

CREEC Orange County/Region 9B Newsletter

June 2004

Please pass this e-newsletter on to teachers and environmental/science educators in Orange County. Thanks for your support! Visit <http://www.creec.org/region9b/> for more resources. Send feedback and submissions to Helen de la Maza at HdelaMaza@ocde.us

HIDDEN QUESTION: Embedded within the text of this newsletter, there is a hidden question. The first educator or provider who calls (949-548-1460) or e-mails Helen de la Maza (HdelaMaza@ocde.us) with the correct answer will receive a Sister Shorebird curriculum guide that includes information and lessons about shorebirds. Good Luck! ☺

Click on any title below in the Table of Contents and you will be taken to that portion of the newsletter.

Noteworthy News

[Congratulations to "Environmentality Challenge" Semi-Finalists!](#)

[Wild at Heart Photo Exhibit](#)

[Agency Offers Schools Free Bus to Fossil Exhibit](#)

[Science and Nature Summer Camps for Kids](#)

[Curriculum Institutes at the Orange County Department of Education](#)

Cool Contests!

[You Be The Chemist Lesson Plan Contest](#)

[EPA President's Environmental Youth Awards](#)

[Technology & Learning's Digital Photo Contest for Kids](#)

Great Grants!

[A+ For Energy Grant](#)

[The Francis P. Collea Teacher Achievement Award Program](#)

Vivacious Volunteers!

[Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary](#)

Educational Events and Outstanding Opportunities

Professional Development/Seminars/Classes

[2004 California Science Education Conference](#)

[Project WET Facilitator Training](#)

[UCI Summer Science Institute](#)

[Fundamentals of Environmental Education - Online Course](#)

[NTEN Online Summer Courses for Teachers](#)

[Central Coast Science Project: 5th Grade Teacher Professional Development Opportunity](#)

Local Event Calendar - various listings

Web Wanderings and Rad Resources

[Science By E-Mail](#)

[College Board AP Testing/Professional Development Opportunities](#)

[Browse the Federal Education Resource Library](#)

EE/Science Ed. Professionals

[NSF Informal Science Education Program Grants](#)

[Two-Day Interpretive Writing Workshop](#)

Noteworthy News

Congratulations to “Environmentality Challenge” Semi-Finalists!

Fifth grade students from Ms. Lowery and Mr. Gonzalez’s classes at Our Lady of Guadalupe Elementary School in La Habra were the state semi-finalists in Jiminy Cricket’s Environmentality Challenge Program. This statewide competition promotes *environmentality* — thinking and acting environmentally — among elementary school students.

The award presentation took place on Friday, May 14, 2004 at the school site. Vanessa Byrd from the California Environmental Education Interagency Network, Helen de la Maza, Coordinator of CREEC Region 9B, and a representative from La Habra City Council presented Jiminy Cricket lunchboxes and personalized certificates to the students.

These students were among over 106,000 students from more than 3,500 classes who participated in this year’s Environmentality Challenge. For their project, the students built bird boxes out of wood scraps produced through the construction of the parish church associated with the school. They then sold these bird boxes to community members to raise money for the greening of the city. A check for approximately \$650 was presented to the City Council member during the award ceremony.

Wild at Heart Photo Exhibit

Photographic works by Kent Treptow exploring the natural wonders of the Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve and Nature Preserve will be on exhibit through June 20, 2004 at the Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center, Upper Newport Bay, 2301 University Drive, Newport Beach. The Center is open Tuesday - Sunday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. For additional information, visit www.newportbay.org or call 949-640-1742.

Agency Offers Schools Free Bus to Fossil Exhibit

The Foothill/Eastern Agency is providing transportation for school children to visit “Fossils in the Fastlane,” a free exhibit now on display at the historic Old Orange County Courthouse Museum in Santa Ana. The interactive exhibit was designed to meet California science standards for third and fourth grades. It features some of the 20,000 fossils discovered during construction of the 241 Toll Road in eastern and southern Orange County. Bus funds are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information, go to <http://www.thetollroads.com> and click on “Fossils in the Fastlane” or contact Valarie McFall, TCA Principal Environmental Analyst at 949-754-3475 or by e-mail at mcfall@sjhtca.com.

Science and Nature Summer Camps for Kids

Environmental Nature Center Science Summer School Nature Camp

The Environmental Nature Center presents its 28th year of Science Summer School Nature Camp beginning June 28 and running through August 5, Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 AM to 12:15 PM. Nature Camp is offered to students entering kindergarten through entering sixth grade in three 2-week sessions, each with a different nature theme. Teachers are exceptionally qualified in elementary science education and represent a wide range of expertise. The teacher:student ratio is 1:10. The ENC is located at 1601 16th St. in Newport Beach. For information or to receive an application, please visit the ENC or call 949-645-8489.

