



Orange County CREEC

Volume 2, Issue 9

June 2005

Hidden Question

Unfortunately I have been receiving only one or two responses to the "Hidden Question" for the last few issues. Since the current form of the "Hidden Question" does not seem to be of interest, I would like to know how it could be changed to meet your needs.

I am requesting your input to make this newsletter valuable for you as an educator in Orange County. Please take five minutes to fill out the survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=558281110453>

You can also go to the CREEC Region 9b home page at <http://www.creec.org/region9b/> and click on the Survey link.

Thanks for your feedback! -Helen ✨

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, locally, the **Orange County Department of Education (OCDE)** and OCDE's *Inside the Outdoors* (<http://www.insidetheoutdoors.org>)

Coordinator Communications:

Recent Findings on the Effectiveness of Environmental Education – Another Reason to Do It!

California Assembly Bill (AB 1330), approved in October 2003, called for an evaluation to measure the impacts of week-long residential outdoor education programs in California. The American Institutes for Research has completed its study and released a report. The findings include:

- children who attended outdoor school significantly raised their science scores by 27 percent as measured by a pre- and post survey administered upon their return to school.
- the increase in science knowledge was maintained six to ten weeks following program participation.
- fifty-eight percent of the students studied were identified by teachers as English Learner (EL) students. According to teacher reports, among those students who attended the program, EL students demonstrated gains in cooperation, leadership, relationship with peers, and motivation to learn that were significantly larger than the gains shown by non-EL students for those constructs.

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Similar results have been found in research conducted on participants in other residential as well as one-day outdoor and environmental education programs across the U.S..

Environmental and outdoor education provides students with exciting, relevant, meaningful, memorable, and context-embedded knowledge building experiences!

I encourage you to download this complete report, as well as other research articles, from the Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education's website (<http://www.aeoe.org/resources/research/index.html>).

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Training Time!

(Opportunities listed here may be appropriate for Teachers, EE Providers, or other Educators.)

Marine Life Educator Course at Back Bay Science Center at Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve

June 15, 17, 18, 22, 24 and 25

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

This course is appropriate for nonformal educators as well as classroom teachers. Topics will include: Issues in Our Watershed, Marine Life Adaptations, and Birds/Plants of the Bay. For information or to register, contact John Scholl at 949-640-9956 or jscholl@dfg.ca.gov

Getting Your Green Thumb: Beginning Gardening for Educators

June 18 and 25; 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Huntington Botanical Gardens
151 Oxford Rd.; San Marino 91108

Cost: \$35

Gardening is rewarding and exciting, and a wonderful tool in your classroom curriculum. Learn the “how to” fundamentals of preparing and keeping a garden. This course will cover: site and soil preparation, picking plants: seasonal selections and classroom favorites, plant care: from sowing to harvesting and much more! The course focuses on teaching basic horticulture, giving participants the confidence and skills to plant/maintain a garden. As the focus is gardening practices, and not necessarily curriculum, the course is open to all grades. For more information or a registration form, contact Mike Kerkman at mkerkman@huntington.org or 626-405-3586.

2005 California Science Education Conference in Palm Springs

October 27–30, 2005

<http://www.cascience.org/conference.html>

The early-bird registration fee (\$98 for CSTA members, \$148 for non-members) *expires on June 30!* Your registration fee includes over 200 standards-based workshops about earth science, life science, physical science, pedagogy, English Language Learners, assessment, technology, and more! The keynote speaker is Ray Bradbury and the closing session speaker is Ed Begley, Jr. You can use IIUSP, Title I, and Title II monies to help pay for your professional development. For information go to

<http://www.cascience.org/PDFunding.html>

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Great Grants & Cool Contests

Show Me the Money: Tips & Resources for Successful Grant Writing

http://www.educationworld.com/a_curr/profdev/profdev039.shtml

Many educators have found that grants allow them to provide their students with educational experiences and materials their own districts cannot afford. Learn how they get those grants and how you can get one too. This article will provide you with advice on grant-writing.

Captain Planet Foundation

Deadlines: March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31

Eligibility: Schools and Non-profits

<http://www.captainplanetfdn.org/appProcess.html>

The Captain Planet Foundation funds hands-on environmental projects to encourage youth around the world to work individually and collectively to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities.

