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Soil Conservation & Environmental News for Teachers and Students

Project WILD Releases Early Childhood Program Materials

Get on the ground running with Project WILD's newest Early Childhood program materials! This curriculum and its activities are geared for ages Pre-K thru 2nd. Watch for our winter teacher workshops – one day will be spent on Pre-K guide books. You will receive the Growing Up WILD book for attending. Hope to see you there!



Fishing Fun!

Children engage in a dramatic play fishing game and learn about fish.

Standards and Correlations

NAEYC Accreditation

Revisions

Materials and Prep

Procedure

Take Me Outside!

Quick Facts

Procedure

Take Me Outside!

This sample activity, *Fishing Fun!*, exemplifies one of *Growing Up WILD's* main goals, connecting young children with nature. Not only does the activity help students become aware of how fish use their bodies to swim through water, but it invites them to explore fish and their natural environments through games, song, math, reading and more.

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Growing Up WILD is an early childhood education program that builds on children's sense of wonder about nature and invites them to explore wildlife and the world around them. Through a wide range of activities and experiences, *Growing Up WILD* provides an early foundation for developing positive impressions about the natural world and lifelong social and academic skills. The activity guide, *Growing Up WILD: Exploring Nature with Young Children* is written especially for early childhood educators of children ages 3-7.

Features 27 field-tested, hands-on, nature based activities in a full-color 11"x17" activity guide.

Includes crafts, art projects, music, conservation activities, reading and math connections and much more.

Involves social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive domains to help foster learning and development in all areas.

Supports developmentally appropriate practice allowing children to learn at levels that are individually, socially, and culturally appropriate.

Is correlated to the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Standards and the Head Start Domains.

Educational Resources

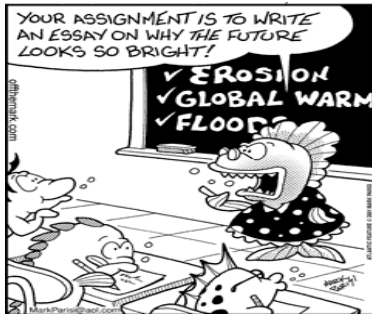
December 3rd – Grant writing workshop focused on grant writing skills and funding opportunities for environmental projects such as recycling and litter prevention, environmental education, renewable energy, and green building. For more information visit: www.eriecountyrecycles.org. Event is located at the Bowling Green State University – Firelands Campus Cedar Point Center, Huron, Ohio.

Project Learning Tree Celebrates 30 years

On Saturday, December 5th Project Learning Tree will celebrate its 30th year in Ohio at Ohio Audubon's newest nature center near downtown Columbus. Come enjoy the day with other educators and receive a copy of PLT's Early Childhood Education guide and Global Connections: Forests of the World module. Event runs from 9:30 - 3:30pm. Contact Sue Wintering, Ohio PLT Coordinator to register, sue-wintering@dnr.state.oh.us.

Environmental Education Teacher Workshop Series

Delaware and Franklin SWCDs are partnering with Highbanks Metro Park and other agencies to provide another workshop series. Participants will experience activities appropriate for various age levels that can be used to help meet current science standards. Formal classroom teachers and non-formal educators are welcome. See attached registration form. The workshops will be held at Highbanks Metro Park, on Route 23, just south of Powell Road.



High School Soils and Forestry Contests

Annually, the Delaware and Morrow SWCDs sponsor a soil and land judging and forestry contest for all FFA Chapters in their counties. This fall the Big Walnut FFA Chapter won the county forestry and soils contest. Thanks to all who participated! We had 250 students register for the soils contest and 90 students register for the forestry contest.

Envirothon Competition

This year's competition is going to be held at Paint Creek Lake in Ross County. Sponsored by the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Envirothon competition is an excellent way to provide high school students a time to apply what they have learned in science classes. During this outdoor contest high school students, in teams of five members, answer questions about forestry, wildlife, soils, aquatic ecology, and current environmental issues. The environmental theme for 2010 is "Protection of Groundwater Through Urban, Agricultural, and Environmental Planning". Our Area competition (17 counties in central and southern Ohio) will be held on Tuesday, April 27, 2010. For more information (power point presentation, brochure, background information, past tests, etc.) or to register a team contact Dona at 740-368-1921, extension 4 or dona-rhea@delawareswcd.org.