Sea and Sage Audubon Society

This year, two sessions of Marsh Birds Camp for students 9-12 years old (select only one since they are the same program) and two weeks of Advanced Camp for students 11 years and older (attend both or just one week) are available. Marsh Bird Camp will be June 28-July 2 or July 12-16, Advanced Bird Camp I July 26-30 and Advanced Bird Camp II (with overnight) August 2-7. Enrollment brochures are available from Audubon House or contact Camp Co-coordinator Grace McElhiney at (714) 969-9617.

[Top](#)

OC Wild

OC Wild is offering a “Hiking Through Habitats” Camp for Young Nature Lovers June 21 - 25 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The camp is open to 20 youths ages 7 to 11 for \$75 per child. Reservations are requested by June 11 due to space limitations. Call 949-497-7647 or email crystalcv@fea.net to register.

Professional naturalists will lead Camp Wild at the following Orange County Wild facilities:

Environmental Nature Center (Newport Beach) Monday, June 21
Bommer Canyon (Irvine Open Space Preserve) Tuesday, June 22
Upper Newport Bay (Newport Beach) Wednesday, June 23
Laguna Coast Wilderness Park (Newport Beach), Thursday, June 24
Crystal Cove State Park (N. Laguna Beach), Friday, June 25

Bat Camp at Audubon Starr Ranch

Stephanie Remington, Bat Biologist is hosting “Bat Camp” at Audubon’s Starr Ranch Sanctuary near Mission Viejo on June 7 - 11, July 19 - 23 and August 16 - 20 from 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Children, ages 10 to 15, will study free-flying bats in a 4,000-acre wilderness area and practice lab and field techniques used by bat biologists. Fee is \$100/student.

Camp Discovery at the Discovery Science Center

Enroll today in one or more summer camps at Discovery Science Center. Offered in July and August, Camp Discovery features a variety of fun and educational weeklong science camps for ages 5 - 13. Choose from camps such as Ultimate Exploration, Earth Encounters, Computers@DSC, Robotics, Web Design, and Summer Smiles I & II. This year a new off-site camp in South Orange County at Ladera Ranch Elementary School was added. Early enrollment is recommended due to popularity. Call 714-542-5012 to enroll today!

Starr Ranch Audubon Sanctuary Junior Biologist Program

Children ages 8 – 13 are invited to join the Starr Ranch scientific team as Starr Ranch Junior Biologists to learn how scientists study wild animals and their habitats. Starr Ranch is a 4000-acre Audubon sanctuary east of Dove Canyon near Rancho Santa Margarita. For more information, go to <http://www.starr-ranch.org>, or call Sandy at 949-858-0309. To register, call 949-858-0131.

Starr Ranch Junior Biologists I: June 14 - 18 or July 12 - 16

Kids ages 8 - 12 explore and observe native ecosystems and have fun with some of the techniques scientists use to study wildlife.

Starr Ranch Junior Biologist II: June 21 - 25 or July 19 - 23.

Children ages 8 - 12 participate in ecological research as they identify simple research questions, learn techniques for answering questions, and collect data. *SRJB I prerequisite.*

Starr Ranch Junior Biologists III: June 28 - July 2 or July 26 - July 30

For kids ages 10 - 13, intensive studies of the animals and ecosystems introduced in SRJB I and II (*required as prerequisites*).

[Top](#)

Curriculum Institutes at the Orange County Department of Education

To register for the following institutes: reserve a space in the class(es) you would like to attend by going to <http://register.ocde.us> To complete your registration, mail your confirmation e-mail with payment to: OCDE; Attn: Educational Technology; P.O. Box 9050; Costa Mesa, CA 92628-9050. If you are registered for a workshop, you will receive a confirmation seven days prior to the workshop date by e-mail.

Science (Grades 4 & 5): This institute is designed to help 4th and 5th grade teachers increase their knowledge and use of current technology while focusing on the science content area.

Participants will use their newly acquired technology skills to develop curriculum that will help teach and review the Science Standards that will be addressed on the 5th grade state science test. Registration: \$300 (a \$250 CTAP scholarship is available). July 12 - 16, 2004; 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM. Location: OCDE, Educational Technology, Bldg. B-1026, PC Lab. Contact Person: Melissa Alvarado (714-966-4470). Two units of CSUP credit are available for an additional fee. Follow-up session: October 7, 2004. To apply, go to: www.ocde.us/technology/ctap.

Other Institutes Available:

Visual & Performing Arts (K-12): July 12 - 16, 2004; 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

English Language Arts (K-6): July 19 - 23, 2004; 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

History/Social Science (Grades 3 - 12): July 19 - 23, 2004; 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

[Top](#)

Cool Contests!