Maximum Award: \$2500.

HOBO® Summer Science Contest for Teachers

http://www.iscienceproject.com/contest/summer_contest.html

Registration Deadline: July 15, 2005

The HOBO Summer Contest offers a chance to evaluate and win HOBO data loggers. The contest, which runs between now and August 31, 2005, enables teachers to borrow a HOBO Data Logger Kit for the summer, perform science experiments, and submit results in order to win the kit (\$200 value). HOBO data loggers record temperature, humidity, and light, and can be used in a broad range of experiments, from comparing the insulating properties of different container types to studying how the temperatures of ponds and pools vary in a given area.

National Weather Association Sol Hirsch Teacher (K-12) Grants

Deadline: August 1, 2005

<http://www.nwas.org/solhirsch.html>

The National Weather Association awards Sol Hirsch Teacher Grants to improve students' education in meteorology. Teachers selected will be able to use the funds to take an accredited course in atmospheric sciences, attend a relevant workshop or conference or purchase scientific materials or equipment for the classroom.

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Rad Resources

Service Learning

Service-learning is a powerful teaching strategy that uses community service to teach academic content. This website from California Department of Education (CDE) provides links between service projects and content standards: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/sl/standards.asp>

Materials Exchange for Formal and Nonformal Educators

If you need teaching or environmentally-related resources or materials, e-mail me, the Orange County Coordinator, Helen de la Maza at Hdelamaza@ocde.us and let me know what you need, how many, and for what. I can post your needs on the OC-CREEC website or refer you to a contact. We can “walk the talk” and engage in “reusing and recycling” right here in Orange County! You can also try the website <http://pacific.recycle.net>

Flying Wild

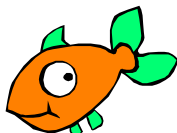
<http://www.flyingwild.org/>

Flying WILD, a new program of the Council for Environmental Education, introduces middle school students to bird conservation through national standards-based classroom activities and environmental stewardship projects. Flying WILD encourages schools to work closely with conservation organizations, community groups, and businesses involved with birds to implement school bird festivals events in which students take a leading role in teaching their classmates and community about migratory birds. A national network of urban partners will provide educators with Flying WILD training and materials, including the program guide, Flying WILD: An Educator's Guide to Celebrating Birds.

Ecological and Environmental Learning Services, Inc. (SEELS)

<http://www.eelsinc.org>

SEELS provides K-12 education consulting for teacher professional development, curriculum development and education programs in science education, environmental education, and ecology. The site also offers newsletter articles with ecology and environmental education themes. ✨



Great Grants & Cool Contests

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Toshiba America Foundation Grants

**Deadlines: K-6 programs: October 1
7-12 grade: Projects under \$5,000 are accepted year-round; over \$5,000: February 1 and August 1**

<http://www.toshiba.com/taf/>

The Toshiba America Foundation seeks to support projects designed by classroom teachers to improve K-12 science and mathematics education. Maximum Awards: \$1,000 for K-6 grade and \$25,000 for grades 7-12.

Growing with Children Grant

Deadline: September 1, 2005

<http://fconline.fdncenter.org/pnd/2100/wga>

Western Growers invites educational facilities to apply for this \$1,500 grant to fund a school garden. Funds must be used for gardening supplies, gardening curriculum, and materials related to starting or maintaining a garden.

You be the Chemist Lesson Plan Competition

Deadline: October 21, 2005

http://www.chemed.org/Lesson_Plan.html

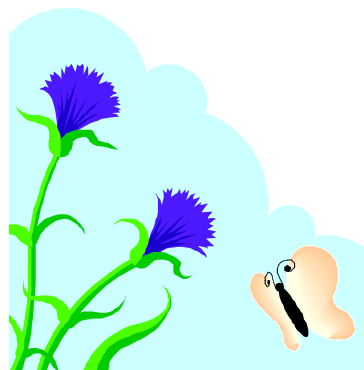
The Chemical Education Foundation is sponsoring a *You be the Chemist* lesson plan competition for educators in grades K-8. The Foundation will award prizes in three categories: scientific inquiry, structure of matter, and safety and recycling.

