



National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

June 2009

www.EEWeek.org



Greetings!

EE Week and the school year may be behind us, but there are opportunities throughout the summer to engage students in environmental learning as well as take advantage of the time to reflect and deepen our own connection to nature and commitment environmental education. Read below for upcoming programs and opportunities for educators and students.

June is [Great Outdoors Month](#). We encourage you to take some time this month to experience the outdoors and inspire the young people in your life to do the same. Access EE Week's online [Nature Center Map](#) and [Nature Journaling Blog](#) for some ideas to get kids outdoors.

National Environmental Education Week is April 11-17, 2010. It's not too early to [register](#) your school or organization for EE Week 2010. Details about the program, theme, resources and events will be available in upcoming months.

Sincerely,

Jessica Culverhouse
National EE Week Coordinator

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Our Program

National Environmental Education (EE) Week 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.

2009 Bartlett Award Winner: Bertha Vazquez

NEEF is pleased to announce the winner of the 2009 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award. Bertha Vazquez of George Washington Carver Middle School in Coral Gables, Fla. has spent nearly two decades developing meaningful environmental curricula that include local bird studies, alternative energies, ecosystems, and endangered species. Vazquez emphasizes "real world EE" by taking her students beyond the classroom walls, participating in bird counts and presenting energy saving strategies to engineers at Miami International Airport. Her enthusiasm has inspired her colleagues to bring environmental learning into their various subject areas and to join a Green Committee that is working to improve environmental quality at their school. [Learn more](#)



Contact Us

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EE Week 2009 Signature Event: Be Water Wise Miami

Miami Mayor Receives Water Reports from Students

On May 21, students from 13 City of Miami schools presented reports on a month-long water measurement and conservation exercise to Mayor Manny Diaz at City Hall as part of [EE Week's Be Water Wise Miami](#) program. [Read the press release](#)

Education.com Feature: Nature Deficit Disorder

Education.com presents a comprehensive feature on [Nature Deficit Disorder](#), including numerous articles on green schools, connecting kids with nature, greening the K-12 curriculum and specific activities for teachers and parents.

National Public Lands Day: September 26, 2009

This September, Get Your Students Outdoors on National Public Lands Day

National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy. This year, an expected 130,000 volunteers and community partners will lend a hand to restore an estimated 2,000 public land sites across the nation - from the largest national parks like the Yosemite and the Grand Canyon to the smallest public school yards and community gardens.

NPLD provides an excellent opportunity for students and adults to learn about the natural environment and explore the wonders of nature. This year, volunteers are encouraged to explore the relationship between land and water and to protect our nation's watersheds. Check out NPLD's [environmental education library](#) on the topics of invasive plants, tree planting and water resources.

Follow up EE Week with an exciting outdoor fall activity. [Register](#) a volunteer event at your school or local park or [search](#) for an existing event. Learn more

by visiting www.publiclandsday.org.

EE Programs and Resources

Funky Nests in Funky Places - Entry deadline July 31, 2009

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology encourages people of all ages to celebrate spring by submitting photos, artwork or stories about Funky Nests in Funky Places. The first 50 entries will receive a copy of the "Doves and pigeons of North America" poster, and selected entries will be posted on the Celebrate Urban Birds Web site. [Learn more](#)

Year of Science Zine-A-Thon Contest - Entry deadline November 1, 2009

[The Year of Science](#) challenges students and adults to design a mini-magaZine on one of the twelve Year of Science themes. A template, examples, and tips are provided on the Web site. Zines are judged by a panel of scientists, artists and students who will award up to 36 prizes. [Learn more](#)

EE Week's Green Reading Lists

On rainy days this summer, take some time to catch up on your green reading. EEWeek.org features Green Reading Lists for educators and students. The [Green Reading for Students](#) list features grade-appropriate titles to inspire students of all ages to develop a relationship with the natural world. The titles provided on the [Green Reading for Educators](#) list will help you to think about new ways to bring environmental learning to your students.