You Be The Chemist Lesson Plan Contest (<http://www.chemed.org/educators.awards.php>)

The Chemical Education Foundation (CEF) is sponsoring a You Be The Chemist (YBTC) lesson plan competition for educators in grades K-8. The Foundation will award \$1,000 as first prize and \$500 for runner-up entries in the three categories of Scientific Inquiry, Structure of Matter, and Safety and Recycling. The six winning lesson plan entries and their authors will be published on the CEF Web site. CEF will award \$1,000 as first prize and \$500 for runner-up entries.

Application deadline is October 30, 2004.

EPA President's Environmental Youth Awards

(<http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/pdf/peyaapp.pdf>)

President's Environmental Youth Awards recognizes young people for projects that demonstrate their commitment to the environment. K-12 students or children affiliated with a group (e.g., camp, youth group) sponsored by an adult should submit an application and evidence of a completed project to their local EPA regional office by **July 31, 2004**.

Technology & Learning's Digital Photo Contest for Kids (<http://techlearning.com/>)

Technology & Learning (magazine) invites K-12 students to participate in the fourth annual digital photography contest. This year's theme is "My Personal Universe." The subject of the photo is entirely up to the student. Students may submit up to three digital photos taken between January 1, 2004 and September 20, 2004.

Teachers may submit classroom and/or individual photos or students may submit their own individual photos. If photos are being submitted over the summer, either parents (for young students) or students may submit referencing their grade level and teacher from the recently completed year. **Photographs must be received by midnight, September 20, 2004.**

Twelve winners will be named, with one first place and three second place winners in each of the following categories: elementary, middle school, and high school. See the website for details about the prizes.

[Top](#)

Great Grants!

A+ For Energy Grant (<http://www.aplusforenergy.com>)

BP (global producer, manufacturer and marketer of oil, gas, chemicals and renewable energy sources) developed this grant to recognize California teachers for excellence in teaching energy education and/or energy conservation in the classroom. Any K-12 teacher currently teaching in a California public or private school is encouraged to apply.

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 education and/or energy conservation. Grants will be awarded directly to teachers; grant amounts will equal \$5,000 or \$10,000, depending on the budgets submitted by the teachers in the applications.

Postmark Deadline is June 30, 2004. Winners will be notified by August 23, 2004.

The Francis P. Collea Teacher Achievement Award Program

(<http://www.usc.edu/dept/education/TAAP/index.html>)

The California Postsecondary Education Commission, in cooperation with the University of Southern California, solicits proposals for The Francis P. Collea Teacher Achievement Award Program (CTAAP). CTAAP provides opportunities for teams of K-12 teachers to implement a discipline-specific classroom or school program in their schools. Twelve awards for up to \$30,000 each are available. **Deadline is October 15, 2004.**

Vivacious Volunteers!

Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary

With the warm weather marking an increase in activities and visitors, Tucker is in need of volunteers to help staff the museum/gift shop, fill bird feeders, and help maintain the grounds. They are in particular need of someone in the museum/gift shop on Sunday's. If you are interested in volunteering at Tucker in any capacity, call (714) 649- 2760. Location: Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary; 29322 Modjeska Canyon Road; Modjeska Canyon, CA 92676-9801.

Educational Events and Outstanding Opportunities

Professional Development/Seminars/Classes

2004 California Science Education Conference

The largest statewide professional development opportunity for science educators will take place in San Jose this October. Your registration fee of just \$95 (for CSTA members) includes:

- Workshops: Over 200 standards-based workshops for every discipline and every grade level, including earth science, life science, physical science, pedagogy, ELL, assessment, technology...
- Professional Development: Access to over 100 professional development-qualifying events and the opportunity to earn university credit. There are two PD strands: New Teachers & NCLB
- Keynote address by Dr. David Suzuki, Focus Speakers sessions and Closing Ceremonies featuring explorer and environmentalist Dr. Jean-Michel Cousteau.
- Entertainment: The Saturday Night Dance at the Children's Discovery Museum

For an additional fee, you can also sign up for short courses, field courses, the Friday Awards luncheon, the Sunday Luncheon with Dr. Penny Patterson and the Pre-Conference Events. If you are a new teacher in your 1st - 3rd year of teaching, you won't want to miss the Pre-Conference Event for New Teachers. And if you'd like to learn more about Lesson Study - the teaching strategy that's sweeping the nation - the Lesson Study Pre-Conference Event is for you! The \$95 fee expires June 30th. So register today! Visit the conference homepage at <http://www.cascience.org/conference.html> for complete details. Fund your conference attendance by using IIUSP, Title I, and Title II monies. See your school site administrator.