The 2005 Organic School Garden Awards

Deadline: October 31, 2005

<http://www.kidsregen.org/gardens>

Presented by The Rodale Institute, any school in the 50 states with an organic garden is eligible to enter. First prize includes \$1,000 and a certificate. ✨



Training Time!

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Pacific Forest Institute Teacher Workshop in Quincy, California July 17-22, 2005

<http://www.jessup.edu/academics/pacificforestinstitute/>
Designed for teachers, this workshop will look at how the stewardship concept allows human needs to be met while ensuring renewable resources within the forest through proper management. Educational consultants, graded breakout sessions and personal curriculum development time will help translate the expert's lingo into curriculum activities appropriate for grades K-3, or 4-6, or 7-12. All housing, meals and instructional materials for the week are provided at no charge to participants. Attendance Certification – free. Academic Credit Options - \$756.00 for 2 units through William Jessup University. Contact Mark McReynolds, Program Coordinator, at PFI@jessup.edu or call 916- 577-2200.

Science for Teachers

Earth Sciences: July 18-22, 2004

Marine Biology: August 1-5, 2004

<http://www.extension.ucsd.edu/Programs/educ/summerPrograms.htm>

Programs run as one-week summer institutes with a focus on content knowledge and curricular development in Earth Sciences and Marine Biology. Participants will have an opportunity to learn from research scientists in a teacher-friendly environment! For additional information, please contact the UC San Diego Extension/Education Department at 858-964-1045 or unexeduc@ucsd.edu

Applied Environmental Education Program Evaluation - Online

Course: September 12 – November 18, 2005

Registration deadline: August 12, 2005

<http://www.uwsp.edu/natres/rwilke/eetap/>
This course, offered through the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, is designed to assist environmental educators and natural resource professionals in evaluating their education programs. Participants have the opportunity to develop and apply skills in designing evaluation tools such as surveys, observation forms, and interview and focus group guides.

Fundamentals of Environmental Education - Online

Course: September 12 – November 18, 2005

Registration Deadline: August 12, 2005

<http://www.uwsp.edu/natres/rwilke/eetap/>

This course is appropriate for both classroom teachers and for non-formal educators who work with students and teachers. The course provides educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to incorporate quality environmental education into their instruction. Participants discuss the history, definition, and goals of environmental education; develop an understanding of the professional roles and instructional methods of environmental educators; and interact with other educators from across the country.

Connecting Science, Technology & the Local Environment: A Project Learning Tree and “Burning Issues” Workshop for 5 – 12 Grade Teachers at the Bernasconi Education Center in Big Pine (Inyo County), California

August 15 – 16, 2005

Cost: \$25.00

The workshop will include a field trip, presentations by local resource managers, hands-on exploration of the Burning Issues CD-ROM, and lessons from a variety of PLT materials. You will learn how to address science standards through engaging, interdisciplinary, hands-on activities. For information, contact Margina Rhyne 760-934-0031, x. 308; mrhyne@monocoe.org or Kay Antunez at 916-653-7958; Kay.Antunez@fire.ca.gov

California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Sacramento

Oct. 20-22, 2005

Cost: Full registration: \$200, Pre-conference: Additional \$70

<http://www.cfaitc.org/Conference/Conference.php>

This two-day conference is a great way to learn how California educators incorporate agriculture into their classrooms. This year's theme, "Imagine Your Day Without Agriculture," will take each participant on a journey to discover the extent to which agriculture affects daily lives. Attend in-depth workshops, gain hands-on experience in make 'n take sessions and head home with a tote bag full of ideas and resources. For information, call Dena Gibbons at 800-700-2482.



Provider Highlight: Disney's Jiminy Cricket's Environmentality Challenge

[The following description is from
http://corporate.disney.go.com/environmentality/jcec_california.html]

After more than a decade, Jiminy Cricket's Environmentality Challenge continues to motivate and inspire fifth grade students to learn and care more about their environment.

Jiminy Cricket's Environmentality Challenge is comprised of two components, the Environmentality Pledge and the Class Project Competition:

The Environmentality Pledge

Students complete pledge forms to demonstrate their commitment to thinking and acting environmentally at school, at home and in their community. Teachers may conduct class discussions to highlight simple activities that students, their families and friends can do to better the environment. Participating students receive specially designed Jiminy Cricket's Environmentality Challenge gifts in recognition of their commitment.