District programs and services are offered on a non-discriminatory basis.

Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District
557-A Sunbury Road
Delaware, Ohio 43015
Phone: (740)368-1921 ext. 4 Fax: (740)369-8321
www.delawareswcd.org





Fall 2009 Environmental Educator Workshops



A series of science based workshops are scheduled for educators of all types. Participants will experience activities appropriate for various age levels that can be used to help meet current science curriculum standards. Additional background information will be provided, as well as sharing resources available to teachers. Formal classroom teachers, non-formal educators, homeschooling parents and scout leaders are welcome to attend. These workshops will be held at Highbanks Metro Park, 3 miles north of I-270 on Route 23 and just below Powell Road.

**SCIENCE THROUGH STORIES: Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17, 2009.
8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. each day**

Many children’s stories have a good environmental message. Learn how to use literature as a basis for exploring and explaining different environmental topics. We will concentrate on books and activities pertaining to fall and winter on Friday and spring and summer on Saturday. Participants will receive a bibliography of environmental-related books. The activities will be correlated to Science and Language Arts Standards for grades K-5. \$15 fee for each day or \$20 for both days.



**LIVING WITH THE LAND: Saturday November 14, 2009
8:30 am– 4:00 pm**

Participate in activities that explore the land around us. Topics will include, soils, agriculture, plant growth, harvests, and stewardship of the land. Experience activities from many national curriculum resources in these topic areas. Grades 2-9 \$15 fee

PROJECT WILD AND AQUATIC WILD: Saturday, December 5, 2009 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

An interdisciplinary approach to habitats and wildlife on land and in the water for grades K-12. Receive an activity guide with information and hands-on lessons covering a variety of habitat and wildlife topics with the goal of helping young people gain knowledge, skills, and the commitment needed to make informed decisions about the wildlife around us. \$5 workshop fee. Materials provided free from the ODNR: Division of Wildlife.



These workshops are coordinated by the Delaware, Franklin and Union Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Delaware General Health District, Preservation Parks and Highbanks Metro Park. The workshops are co-sponsored by the Environmental Education Council of Ohio and made possible in part by a generous grant from the Ohio Environmental Education Fund.



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Additional Information



- Each session is a complete workshop including: introduction to the program, instructor led activities, participant driven learning and evaluation. All curricular materials are adaptable for many age groups.
- A continental breakfast and beverages will be provided; participants need to bring their own lunch.
- Participants may choose to attend any one or more of the workshops. You will receive documentation of the nature of the workshop and your contact hours of participation to add to your individual development plan for approval by your local professional development committee. Completion of any 2 sessions and the accompanying assignment qualifies you for 1 graduate semester hour of credit through Ashland University. The fee is \$182 per credit hour.
- **Mark your calendar for the winter/spring workshops –
Flying WILD on January 30, 2010,
WILD Schoolsites on February 6, 2010 and
Wonders of Wetlands March 6, 2010 (location TBA)**

For more information contact:

Elizabeth Fields at Highbanks Metro Park, (614) 846-9962 or fields@metroparks.net
 Linda at the Franklin SWCD, (614) 486-9613, ext. 115 or Linda-pettit@franklinswcd.org
 Or Dona Rhea at the Delaware SWCD, (740) 368-1921 or dona-rhea@delawareswcd.org

Workshop Registration:

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

School or Organization _____ Grade Level: _____

Workshop Attending

Science Stories (Friday)	Science Stories (Saturday)	Science Stories (Both days)	Living with Land	WILD/Aquatic
\$15	\$15	\$20	\$15	\$5

Total Workshop fees: _____

Circle appropriate workshops, total the fees and send this registration form with a check payable to: **Franklin SWCD attn: Linda Pettit, 1328 Dublin Road, Suite 101, Columbus OH 43215**
 At least one week prior to the first workshop you plan to attend.