[Top](#)

Project WET Facilitator Training (<http://www.watereducation.org/projectwet.asp>)

Project WET is an international, water science and education program for formal and non-formal educators of K-12 students. The activity guide is offered at all of our workshops. It contains over 90 activities that have been correlated to the state standards. All the activities are innovative, interdisciplinary, hands-on, easy to use, and fun. The facilitator training provides leadership instruction for those who would like to conduct their own Project WET workshops.

Date: June 30, 2004; 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM. Location: West Basin Water Recycling Facility, El Segundo. Sponsored by: West Basin & Central Basin Municipal Water Districts. Contact: Mark Moss at (310) 660-6219.

UCI Summer Science Institute

Join other K-12 science educators as a member of UCI's Science Education Program's Network. Come to a place where you can network with colleagues, build content expertise, practice strategies for motivating student learning, and gain an understanding of multiple assessment techniques.

University of California, Irvine offers 1, 2 or 3 week sessions from June 28 - August 13, 2004. Prices vary from \$750 to \$1000. Title I, II or III funds may be used for this extensive on-going professional development. Please see your principal regarding funding. Project Tomorrow is offering scholarships that are available now!

Visit <http://sep.uci.edu> for the UCI Summer Science Institute registration form and <http://www.tomorrow.org/docs/ssiapp.pdf> for your scholarship application.

Fundamentals of Environmental Education - Online Course

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point ten-week Fundamentals of EE course will be offered via the Internet for three undergraduate or graduate level credits. Non-resident tuition has been waived by UW Stevens Point to make this course available to a national audience. Available for no credit at a reduced cost. Course dates are: June 14 - August 20, 2004 or September 13 - November 19, 2004. Go to http://www.ectap.org/html/online_ee_course.php for information.

NTEN Online Summer Courses for Teachers (<http://www.scienceteacher.org/courses.htm>)

National Teachers Education Network (NTEN) is offering four online summer courses for elementary teachers:

- Teaching and Learning about Ecosystems,
- Plant Science: It Grows on You
- The Fascinating Bug: Learning About Insects Through Observation and Inquiry
- The Incredible Journey: From the Plate Through the Body, Food and Nutrition Science for the Elementary Classroom

Classes start on June 14 and end on July 30. Each course is 1 graduate credit and tuition is \$200 plus materials.

Central Coast Science Project: 5th Grade Teacher Professional Development Opportunity

The Cotchett Summer Science Invitational Leadership Institute 2004 will be a 40-hour intensive summer institute for teachers with content and activities focused on 5th grade Physical Science and the California Science Standards. Each participant will:

- Enhance their 5th grade physical science content knowledge, in line with the Standards
- Learn how to incorporate hands-on activities, journal keeping and language development
- Receive some materials for hands-on activities for their classroom
- Establish networks with fellow teachers as well as with Cal Poly State University Faculty
- Receive a stipend of \$1000 for attending the workshop and for travel

If you are interested in attending, contact Grace Neff via email at gneff@calpoly.edu, or call (805) 756-1687. (Some preference will be given to teams of teachers from the same school, so please indicate below if there is another teacher applying from your school, and give their name.)

[Top](#)

Local Event Calendar (go to www.creec.org/region9b/ for more details)

June, 2004: City of Irvine Open Space Preserve. Go to <http://www.IrvineQuickReg.org> for information on programs taking place at Bommer Canyon, the Turtle Rock Nature Center, Hicks Canyon, and Laguna Coast Wilderness Park.

June, 2004: For information about Ocean Institute, go to http://www.ocean-institute.org/html/newsletter_new.html

June, 2004: Go to [The Nature Conservancy June Schedule](#) to view the hikes available on the Irvine Ranch Land Reserve

June, 2004: For activities through the Sea and Sage Chapter of the Audubon Society, go to <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org> . Field trips include: June 2, 8 AM: San Onofre Trestles; June 12, 8 AM: San Bernardino Mountains; June 13, 8 AM: Monthly Bird Walk at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary; June 26 - 27: Heart Bar Campout.

June, 2004: For activities through the California Native Plant Society - Orange County Chapter, go to <http://www.occnps.org> . Field trips include: June 12: Black Mountain, San Jacinto Mountains - Lichens and Wildflowers; June 13: Plant Walk in Arroyo Seco Canyon; June 26: Upper Newport Back Bay Canoe Trip.

June, 2004: For activities at Chino Hills State Park, go to <http://www.hillsforeveryone.org/recreation.htm#june>

Every Saturday at 8:30 AM: Canoe the Back Bay! Meet at beautiful Shellmaker Island (600 Shellmaker, Newport Beach) for an incredible Naturalist-led tour by canoe. The fee is \$10 per person. Reservations are required; call 949-923-2269.

