



National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

October 2008

www.EEWeek.org



Greetings!

Now that fall has arrived, it is a perfect time to get your students outdoors exploring the natural world. In celebration of EE Week 2009's *Be Water Wise!* theme, we are pleased to announce a new series of water-themed Nature Journaling Blogs, developed in partnership with the Roger Tory Peterson Institute. The blogs provide educators with ideas for incorporating nature journaling into the curriculum. They can be found by visiting www.eeweek.org/nature_journal.

And don't forget to register for National EE Week, which will be held from **April 12-18, 2009**. Register your school or organization online today at www.eeweek.org/register. Certificates will be provided to recognize registered partners and students, and partners will have an opportunity to request a free copy of *National Geographic Explorer* magazine during the registration process. **Register now to receive your certificate and receive a free copy of *National Geographic Explorer!*** If you have already registered, information on how to obtain your certificate and magazine will be sent to you by email.

Sincerely,

Jessica Stelzner Culverhouse

National Environmental Education Week Coordinator

Announcements

Gary Swick wins 2008 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award

In This Issue

[Announcements](#)

[EE Programs and Resources](#)

[Funding Resources](#)

[Professional Development](#)

Our Program

National Environmental Education (EE) Week, made possible by Canon USA, Inc., is the largest organized environmental education event in the United States. EE Week promotes understanding and protection of the natural world by creating a full week of environmentally-themed lessons and activities in K-12 classrooms, nature centers, zoos, museums, and aquariums.

Quick Links

[Register Now for 2009!](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Success Stories](#)

[More On Us](#)

Contact Us

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With over 32 years of experience teaching about the environment, Gary Swick of Dundee-Crown High School in Carpentersville, IL has been chosen as the 2008 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award winner by the National Environmental Education Foundation. This award is offered to an outstanding educator who has successfully

integrated environmental education into his or her daily education programs. A \$5,000 cash award is provided for the recipient to continue his or her work in environmental education. Nominations for the 2009 Bartlett Award will be accepted from November 3, 2008 - January 30, 2009. [Learn more](#)

Classroom Earth News



Classroom Earth is pleased to announce that the winners of the 2008 High School

Challenge Grants have been posted. The Challenge Grants are divided into three tiers - single course grants for individual teachers, multiple course grants for cross-curricular projects, and grants for professional development initiatives. These grants help teachers develop and incorporate environmental themes into existing courses. [Read more about the winners.](#)

The new Classroom Earth website will launch in November. The site will feature a myriad of resources and information focused on the integration of environment-themed lessons into high school classrooms of every discipline. This site will also allow members to post their own lesson plans, activities, and other resources to share with teachers around the globe. Please consider contributing materials to Classroom Earth. For more information, email classroomearth@neefusa.org. Classroom Earth is made possible by the Weather Channel.

EE Programs and Resources

EE Week Carbon Footprint Calculator Designed for Students

National Environmental Education Week offers a carbon calculator specifically designed for students. Built by Zerofootprint, the EE Week Carbon Calculator encourages students, classrooms, and entire schools to measure and manage their own carbon footprints while developing creative ways to curb their carbon output and slow climate change. [Access the EE Week Carbon Calculator](#)

Earth Gauge Kids Launched!

The new [Earth Gauge Kids](#) website is here! Designed for students in grades 5-8, the website focuses on a different weather-environment theme each month. Students can find an interactive quiz, activity ideas, fun facts, and links to "cool tools" and games on the web. October's theme is Earth Science. Stay tuned for November's theme: Migratory Birds.



If you would like to highlight Earth Gauge Kids on your website, the site offers code for a "widget" that will automatically update each month when a new theme is launched. Visit www.earthgauge.net/kids/more to view the code.

Celebrate Geography Awareness Week November 16-22, 2008

This fall, teachers are invited to bring the diverse cultures and environments of the Americas to their students with a free assortment of resources, maps, and hands-on activities available at National Geographic's [Geography Action!](#) website. Geography Awareness Week is just around the corner, and educators can start planning their own celebrations with themed toolkits and lesson plans for grades K-12, designed to educate and excite students about the natural, cultural, and historic treasures of North America. Check out [My Wonderful World](#) for more resources for educators, parents, kids, and teens.

Operation: Resilient Planet Game

Operation: Resilient Planet brings students along on real-life science expeditions with practicing researchers and explorers. They will need to use the right tools, find the right data, and be prepared to argue their case. Dive into world of Operation: Resilient Planet through amazing 3D graphics, stereo sound, and fun-to-use controls. The game is correlated to National Science Education standards for grades 5-8. [Learn more](#)

Climate Ambassadors

EPA's Office of Children's Health Protection and Environmental Education is launching a campaign to educate middle and high school students about climate change, its effects on children's health, and actions teens can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and become Climate Ambassadors in their communities. Encourage your students to join with other teens to green the energy scene and make a difference to the planet, children's health, and the future. [Learn more](#)

PBS presents the Curious George Curiosity Center

Use these Curiosity Center activities to host a hands-on Earth science event for the children and families in your community or program. Inspired by Curious George, students aged 4-8 will be eager to visit the hands-on Curiosity Centers, exploring and making their own discoveries about sand, water, soil, wind, and recycling. [Learn more](#)

For more resources, visit the [Curricula Library](#) and [General EE Resources](#) pages on our website!

