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1. From the Ohio Resource Center: Earth Day '07

This eclectic set of resources from ORC includes lessons and content resources on topics related to Earth Day (April 21). The resources deal with everything from endangered species to acid rain. Within this mini-collection you will find resources for elementary, middle, and high school. Have a great Earth Day!

http://www.ohiorc.org/bookmark/view_a_folder.aspx?mid=184748508&folderID=7868

2. K-12: Ohio Earth Day events and opportunities

<http://www.nature.org/wherework/northamerica/states/ohio/events/>

The Nature Conservancy believes that Ohio's natural resources deserve adequate protection, and invites you to participate in myriad events across Ohio to preserve and protect our natural heritage. Visit the web site for specific events in your area!!

3. K-12: Bring "Space Day" To Your Classroom

<http://www.spaceday.org>

Space Day, which will be held this year on May 4, 2007, is an annual event (sponsored by Lockheed Martin) that uses space-related activities to build skills and inspire students in math, science, engineering, and technology.

Visit Space Day for:

* Space Day Lessons Unit—Download easy-to-use lessons that connect to National Science Education Standards (grades 5–8). All lessons provide hands-on experiences for students, use readily available materials, and include reproducible student worksheets.

* Building Out a Space Day Event—Information and ideas on planning a Space Day event in your classroom or school.

New downloadable lessons are now available at the Space Day website.

Discovery Science Channel's "SPACE WEEK"

Discovery's Science Channel will celebrate “Space Week” from May 6–12 by showing space-related documentaries each evening. The centerpiece of the week is the premiere of STARSHIP ORION, which will air at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8, and again at 10 p.m. on Saturday, May 12. Orion is the space vehicle that will replace the space shuttle and take humans back to the moon and beyond. Visit the Space Day website for program details or check your local listings.

4. K-12: Second Annual Endangered Species Day-May 18

<http://www.stopextinction.org/endangeredspeciesday>

Help your students learn about fish, plants and wildlife that may be on the brink of extinction

In 2006, the U.S. Senate unanimously approved the designation of the first annual Endangered Species Day. This year May 18, 2007 has been designated as "Endangered Species Day," and is designed to encourage students to learn about the threats facing endangered species and efforts to restore populations both here in the United States and around the world. "Endangered Species Day" offers our youth an occasion to discover more about endangered species through such activities as attending workshops, library lectures, field trips, and having species actually come into classrooms.

Last year, thousands of people throughout the country participated in various activities and events which were held across the country to highlight endangered species success stories, including a birds of prey demonstration in Montana and visit by black-footed ferrets to a classroom just outside Denver. Find out what is planned in your area by visiting the website above, and consider holding an event at your school too.

5. K-12: The Ohio Department of Natural Resources workshop schedule

http://www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife/workshops/projectWILD_workshops.htm

Jen Dennison, the Wildlife Education Coordinator at the ODNR-Division of Wildlife sent along this friendly reminder that there are numerous and always popular workshops in the coming months for Project WILD, WILD School Sites, Science and Civics and Advanced Project WILD. Please check out the link above to the workshops' page for more information and to register.

6. K-12: So, how are we doing in Science education in Ohio?

<http://www.ohiomsc.org/omsc/New.html>

Is Ohio's education system falling short of the national average in areas related to STEM Competitiveness?

According to Education Week, the answer is "Yes" with respect to integrating technology into teaching, learning and school operations.

Read this story along with several other new items at the OMSC Web site:

7. K-12: George Lucas has a great magazine and it is free!

<http://edutopia.org/php/sub.php>

The George Lucas Educational Foundation (GLEF) was founded in 1991 as a nonprofit operating foundation to celebrate and encourage innovation in schools. Since that time, we have been documenting, disseminating, and advocating for exemplary programs in K-12 public schools to help these practices spread nationwide.

They publish the stories of innovative teaching and learning through a variety of media -- a magazine, an e-newsletter, CD-ROMs, DVDs, books, and a great Web site where you'll find detailed articles, in-depth case studies, research summaries, instructional modules, short documentary segments, expert interviews, and links to hundreds of relevant resources. You'll also be able to participate as a member of an online community of people actively working to reinvent schools for the twenty-first century.