Every Sunday, 10:00 AM: Kayak Tours of Upper Newport Bay! Meet at the Newport Dunes Resort and embark on a kayak tour led by a Naturalist. The fee is \$20 for adults, \$15.00 for kids 12 and under, and \$10 for Newport Bay Naturalist and Friends members and California Wildlife Campaign members. Location: Newport Dunes. Reservations are required; call the Dunes at 949-729-1150 (weekends only) or 800-585-0747.

Every Wednesday, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM: Restoration Steward Days at Upper Newport Bay. Green thumbs welcome! Encourage the Bay's unique genetics to move in at the restoration sites by collecting seeds and propagating plants. For information call (949) 640-0286. Meet at the Marine Studies Center on Shellmaker Island, 600 Shellmaker, Newport Beach.

June 3, 2004; 10:00 AM: Wildflower Walk at Crystal Cove State Park. Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park"). For information call 949-497-7647.

June 4, 2004; 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Full Moon Walk at the Environmental Nature Center. Come experience the "Strawberry Moon" and be serenaded by a chorus of frogs and crickets. Cool drinks and strawberries will be served. Cost is \$2. Call 949-645-8489 for reservations (space is limited). Location: ENC; 1601 16th Street; Newport Beach, CA 92663.

June 4, 2004; 8:30 PM - 10:30 PM: Full Moon Hike in Bommer Canyon, Irvine. Distance is 2 miles. For information call 949-724-6738.

June 5, 2004; 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM: Late Spring Birding Walk with Maya Decker at the Environmental Nature Center. Explore the ENC with local bird expert Maya Decker. Maya will help determine which species are being seen based on bird behavior and habitat. Binoculars are a must to enjoy the birds to the fullest extent. Donation is \$5 (free for members). Call 949-645-8489 for reservations (space is limited). Location: ENC; 1601 16th Street; Newport Beach, CA 92663.

June 5, 2004; 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM: Cardio Conditioning Hike at the Turtle Rock Nature Center, Irvine. Participants will meet at the Nature Center and hike into Bommer Canyon. Maximum distance is 6 miles. For information call 949-724-6738.

June 5, 2004; 9:00 AM: Backcountry Hike at Crystal Cove State Park. Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park.") For more information call 949-497-7647.

[Top](#)

June 5, 2004; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Middle Ridge Hike at The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy. Hike the Middle Ridge Trail of the Conservancy and see the reserve on a beautiful June afternoon. Learn about the precious wilderness and animals in Orange County and enjoy the sounds of summer. Begin the day with an invigorating 3-mile hike. Please call 949-489-9778 for reservations. Donation: \$5/adult; \$2/child. Call 949-489-9778 for reservations and directions.

June 5, 2004; 10:30 AM: Ancient Orange County Lecture through the Caspers Park Preservation Foundation. Are you interested in learning about ancient Orange County? At this lecture, Steve Conklin will talk on the archaeology and paleontology of Orange County. Location: Caspers Wilderness Park Nature Center; adjacent to Ortega Highway, approximately 7 miles east of Interstate 5. Call 949-493-6840 or 949-888-0903 for additional information.

June 5, 2004; 7:30 PM: Sunset/Moonlight Beach Walk at Crystal Cove State Park. Meet at Pelican Point parking lot #2 (from PCH turn towards the ocean at the stoplight "Newport Coast." Turn right at the entrance kiosk). For more information call 949-497-7647.

June 6, 2004; 9:00 AM: Backcountry Hike at Crystal Cove State Park. Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park.") For more information call 949-497-7647.

June 6, 2004; 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM: Bugs and Butterflies at Thomas F. Riley Wilderness Park. Discover Riley Park's Butterfly Gardens and learn the intricate connections between bugs, butterflies, birds and bees. A host of exhibitors will be present, from Entomologists to Hydrologists! Experience native plant gardening, learn the life cycles of butterflies, identify butterflies in gardens, nature hikes and crafts for kids. Refreshments and lots more! This event is appropriate for all ages. Parking Fee: \$2.00. Location: Thomas F. Riley Wilderness Park; 30952 Oso Parkway; Coto De Caza, CA 92679; (949)923-2265 or (949)923-2266.

June 7, 2004; 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM: 8th Grade Teacher Open House at Discovery Science Center. Educators teaching 8th Grade can attend this FREE Educators' Open House. Workshops, lecture series and computer classes are offered to assist teachers in developing curriculum for teaching science and math to meet California science and math standards. Call 714-913-5012 for details.

June 9, 2004; 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Southern California Nature Society meeting at Acorn Naturalists. Coastkeepers will present a talk on "Kelp Reforestation Efforts." For more information go to <http://www.acornnaturalists.com/store/>.

