingbirds

January 19; 7:00 PM

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

Geology Walk

January 23; 1:00 - 4:00 PM

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

The Donna O'Neil Land Conservancy

28672 Ortega Highway (office)

San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693

laura@theconservancy.org

RSVP to 949-489-9778

At this time January events are not yet listed.

For an update, go to

<http://www.theconservancy.org/Calendar.aspx>

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

Cool Winter Colors; January 8

Hide and Seek Animals; January 10

Nocturnal Animals; January 18

"Scent" sational Science; January 26

Tykes on the Go

For ages 4-6 on specified days, from 2-3 PM, \$3.00/participant.

Dressing for Winter; January 5

Nibble on Nature; January 13

It's Not Easy Being Green; January 21

Owl Moon; January 24

Oak Canyon Nature Center (continued)

Canyon Explorers

For ages 7-8 on Tuesdays, from 3:30-5:00 PM, \$4.50 per participant.

Nature's Texture; January 4

Tic-Tac-Toad; January 11

Web Master; January 18

Mystery Mania; January 25

Afternoon Adventures

For ages 9-12 on Thursdays, from 3:30-5:00 PM, \$4.50 per participant.

Nature's First Aid Kit; January 6

Eco-Challenge; January 13

Animal Clichés; January 20

Predicting the Weather; January 27

Art a la Naturelle

For ages 9-12 on Wednesdays, from 3:30-5:00 PM, \$4.50 per participant.

Creative Calendars; January 5

Triangle Rabbits and Circular Bears; Jan. 12

Winter's Wonder; January 19

Winter Birds; January 26

Roots & Shoots

Young adults ages 12 & up on Mondays, 3:30-5 PM. Free.

Parking Lot Trash Clean Up; January 3

Ani Canyon Trash Clean Up; January 10

Streamside Non-Native Plant Removal; Jan. 17

Tranquility Trail Non-Native Plant Removal; January 24

Heritage Trail Trash Clean Up; January 31

Discover Nature Saturday Program

For families and individuals, Saturdays;

10 - 11 AM. Free.

Nature's Scavengers; January 8

Camouflage Critters; January 15

Radical Riparian; January 22

California's Endangered Species; January 29

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Exciting Environmental & Science Education Events!

Orange County Zoo in Irvine Regional Park

1 Irvine Park Road

Orange, CA 92862

Parking Fee: Irvine Park gate entry is \$3 on weekdays and \$5 on weekends and holidays.

Story Time at the Orange County Zoo

January 4, 6, 11, 20, & 25 at 11:30 AM

January 8 & 22 at 12:00 PM

The Orange County Zoo invites children of all ages to join story time. Come learn more about animals and enjoy storytelling under the oak trees! Free with zoo admission (\$2/person, ages 2 and under are free).

****For the programs listed below, please note****

Event fees include admission for the enrolled child and one parent (only one parent can accompany the child). Class registration can only be made by phone by contacting Marcy Crede-Booth, Education Coordinator, at 714-973-6846. The cost is \$5 per child. All fee payments are to be made the day of the scheduled class when you arrive at the zoo.

Animal Art

January 7; 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Join us for an hour of creativity and fun with an animal theme! Wear clothes you don't mind getting a little dirty. Age: 3-4 years old (parent must accompany child)

Animals In My Backyard

January 8; 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

What creatures do you find in your backyard? Come find out in this class filled with fun facts and unique crafts. Age: 5-6 years old (parent must accompany child)

Creatures in the Cold

January 21; 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Learn what animals are adapted for living in cold weather - polar bears, penguins, reindeer and more! Age: 3-4 years old (parent must accompany child)

What's For Lunch?

January 27; 10:00 AM - 1:00 AM

What do the zoo animals eat? Come find out in this class filled with fun facts and unique crafts! Age: 3-4 years old (parent must accompany child).

City of Irvine Open Space Programs

To register or for information, go to

http://www.cityofirvine.org/depts/cs/openspace/event_calendar.asp

Birding in Bommer #21790

January 15; 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Stroll through Bommer Canyon to look and listen for the many species of birds that dwell within the wilderness preserve. Docents will assist in identifying local birds and will offer background information on the most common species. No experience required! Binoculars are recommended and scopes are welcome. The hike distance is up to 2.5 miles. Recommended for ages 10+. Free.

Buggy Brigade, #21787

January 19; 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Bring your babies with buggies and challenge yourself to a brisk morning walk! Join in for this fun program where you and your baby can get outside and meet new friends. Maximum distance is 4 miles. Free. Meet at the Nature Center.

Full Moon Hike, #21802

January 22; 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Come explore Bommer Canyon in the beauty of a full moon. Discover the habitat needs of bats, owls, raccoons, coyotes, and other nocturnal creatures while in search of their sights and sounds. Hike distance is 2 miles; recommended for ages 10+. Free.

Barnyard Buddies, #22492

**Tuesdays, January 25 - February 15, 2005;
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

Come and discover with your child all things related to life on a farm. We will explore and introduce your child to animals and crops through music and songs, stories, and interactive farm crafts. Take a little of the farm home with you at the end of the session. Parent participation is required. A \$5 material fee is due at the first class. For children ages 3-6. The instructor is Rhonda Felton. \$40 class fee.

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Exciting Environmental & Science Education Event

City of Irvine Open Space Programs

(continued)

Cool Creatures, #21793

**Tuesdays, January 25 - February 15, 2005;
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM**

Catch a glimpse into the world of some of the coolest creatures on the planet: frogs, lizards, snakes and turtles! Children will learn about the life cycles and habitats of these amazing reptiles and amphibians. One-of-a-kind craft projects will showcase what your children have learned. Parent participation is required. A \$5 material fee is due at the first class. For children ages 3-6. The instructor is Rhonda Felton. \$40 fee.

Mountain Bike Ride, #21783

January 29; 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Load up your mountain bike and join us on this moderate to advanced ride into Shady Canyon. We'll venture into Irvine's urban wilderness on a docent led ride. The distance is 11 miles. Participants must wear a helmet and possess above-average mountain biking skills. Recommended for ages 16+. Free.

Jammin' in the Canyon, #21800

January 30; 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Come to a 'circle jam' in Bommer Canyon! Bring your acoustic instrument and enjoy the camaraderie of other musicians. Ages 12+. Free.

Second Saturdays Land Steward Program

9 AM - 12 PM

This is a drop in volunteer land steward program, and participants will assist in the restoration of open space through non-native plant removal, trail maintenance, and other site improvements. The program is open to those 16 and older; minors must be accompanied by an adult. Participants should meet at the Open Space Preserve Nature Center at 9 AM in comfortable field attire; no open-toed shoes are permitted. For additional information call 949-724-6835.



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.

Newport Bay Naturalists and Friends Programs

Walking tours:

<http://www.newportbay.org/progwalk.htm>

Water tours:

<http://www.newportbay.org/progwtr.htm>

Back Bay Science Center

Electric boat tours:

<http://backbaysciencecenter.org/electricboats.html>

Kayak tours:

<http://backbaysciencecenter.org/kayaktours.html>

Canoe tours:

<http://backbaysciencecenter.org/canoetours.html>

Walking tours:

<http://backbaysciencecenter.org/walking.html>

Evening marsh prowl:

<http://backbaysciencecenter.org/eveningmarsh.html>

Low tide tours:

<http://backbaysciencecenter.org/lowtidetours.html>

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) with the event's date, time, location, cost, brief description, and contact information by the 15th of the month prior to the event occurrence.