U.S. EPA's Science Notebook

A scientist's notebook is a career staple. Home to ideas, questions, drawings and data, it's a treasure trove of information about the scientific process. [EPA's Science Notebook](#) offers a similar view into science at EPA, featuring stories, scientist interviews, videos, podcasts and more.

Nature Rocks

[Nature Rocks](#), a new program of the [Children & Nature Network](#) and [ecoAmerica](#), was developed in order to inspire and empower families to play and explore in nature. The Web site features tools and resources for parents and educators to get kids outdoors.

DiscoverTheForest.org

[DiscoverTheForest.org](#), a new web campaign presented by the Ad Council and the U.S. Forest Service, encourages young people to "get out and explore" in our nation's forests and parks. Tools for parents and educators are provided with suggestions for where to go, what to do and why.

For more classroom resources, be sure to visit the [General EE Resources page](#) and the [Curricula Library](#) on our Web site.

Funding Resources

SCA Tissue Environmental Education Grants - Entry deadline June 22, 2009

SCA Tissue Environmental Education Grants can be used to fund school programs and projects focusing on environmental education. Past projects have included school-wide recycling initiatives, conservation projects, outdoor classrooms, school gardens and more. Grants range from \$250 to \$2,500 and are limited to schools in regions where SCA has plants and offices. [Learn more](#)

Inspired by Bulbs Grants - Entry deadline July 3, 2009

[The Bulb Project](#) invites you to submit a description of a project that features a planting effort with children or youth at a school or other organization. Ten grants of \$250 worth of spring flowering bulbs will be awarded. [Learn more](#)

World Water Monitoring Day Awards Program - Entry deadline January 15, 2010

The World Water Monitoring Day (WWMD) Awards Program recognizes participants for outstanding achievement in boosting awareness of water quality issues. The program features two types of awards. Water Champion awards recognize superior levels of relevance, educational effort, support, and innovation in the promotion of water quality. The WWMD Superlatives are awarded based upon data submitted to the WWMD database. Winners will receive WWMD materials and testing supplies. [Learn more](#)

Nickelodeon's Big Green Grants

Nickelodeon's Big Green Grants Program provides resources to schools and community-based organizations to support environmentally friendly projects that educate and inspire kids to take care of the environment, be active, live healthily and engage in community service. Each Green Grant will provide up to \$5,000. Applications are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis throughout the year. [Learn more](#)

For more grants and awards, be sure to visit the [Funding Resources](#) page on our Web site.

Professional Development

Summer Institute for Climate Change Education - August 19, 2009

Presented by the [Will Steger Foundation](#), the 4th annual Summer Institute for Climate Change Education will highlight the critical need for international cooperation on climate change solutions and equip educators with the tools necessary to empower student learning and leadership on the topic. Held at the University of Minnesota, the institute will feature polar explorer Will Steger and writer and activist Bill McKibben. Participate onsite or online. [Learn more](#)

Seminars on Science

The American Museum of Natural History offers award-winning online courses in the life, earth and physical sciences. This online teacher professional development program connects teachers across the United States and around the world with cutting-edge research and provides them with powerful classroom resources. Upcoming summer courses include Earth: Inside and Out, The Ocean System, and Water. [Learn more](#)

For more professional development opportunities, be sure to visit the [Professional Development](#) page on our Web site.



The National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) provides knowledge to trusted professionals who, with their credibility, amplify messages to national audiences to solve everyday environmental problems. Together, we generate lasting positive change.

NEEF partners with professionals in health, education, media, business and public land management to promote daily actions for helping people protect and enjoy the environment. Through our primary programs - Classroom Earth, National Public Lands Day, National Environmental Education Week, Business and Environment, Earth Gauge^(r) and Health & Environment - we offer Americans knowledge to live by. To learn more, call (202) 833-2933 or visit <http://www.neefusa.org/>.

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