June 11, 2004; 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM: Bodacious Bats with Stephanie Remington at the Environmental Nature Center. Meet a live bat at a very special presentation by locally renowned bat biologist Stephanie Remington. She will give an overview of bats, dispel myths, and provide information about local bats and where they can be found. Donation is \$5. Call 949-645-8489 for reservations (space is limited). Location: ENC; 1601 16th Street; Newport Beach, CA 92663.

June 12, 2004; 8:00 AM - 11:30 AM: Trail Clearing at The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy. How often do you get a chance to do important work in beautiful surroundings? You can help clear the Conservancy trails and receive a free lunch! Call 949-489-9778 for directions and reservations.

June 12, 2004; 9:00 AM: Backcountry Hike at Crystal Cove State Park. Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park.") For more information call 949-497-7647.

June 12, 2004; 10:00 AM: Historic District Walk at Crystal Cove State Park. Take a tour through the historic beach homes. Meet at Los Trancos parking lot at the trailer (PCH turn inland at stoplight "Los Trancos"). For information call 949-497-7647.

June 12, 2004; 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM: Local Birds Bird Walk at Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary. Sign up by calling Marylou at Sensor Development at 714-836-7090. Cost: \$3 with advance reservation, \$4 at the door. Location: Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary; 29322 Modjeska Canyon Road; Modjeska Canyon, CA 92676-9801; (714) 649- 2760.

[Top](#)

June 12, 2004; 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM: Sunset Nature Walk at The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy. Walk up the ridge and watch the light change as the sun sets. Experience the evening fragrances of late spring in southern California. Listen to the last bird songs and hear the night trills of insects. Bring a flashlight. Donation: \$5/adult, \$2/child. Call 949-489-9778 for reservations and directions.

June 12, 2004; 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM: Jupiter Search at Thomas F. Riley Wilderness Park. Join Val Akins with the Orange County Astronomers as they investigate Jupiter, The Solar System's largest most massive planet. All ages are welcome. Bring beach chairs and maybe even a picnic supper. Refreshments will be on sale by park volunteers. Event Fee: \$4.00 per person, children under 12 free. Location: Thomas F. Riley Wilderness Park; 30952 Oso Parkway; Coto De Caza, CA 92679; (949)923-2265 or (949)923-2266.

June 13, 2004; 9:00 AM: Backcountry Hike at Crystal Cove State Park. Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park.") For more information call 949-497-7647.

June 13, 2004; 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Back Bay Bat Walk. Join Bat expert Stephanie Remington and learn about these beautiful creatures of the night. Take an evening stroll in search of the Back Bay's bats to learn more about their habits and needs. There may even be an opportunity to meet a live bat! Event Fee: \$7.00/person ages 8 and up. Location: Peter & Mary Muth Interpretive Center; 2301 N. University Drive; Newport Beach, CA 92660; 949-923-2275.

June 17, 2004; 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM: California Native Plant Society - Orange County Chapter General Meeting. This meeting will be held at the Golden West College Native Garden. Dan Songster will discuss the native plants and discuss the planting process. GWC is at 15744 Golden West Street, Huntington Beach. For more information, go to <http://www.ocnps.org>.

June 18, 2004; 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM: Sea and Sage Audubon Chapter General Meeting. The movie "Pale Male," will be shown. It tells the story of the first resident hawk in New York City's Central Park in 100 years. The meetings are held at the Irvine Ranch Water District Headquarters (15600 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine). For more information, go to <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org>.

June 19, 2004; 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM: Cigarette Litter Beach Cleanup at Seal Beach through the Earth Resource Foundation. For more information, go to <http://www.earthresource.org/hotybnwportb4.htm> or call 949-645-5163.

June 19, 2004; 9:00 AM: Backcountry Hike at Crystal Cove State Park. Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park.") For more information call 949-497-7647.

June 19, 2004; 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM and/or 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM: Butterfly County at The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy. Come explore the Conservancy with members of the North American Butterfly Association. Learn to identify and count butterflies. This is a relaxing and fun day. As many as 29 species of butterflies have been found on past counts. Bring your lunch if you plan to stay the day, plenty of water, hats, sunscreen, and binoculars (if you have them). For adults and children ages 10 and up. Donation: \$5/adult, \$2/child. Call 949-489-9778 for reservations and directions.

June 20, 2004; 9:00 AM: Backcountry Hike at Crystal Cove State Park. Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park.") For more information call 949-497-7647.