The Class Project Competition

Students and teachers who elect to take their action to the next level may submit a more comprehensive class project where they target a real-world area of environmental concern, then develop and implement a comprehensive plan of action to address the issue. Teachers are encouraged to incorporate state content standards in the development of the class projects, which are submitted to a panel to be judged. The Grand Prize winning class receives an all expenses paid vacation to the Disneyland Resort.

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Registration usually occurs around October each year. Stay tuned to CREEC Region 9b's website (<http://www.creec.org/region9b/>) and to the fall issue of this newsletter for details.✿



Other Opportunities

1st Annual Youth Environmental Leadership Conference - FREE

June 18, 2005; 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Location: The Wildlands Conservancy, 39611 Oak Glen Road; Oak Glen 92399

Register at <http://ci.sbcss.k12.ca.us/events>

All motivated 6th to 12th grade future leaders are invited to participate. This free conference includes workshops, outdoor field opportunities, giveaways, certificates of completion, professional development opportunities, charter member of Inland Area environmental youth leaders, hands on activities, free lunch and an optional night hike. Only 100 spaces are available. For more information, contact Micah Justice at micah_henderson@sbcss.k12.ca.us or 909-386-2797.

Request for Reviewers to Evaluate K-8 Science Instructional Materials

Deadline for Applications: September 7, 2005

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/sc/im/>

The California Department of Education is requesting individuals to participate in the evaluation of instructional materials for the 2006 Science Primary Adoption for Grades K-8. They are currently accepting applications for reviewers to serve on the following review panels:

1. *Content Review Panel (CRP) Members:* These reviewers are recognized content experts with a master's degree or doctorate in science; CRP members focus on content accuracy and scholarship in their area of expertise
2. *Instructional Materials Advisory Panel (IMAP) Members:* K-8 as well as high school teachers may serve; other members, such as school administrators, and those whose employment interests include science are chosen to bring a balanced perspective to the review

Orange County Coastkeepers and Sierra Club Orange County Inner City Outings are launching a new partnership to get students involved in real life science skills in Orange County. If you are a **teacher** and are interested in a week-day and/or weekend outing series where your students learn from the experts and get hands-on standards-based science skills, please notify Lisa Hellman of your interest by contacting her at 714-965-3394 (w) or 714-964-4488 (home). Grants are currently being written to fund three-six outings in 2005 – 2006.

Exciting Environmental & Science Education Events!

Local Event Calendar

Acorn Naturalists

155 El Camino Road

Tustin, CA 92780

Open Monday - Saturday; 10 AM - 5 PM

<http://www.acornnaturalists.com>

Acorn Naturalists Summer Recycling Celebration

June 25; 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

This is a free day of environmentally oriented activities including a solar-powered concert by Jon Sherman, a southern California musician who is both a gifted singer/songwriter and a living example of how solar power can be used even for “energy intensive” professional grade amplifiers. Plenty of free refreshments will be available along with children’s take-home crafts (using recycled paper to make beautiful papercasts), recycling displays, raffle prizes, and loads of information on effective recycling techniques.

Crystal Cove State Park

8471 Pacific Coast Highway (PCH)

Laguna Beach CA 92651

949-497-7647

Parking is \$10

Backcountry Hike

June 11, 12, 25, 26; 9:00 AM

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

Historic District Walk

June 11; 10:00 AM

Meet at Los Trancos lot by the trailer (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight “Los Trancos”)

Geology Walk

June 12; 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Meet at Los Trancos lot by the trailer (from PCH turn inland at the stoplight “Los Trancos”)

SHARE Mountain Bike Club Poker Ride

(fundraiser for the Crystal Cove Interpretive Association)

June 18; 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

For information see <http://www.sharemtb.com>

Father’s Day Hike

June 19; 9:00 AM

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

Summer Solstice Beach Walk

June 21; 7:00 PM

Meet at Pelican Point parking lot #2 (from PCH turn coastward at stoplight “Newport Coast;” turn right at the kiosk and then take the first left into lot #2).

Camp Wild (half-day Day Camp)

June 27 - July 1

This program is for 20 children aged 7 - 10 years. Participants will experience a half-day of hands-on exploration designed to foster a sensitivity and sense of pride in our natural surroundings. Each day participants visit a different park: Upper Newport Bay, Bommer Canyon, Crystal Cove State Park, Laguna Coast Wilderness Park, and Doheny State Beach. The cost is \$75. Call Winter Bonnin (949-497-7647) for information and to register.