Funding Resources

Take Education on the Road Field Trip Grants - Applications due by November 1, 2008

Target is helping teachers bring learning to life for students through its Target Field Trip Grants program. Educators across the country recognize the importance of taking their students on field trips and are in need of additional funding to enhance regular classroom studies. For 2008, Target will award 5,000 field trip grants across the country, which equates to 1 in every 25 K-12 schools receiving a grant. [Learn more](#)

Sea World/Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards - Applications due by November 28, 2008

Environmental Excellence Awards recognize the outstanding efforts of students and teachers across the country who are working at the grassroots level to protect and preserve the environment. Schools and community groups with significant accomplishments in their environmental projects are invited to apply for the awards. [Learn more](#)

Captain Planet Foundation Grants - Proposals due December 31, 2008

The Captain Planet Foundation accepts applications for funding projects that help students better grasp environmental issues. Projects must promote understanding of environmental issues, focus on hands-on activities, involve students ages 6 to 18, promote interaction and cooperation within a group, help young people develop planning and problem-solving skills, include adult supervision, and commit to follow-up communication with the Foundation. [Learn more](#)

Toyota Tapestry Grants for Science Teachers - Proposals due by January 21, 2009

Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. and the National Science Teachers Association are pleased to announce the 19th Toyota TAPESTRY Grants for Science Teachers program. This year, 50 large grants of up to \$10,000 each and 20-32 mini-grants of up to \$2,500 will be awarded to K-12 teachers of science in the United States. The categories are Physical Science Application, Environmental Science Education, and Integrating Literacy and Science. [Learn more](#)

Volvo Adventure

- Submissions due by January 31, 2009

In partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme, the Volvo Adventure is an educational program that rewards environmental activities and the decision-makers of the future. Teams of students aged 13-16 perform environmental projects in their local communities. Projects are submitted online, and the best entries are asked to join an international conference to present their ideas in Sweden and compete for the final prizes. There is also a companion program for 10-12 year olds. [Learn more](#)

National Education Association Student Achievement Grants

The NEA Foundation provides grants to improve the academic achievement of students in U.S. public schools and public higher education institutions in any subject area(s). The proposed work should engage students in critical thinking and problem solving that deepen their knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection. Applications may be submitted at any time, and educators of students from PreK through college are invited to

apply. [Learn more](#)

For more grants and awards, visit the [Funding Resources](#) page on our website!

Professional Development

ARMADA Project Research and Mentoring Experiences for Teachers - Apply by February 9, 2009

The University of Rhode Island's Office of Marine Programs is now accepting applications for the ARMADA Project Research. The ARMADA Project, funded by the National Science Foundation, provides K-12 teachers an opportunity to actively participate in ocean, polar, and environmental science research and peer mentoring. [Learn more](#)

MAEOE Conference - *Shades of Green: Exploring Diversity in Our Environment* - February 27-March 1, 2009

The 2009 Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education Annual Conference theme is *Shades of Green: Exploring Diversity in Our Environment*. The theme is meant to challenge presenters and participants to approach education from a multitude of angles. It is not enough to be simply cross-curricular, environmental education needs to cross boundaries. How can we integrate an environmental consciousness into every action? [Learn more](#)

EETAP Online Courses

The Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETAP) and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point offer four online courses for students and professionals in the field of environmental education. Offerings include *Making EE Relevant for Culturally Diverse Audiences*, *Leadership Development in Natural Resources*, *Fundamentals of EE*, and *Applied EE Program Evaluation*. [Learn more](#)

Earthwatch Fellowships for Teachers and Students

Get out of the classroom and head into the field to learn about cutting edge research and conservation efforts, develop professional skills, and make a difference for our shared environment. Bring the world back to your classroom and your students as you've never done before with an Earthwatch Expedition. Earthwatch awards 500+ fellowships annually to K-12 teachers and high school students. [Learn more](#)

NSTA Web Seminars

NSTA Web Seminars are 90-minute, live professional development experiences that use online learning technologies to allow participants to interact with nationally acclaimed experts, NSTA Press authors, and scientists, engineers, and education specialists from NSTA partner organizations. Upcoming fall seminars include *Beyond Penguins and Polar Bears: Physical Science from the Poles* and *Energy and the Polar Environment*, both designed for K-5 educators. [Learn more](#)

For more opportunities, visit the [Professional Development](#) page on our website!



At the [National Environmental Education Foundation](#), we provide objective environmental information to help Americans live better every day. At a time of conflicting and challenging messages about the state of our environment, we provide trusted knowledge, resources and opportunities to improve our lives and the health of the planet.

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