June 20, 2004; 4:00 PM: Orange County Space Society Meeting at Discovery Science Center. Learn about the latest space news within our community and around the world. Learn about getting involved with space and science activism and education in your community. For more information, contact OCSS at ocspacesociety@hotmail.com

June 20, 2004; 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM: Hicks Canyon View Hike. Join in for this interpretive hike into the northern wilderness of Irvine. The hike is on a paved road and is approximately 6 miles. For information call 949-724-6738.

[Top](#)

June 20, 2004; 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM: Father's Day Summer Solstice Walk at The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy. Bring the father in your life - or one of your friends - out into the wilds of Orange County. Enjoy the splendor of our legacy as you enjoy the first day of summer, the longest day of the year. Cameras and binoculars are welcome. Donation: \$5/adult, \$2/child. Call 949-489-9778 for reservations and directions.

June 26, 2004; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM: ROOTS Restoration Teamwork Days at Upper Newport Bay. Volunteers are needed to help remove invasive non-native plants and plant coastal sage scrub in order to promote native wildlife. All ages welcome. Free. Reservations are required for groups of five or more. For information call (949) 640-0286.

June 26, 2004; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Family Nature Walk: Looking for Spiders at The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy. As the weather warms, insects become more plentiful and so do the spiders who eat them. Come and search for spiders in wild Orange County and design your own spider. This leisurely, exploratory walk is for ages 4 and up. Donation: \$5/adult, \$2/child. Call 949-489-9778 for reservations and directions.

June 26, 2004; 9:00 AM: Backcountry Hike at Crystal Cove State Park. Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park.") For more information call 949-497-7647.

June 26, 2004; 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM: Local Native Plants Walk at Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary. Birkin Newell, the Caretaker at Tucker, will lead a nature walk providing information about the diversity of local native plants found in the canyon area. Sign up by calling Marylou at Sensor Development at 714-836-7090. Cost: \$3 with advance reservation, \$4 at the door. Location: Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary; 29322 Modjeska Canyon Road ; Modjeska Canyon, CA 92676-9801; (714) 649- 2760.

June 26, 2004; 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM: Tucker Volunteer Work Day at Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary. Bring your gardening gloves and tools and help spruce up the Sanctuary. Hot dogs and drinks will be served for all the volunteers at 6:00 PM. Location: Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary; 29322 Modjeska Canyon Road; Modjeska Canyon, CA 92676-9801; (714) 649- 2760.

June 27, 2004; 9:00 AM: Backcountry Hike at Crystal Cove State Park. Meet at El Moro Visitor Center (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight "School-State Park.") For more information call 949-497-7647.

[Top](#)

Local Toddler's and Children's Week Day and Weekend Programs

Irvine Regional Park Zoo.

Event fees include admission for the enrolled child and one parent (only one parent can accompany the child). Parking Fee: Irvine Park gate entry is \$2 on weekdays and \$4 on weekends and holidays.

Class registration can only be made by phone reservation by contacting Marcy Crede-Booth, Education Coordinator, at 714-973-6846. All fee payments are to be made the day of the scheduled class when you arrive at the zoo. Location: Orange County Zoo; 1 Irvine Park Road; Orange, CA 92869.

June 10, 2004; 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM: Nose, Tose & Ears: Who has tiny ears? Who has big ears? How many toes does a bear have? A deer? Learn how animals are the same and how they are different! Event Fee: \$3.00. Age: 3 - 4 years old (parent must accompany child).

June 18, 2004; 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM: Wild North America: Find out what amazing animals are on this continent and make some wild crafts! Event Fee: \$3.00. Ages: 3 - 4 years old (parent must accompany child).

June 25, 2004; 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM: Feather Friends: Learn all about birds! Make some fun crafts and have a great time learning about these amazing creatures! Event Fee: \$3.00. Ages: 3 - 4 years old (parent must accompany child).

June 26, 2004; 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM: *Feather Friends*: Learn about the world of birds - even those that can't fly! Make some fun crafts, take part in creative activities, and have a great time learning about these amazing creatures! Please bring a sack lunch to eat in the park. Event Fee: \$6.00. Ages: Grades 1st and 2nd.

Hidden Question: What do you think of the newsletter? Please e-mail (HdeLaMaza@ocde.us) or call (949-548-1460) Helen de la Maza and include the following information: a brief evaluation of the newsletter - what can be improved, removed, changed, added, etc.; your name, mailing address, e-mail address, and phone number. If you are the first to contact Helen, you will be sent the Sister Shorebird curriculum guide.

Fullerton Arboretum

Saturday Gardening Classes in the spring offer a variety of hands-on projects designed to introduce children to gardening and the natural environment. Classes are 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM in the Children's Garden. Reservations are not required except for groups of four or more. Fee: \$3/child. Location: Fullerton Arboretum; 1900 Associated Rd. (at Yorba Linda Blvd.); Fullerton, CA 92831.