The Donna O’Neil Land Conservancy

28672 Ortega Highway (office)

San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693

laura@theconservancy.org

<http://www.TheConservancy.org>

RSVP to 949-489-9778

Trail Clearing

June 11; 8:00 AM -11:30 AM

Help clear the Conservancy’s trails. Drinks and sandwiches provided. Free.

Weed Warriors

June 11; 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Help rid The Conservancy of pesky, invasive weeds. Snacks and drinks provided. Free.

Family Nature Walk – Shapes of Nature
June 18; 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Look for shapes of nature and see the natural world in a new way. Visit the Conservancy and enjoy the California landscape as it has been for thousands of years. Donation: \$5/adult, \$2/child.

Father's Day Nature Walk
June 19; 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Bring the father in your life – or one of your friends - out into the wilds of Orange County to enjoy this naturalist-led walk. Cameras and binoculars are welcome. Donation: \$5/adult, \$2/child.

Fourth of July Butterfly Count
**June 25; 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM and/or
1:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

Explore The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy with members of the North American Butterfly Association and learn to identify and count our butterflies. This is a relaxing and fun day. We have found as many as 29 species of butterflies 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.

Environmental Nature Center

1601 16th Street
Newport Beach, CA 92663
<http://www.ENCcenter.org>
All programs listed below require reservations, call 949-645-8489

Natural Disasters and People

June 10; 7:00 – 8:00 PM
Join us for a unique presentation by anthropologist Maria Carrillo, to learn how natural disasters have affected humans throughout history. Maria, a graduate student at California State University, Fullerton, is studying the effects of natural disasters like volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis on people. Cost is \$2/guest.

Little Naturalists - Incredible Insects!

June 16; 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Join Rainbow Pharaon, author of Nature Time: Activities for Early Childhood, for

this parent and child playtime with an insect theme! We'll buzz through the Center, and visit the Butterfly House to see live butterflies, caterpillars & chrysalis! Enjoy hands-on fun for 3-5 year olds. Cost is \$5/child.

Summer Solstice Walk: Crystal Cove State Park
June 21; 7:00 PM

Join ENC Naturalist Lori Whalen for a sunset walk at Crystal Cove State Park. We'll celebrate the longest day at the continent's edge. Bring a song or musical instrument to the beach to share, or just listen to the music in the last rays of sunlight. The event is free. For more information contact CCSP at 949-497-7647.

Little Naturalists - Exploring Nature Through our Senses

June 23; 10:00 – 11:00 AM
Rainbow Pharaon, author of Nature Time: Activities for Early Childhood, will lead us for this parent and child playtime! We'll explore the Nature Center using all of our senses - we'll smell the sages, feel some feathers and listen to leaves rustle. For 3-5 year olds. Cost is \$5/child.

Midsummer Big Moon Walk & Campfire
June 24; 7:00 PM

Come celebrate Summer under the light of the moon at the ENC. We'll walk through the Center as the sun sets, and discuss the nocturnal activities of Nature. Afterward, enjoy the camaraderie of friends around the campfire. We'll sing songs and enjoy roasted hot dogs. Bring your favorite story, or a musical instrument to share a song. We'll end our evening with s'mores. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight for the campfire. Cost is \$5/participant.

Eco-Detectives Nature Camp

June 27 - July 7 (Mon. - Thurs.)

8:30 AM - 12:15 PM

Students are introduced to natural science concepts through hands-on. Young campers will visit Oak Canyon Nature Center on a "Discovery" tour where they will explore the nature trails as Eco-Detectives to learn about a variety of amazing animals and the habitats in which they live. Older campers will visit the Los Angeles Natural History Museum to view the world famous habitat halls showing African and North American mammals in their natural environments. Call 949-645-8489 for a registration form.

Art Camp Session I - Drawing in Nature

June 27 - July 7 (Mon. - Thurs.)

12:45 PM – 3:00 PM

Students entering K – 6th grade will learn the basics and “not so basics” of drawing. They will explore contour lines, horizon lines, vanishing point, foreground, background, perspective and shading, and use their skills to create cartoons, gesture drawings and compositions with animals, landscapes, and still life. Cost is \$135 per student. Call 949-645-8489 for a registration form.

Oak Canyon Nature Center

6700 E. Walnut Canyon Road
Anaheim, CA 92807

Call 714-998-8380 for fees and reservations
Open 7 days a week, 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

Nature Nights

Wednesdays, June 29 – August 10; 7 PM

Evenings begin with a naturalist-led nature walk at 7:00 PM followed by the program beginning at 7:30 PM. Nature Nights is a great activity for individuals, families, and scout groups.

O.A.K.S. (Outdoor Awareness, Knowledge, & Skills) Summer Day Camp

Early Registration Fee: \$80.00 per participant per session. Registration Fee Increases by \$10 beginning June 1, 2005. Camp sessions are each one week long and begin June 20. For information, call 714-998-8380.

Nature Hikes for Tykes

For ages 2-4 from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM;
\$3.00/participant

Masked Mammals: June 23

The Construction Crew: July 6

Nibble on Nature: July 11

Hike and Go Seek: July 19

Water World: July 30

Tykes on the Go

For ages 4-6 on specified days, from 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM, \$3.00/participant.

From the Ground, Going Down: June 15

Snack Time!: June 24

The Salamaander Room: June 27

Soaking up the Sun: July 4

Recipe for a Forest: July 15

Leapin' Lizards: July 21

Welcome to the Sea of Sand (deserts): July 27

Canyon Explorers

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

Earth Pizza: June 14

Water World: June 21

Busy, Buzzy Bees: June 28

Whip Around the World (wind): July 5

Inside a Seed: July 12

Sassy Salamanders: July 19

Ahoy, Matey! (navigation skills): July 26

Art a la Naturale

For ages 7-12 on Wednesdays, from 3:30 – 5:00 PM, \$4.50 per participant.

Swirling Seas: June 15

Living Jewels: June 22

Sparkling, Shimmering, Starry Sky: June 29

Quick Sandcastles: July 6

Swirling Sea with Klee: July 13

She Sells Seashells: July 20

Good Earth Art: July 27

Afternoon Adventures

For ages 7-12 on Thursdays, from 3:30-5:00 PM,
\$4.50 per participant.

Summertime Fun!: June 16

Striking Snakes: June 23

Nature's Fireworks: June 30

Desert Discovery: July 7

Cool Cave Exploring: July 14

Fire!: July 21

Forest of the Sea: July 28

Roots & Shoots

Young adults ages 12 & up on Sundays,
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM. Free.

Bluebird Lane Trash Clean-Up/Trail

Maintenance: June 12

Heritage Trail Dry Brush Removal: June 19

Tranquility Trail Non-Native Plant Removal:
June 26

Stream Trail Trash Clean-Up/Trail

Maintenance: July 3

Heritage Trail Non-Native Plant Rem: July 10

Main road Dry Brush Removal/Trail

Maintenance: July 17

Streams & Quail Trail Trash Clean-Up/Trail

Maintenance: July 24

Hillside Dry Brush Removal/Trail Maint: July 31

Discover Nature Saturday Program

For families and individuals, Saturdays;
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Free.

Flowers of the Canyon: June 11

Mammals of the Canyon: June 18

Trackin' in the Canyon: June 25

Hawks of the Canyon: July 2

Edible Plants in the Canyon: July 9

Reptiles of the Canyon: July 16

Nature's Clues in the Canyon: July 23

Homes of the Canyon: July 30

Orange County Zoo

Orange County Zoo
1 Irvine Park Road
Orange, CA 92862
714-973-6846

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 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 at the zoo.

Under The Sea - Toddler Program

June 17; 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Ages: 3-4 years old

Find out all about the creatures of the sea and have fun making ocean themed crafts!

Scales, Feathers & Fur - Toddler Program

June 23; 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Ages: 3-4 years old

Learn what makes reptile, birds and mammals all different! Meet a zoo creature up close!

City of Irvine Open Space Programs

To register or for information, go to http://www.cityofirvine.org/depts/cs/openspace/event_calendar.asp or call 949-724-6738. Programs are FREE.