June 5, 2004; 9:30 - 10:30 AM: *Arboretum Entomologists (Bug Safaris)*: For ages 8 and up. Children explore and investigate the world of insects. Hands-on activities include observation and "catch and release." Parent or grandparent participation welcome, but not required.

Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center

The Interpretive Center is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Admission is free, but there is a fee for scheduled school and family programs. Call Candice McIntyre at 949-923-2275 for more information on the family programs listed below and to register. Location: Upper Newport Bay Interpretive Center; 2301 University Drive; Newport Beach.

June 2, 2004; 10:30 - 11:15 AM: *Toddler Time "Ugh! It's a Bug!"*: Join in for story time, hands-on fun and movement for this parent and child playtime with a bug theme. \$5.00/ child ages 3- 4.

June 15, 2003; 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM: *Toddler Time "Sneaky Snakes"*: Join a Park Ranger for this parent and child playtime with a snake theme. Enjoy stories, movement and hands-on fun for 2- to 3 year-old junior naturalists. \$5.00 per child.

June 15, 2003; 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM: *Toddler Time "Sneaky Snakes"*: Join a Park Ranger for this parent and child playtime with a snake theme. Enjoy stories, movement and hands-on fun for 3 - 4 year old junior naturalists. \$5.00 per child.

June 25, 2003; 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM: *Silkworms*: Learn all about the lifecycle of the fabulous silkworm, *Bombyx mori*, a very special moth species. What do they do to grow up? Why do people take care of them? Touch and hold all four stages of their life. Make your own wonderful lifecycle diorama using real mulberry branch and a real silk cocoon! Hungry? You will also make a lifecycle out of real food and learn to tell the story of this very special moth before you eat all four stages. \$10.00 per child ages 5 and up.

Web Wanderings and Rad Resources

Science By E-Mail (<http://www.csiro.au/helix/sciencemail/index.html>)

Science by Email is a free online service for members of CSIRO's Double Helix Science Club, teachers and anyone with an interest in science. Science by Email services include:

- A weekly email newsletter featuring science news and activities/lesson plans.
- Web chats
- Online contests

[Top](#)

College Board AP Testing/Professional Development Opportunities

(<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/science>)

The College Board offers professional development resources for middle school and high school science teachers at AP Central. The site offers lesson plans, Web guides, teaching tips, sample syllabi, as well as peer reviews of teaching resources, including scientific equipment, textbooks, Web sites, software, videos, and more. AP Central includes information on professional development opportunities and site visitors can participate in course-specific electronic discussion groups.

Browse the Federal Education Resource Library

(<http://encdl.org/search/simple/0.5046,.00.shtm>)

The Federal Education Digital Resources Library (FEDRL) features a collection of free science and mathematics resources for the K-12 education community. The site provides descriptions of a range of online materials that were developed with U.S. Department of Education or National Science Foundation funding. These materials include applets, lesson plans, animations, and magazine articles, as well as resources for student learning and materials for teachers' professional development.

EE/Science Ed. Professionals

NSF Informal Science Education Program Grants

The National Science Foundation is seeking applicants for the Informal Science Education (ISE) program. The ISE program invests in projects that develop and implement informal learning experiences for individuals of all ages and backgrounds. NSF seeks projects that are designed to increase interest, engagement, and understanding of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), as well as those that advance the theory and practice of informal science education. Projects may target either public audiences or professionals whose work directly affects informal STEM learning. ISE projects are expected to demonstrate strategic impact, collaboration, and innovation.

The ISE program invests in projects that directly target public audiences for self-directed STEM learning, such as permanent and traveling exhibitions, films, television and radio series, web-based projects, citizen science programs, and youth and community programs. In addition, the program supports projects that target professionals to further knowledge and the implementation of practice, such as through research studies, conferences, formation of networks, and professional development. These projects should strengthen the infrastructure for informal science learning by the public.

Project duration may be from one to five years. The level of funding depends on the nature and scope of the project. Awards may range from \$100,000 to a maximum of \$3 million. For more details and deadlines, visit <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2004/nsf04579/nsf04579.htm>

Two-Day Interpretive Writing Workshop

Acorn Naturalists is pleased to host an intensive, two-day workshop on interpretive writing, led by Alan Leftridge, executive editor of *The Interpreter* journal. This workshop will be of enormous benefit to interpreters, naturalists, rangers, public information officers - anyone who works with the public and write brochures, exhibits, public service announcements, and magazine articles. This workshop will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, June 9 and 10, 2004. For specifics on the course and enrollment information, please go to <http://www.acornnaturalists.com/store/images/LeftridgeFlyer.pdf>

[Top](#)