Nature Notes (Course #24867)

June 17; 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Join staff at Bommer Canyon to learn a variety of journaling techniques will be introduced including sketching, using stamps, rubbings, and recording scientific observations. For ages 9+. Cost is \$5/person.

Full Moon Hike (Course #24810)

June 24; 9:00 PM - 11:00 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 is 2 miles; ages 10+.

Signs of Life (Course #24830)

June 25; 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Come learn about the wild inhabitants of Bommer Canyon by observing the subtle signs they leave behind. Participants will begin with tracking exercises and an animal signs 'primer,' followed by a leisurely hike where participants put their new skills to the test. Hike distance is 2 miles. Recommended for ages 6+.

Bommer Canyon Eco-Explorers Summer Camp

Mondays - Fridays; 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Camps start July 18 and run to Aug. 26

Join the staff for outdoor adventure camps in Irvine's Southern Open Space Preserve. Campers will investigate local habitats, plants and animals, and learn ways to protect the environment. They will experience the wonders of nature through daily discovery walks and hands-on activities. Visit <http://www.IrvineQuickReg.org> for detailed course descriptions. For ages 5 - 8 and 9 - 12.

Upper Newport Bay Activities

All events below require reservations. Call 949-923-2269 for information or reservations.

Canoe Tours: Saturdays at 8:30 AM; \$10

Kayak Tours: Saturdays at 10:00 AM;

\$15 fee; also Sundays at 10:00 AM; \$20 fee.

Electric Boat Tours: Saturdays June 18, July

16, August 13 and 20; 11:30 AM. Evening

Marsh Prowls on June 18, July 16 and August

20. All leave at 7:30 PM. \$10

Nature Walks: June 18, July 2 & 16; August 6

& 20; 9:00 AM. Meet at Shellmaker Island.

Call 949-923-2269 for information. No

reservation required.

Marine Discovery: June 18, July 16 and

August 20; 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM. Meet at the

Back Bay Science Center on Shellmaker Island.

Participate in a beach seine, bottom trawl, or

plankton/water quality survey. Free. Call

949-640-9956 for reservations.

Steward Days every Wednesday: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM or 2:00 PM. Meet at the Exotic Hut on Shellmaker Island. For information 949-640-0286.

Restoration Teamwork Days: June 25, July 23 and August 27; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Help restore the native plants of the Bay. Call 949-640-0286.

Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center
2301 University Drive; Newport Beach
Call Candice McIntyre at 949-923-2295 for information and to register.

Toddler Time “Butterflies”: June 15; 9:00 AM – 9:45 AM (2-3 yrs.) or 10:30 AM – 11:15 AM (3-4 yrs.). \$5/child.

Back Bay Bat Walk: June 18; July 9, 13; August 17, 20; 7:00 – 9:00 PM. Join bat expert Stephanie Remington and learn about these beautiful creatures of the night. \$7/person, 8 yrs. and up. Call 949-923-2275 to register and find out location.

Our Feathered Friends Zoomobile: June 21; 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM (3-5 yrs.). \$10/child.

Toddler Time “Hungry Animals”: July 6; 10:30 AM – 11:15 AM (3-4 yrs.). \$5/child.

Campfire Program: “The Special Inhabitants of the Bay”: July 6; 7:30 – 8:30 PM. Join a Park ranger for a campfire talk about the endangered and other interesting species living in the Back Bay. Dress for the weather. \$4/person.

Plein Air Painting: Saturdays July 9 or August 6 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM; or Wednesdays July 13 or August 10 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM; or Sundays July 17 or August 21 from 1:00 – 4:00 PM. Enjoy a wonderful time painting the Back Bay. Jean Marie will present and demonstrate traditional Plein Air techniques. All materials are provided. Each class is \$15/child, 8–18 yrs. and \$20/adult.

Toddler Time “Sneaky Snakes”: July 15; 9:00 AM – 9:45 AM (2-3 yrs.) or 10:30 AM – 11:15 AM (3-4 yrs.). \$5/child.

Ladybugs and Beetles: July 14; 2:00-3:00 PM. \$10/child.

“The Animal Guys” Mammal Mania: July 23; 2:00 – 3:00 PM. \$10/child.

Laguna Coast Wilderness Park
20101 Laguna Canyon Road, Laguna Beach;
Reservations/Information: 949-923-2235;
<http://www.ocparks.com>

Orange County rangers and a groundskeeper staff the park daily. Parking lot hours: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

Willow Canyon on Laguna Canyon Road, just south of the El Toro Road intersection: Open to hikers, equestrians and mountain bikers on specified trails without guides; parking, \$3. Volunteers available for assistance.

Dilley Preserve on Laguna Canyon Road, just north of the 73 Tollroad: This area is closed for at least six months due to road construction.

Laguna Heights, the trailhead for West Ridge trail and other routes into Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park: Open daily all year, 7:00 AM to sunset.

Docent-led Tours by Laguna Greenbelt, Inc. Volunteers: 8:00 AM every second and fourth Saturday of the month. Call for reservations and meeting points. Weekday and special group tours are also available. **Become a Wilderness Access Volunteer:** Monthly training offered from 9:00 - 11:00 AM every third weekend, including June 18.

Aliso & Wood Canyons Wilderness Park
28373 Alicia Parkway, Laguna Niguel
949-923-2200; <http://www.ocparks.com>
Open daily all year, 7:00 AM - sunset, for hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. Parking is \$3. Orange County rangers and a groundskeeper staff the park daily. A free, 30-minute ranger-led Discovery Hike is offered every second and fourth Saturday at noon.

Orange County Natural History Museum
949-831-3287

Located at the entrance to Aliso & Wood Canyons Wilderness Park. Call before visiting to confirm museum is open.

The Irvine Ranch Land Reserve, Nature Conservancy
714-832-7478

<http://www.irvineranchlandreserve.com>
e-mail: irvineranch@tnc.org

Bike Ride: Join a guide on **June 25 at 7:30 AM** for a 7 – 12 mile mountain bike ride through Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and Shady Canyon.

Hikes: Meet for a 3-mile hike through Laurel Canyon on June 18 and 30 at 8:30 AM, or June 19 at 8:00 AM.

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

1500 N. College Avenue
Claremont, CA 91711
909-625-8767

<http://www.rsabg.org>

To register, contact Rachel Kau-Taylor at 909-625-8767, ext. 224 or e-mail at Rachel.Kau-Taylor@cgu.edu

Advanced Plant Identification for Field Biologists (Code: 052BOT102)

April 9; 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Cost: \$86 (non-member)

This class will arm the field biologist with the know-how to distinguish and define plant characteristics and use a taxonomic key to identify the plant family, genus, and species.

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Newbury Park

The Biological Diversity of the Santa Monica Mountains

July 12; 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM and July 13; 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Cost: \$35.00 materials fee. Optional: one unit of professional development credit - \$60.

Register: Call Lisa Okazaki at 805-370-2348 or e-mail lisa_okazaki@nps.gov

Explore the rare Mediterranean-type biome of the Santa Monica Mountains and the adjacent ocean during this two-day workshop. Learn about plant communities, plant adaptations, nocturnal animals and the Chumash and Tongva cultures. Also scheduled is a field trip to Malibu Lagoon where participants will study estuaries, beach ecology, bird and fish feeding habits and adaptations, water quality and cycles, sedimentation and plankton. Additional hands-on activities include creating a recycled art project and making a Chumash mussel shell rattle.

Cultural Resources of the Santa Monica Mountains and Southern California: Native American, Spanish, Mission, and Rancho History

July 19 – July 21; 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Cost: \$35.00 materials fee is required for all participants. Optional: two units of professional development credit - \$120.

Register: Call Mike Seacord at 805-370-2348 or e-mail michael_seacord@nps.gov

Learn about the people who once explored and lived in and around the Santa Monica Mountains. Participants will delve into the history of the Gabrielino/Tongva and Chumash native peoples and how they utilized the natural environment to survive. Also covered is an in-depth look at Spanish exploration and how the Native cultures changed with the arrival of the Spanish, the building and decline of the Missions and the Rancho period.

Audubon's Starr Ranch Sanctuary

100 Bell Canyon
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679
<http://www.starr-ranch.org>
Reservations: 949-858-0131
Information: 949-858-0309

Discovery Science Center

<http://www.discoverycube.org>

Ocean Institute

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

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.

Santa Ana Zoo

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

Sea and Sage Audubon Society

<http://seaandsageaudubon.org> ✪