Subscribe to the print or electronic version to stay current and to be well informed.

8. K-12: WeEXCEL Center of Excellence Summer Institutes

http://www.wright.edu/cosm/weexcel_prof_dev

Have you got summer plans already? If not, you should consider these three Improving Teacher Quality institutes! They will be offered by the WeEXCEL Center of Excellence in Dayton, and are described below. To receive more information, such as expectation, locations and applications visit the website or contact Abbey Brown at 937 775-4097 .

Integrated science, mathematics, and pedagogical issues utilizing technology:

One week of the institute will cover body systems and nutritional needs and another week will cover body systems, tissues and cells. Course activities will consist of integrated life science and math inquiry investigations utilizing technology, pedagogical discussions, and participant unit development and facilitation. Since a mathematics program is being offered simultaneously for mathematics teachers, you will have opportunities to coordinate with mathematics teachers in your district. For full participation in the summer institute, you will receive a \$390 stipend and at least \$250 of classroom equipment.

Mathematics in context utilizing technology and integrated with teaching pedagogy:

One week of the institute will cover geometry using Geometer's Sketchpad within a variety of real-life situations. Another week will utilize CBL's and data gathering probes (such as motion detectors, light sensors, thermometers, etc) in a variety of contexts, including science contexts. Course activities will consist of math problem-solving investigations utilizing technology, pedagogical discussions, and participant unit development and facilitation. Since physical and life science institutes are being offered simultaneously, you will have opportunities to coordinate

with other participating teachers in your district. For full participation in the summer institute, you will receive a \$390 stipend and at least \$250 of classroom equipment.

Teaching physical science and earth/space sciences in grades 6-11.

The institute will address topics such as earth, moon, sun system, energy kinds, energy conversions, and conservation of energy, integration with mathematics, utilization of technology (including graphing calculators and probes, pedagogical issues, and participant unit development and facilitation. Since programs in mathematics and biology are being offered simultaneously, you will have opportunities to coordinate with science teachers in your district. For participation in the summer institute, you will receive a \$390 stipend and at least \$250 of classroom equipment.

9. Gr 4-5: Make this the year you enroll in the Summer Polymer Academy

<http://www.agpa.uakron.edu/k12/summer2007/>

The University of Akron's Global Polymer Academy is offering a 3-semester hour polymer science course free of charge to 4th and 5th grade teachers. The program is aligned with Ohio's grades 4-5 science content standards for physical science, scientific inquiry, science and technology, and scientific ways of knowing.

No prior experience in physical sciences required. Come and learn how chemistry and physical sciences can come alive in the elementary classroom, earn a stipend, and qualify for free graduate credit!

10. Gr 4-9: T³™ Summer Institutes

http://education.ti.com/educationportal/sites/US/nonProductSingle/pd_summer_course_list.html

Get professional development you need, when it's convenient for you – during the summer. Attend an institute to receive insight from educators who are successfully using Texas Instrument technology in their classroom. There is a 4-day workshop in Pepper Pike, Ohio (a suburb east of Cleveland) called “Exploring with TI-Navigator and the TI-84 Plus”, from June 18-21.

FREE! T³Online Courses that revolve around your schedule

See how easy it is to incorporate TI technology into your lessons. Learn about teaching with the TI-Navigator™ classroom learning system and graphing calculators. Get online and go through these courses at your own pace.

T³ Regionals: Intensely interactive and information packed

These one-day and two-day events offer you the opportunity to network with experienced educators from around the world. You'll also receive hands-on experience with TI technology and take away great classroom activities and ideas. Register today.

11. Gr 9-12: NASA's Phoenix Student Interns Program

http://phoenix.lpl.arizona.edu/edu_pship.php

The Phoenix Student Interns Program is a unique opportunity for high school teachers and students to become part of the Phoenix Science Team for the 2007-2008 Phoenix Mars Lander Mission. From around the country, selected teachers and their chosen students will work with scientists to prepare for surface operations on Mars, analyze data during the mission, and reach out to other students, teachers, and the public through presentations, articles and Web sites. Following preparation and special training, teachers and students will spend one week at the Science Operations Center in Tucson, Ariz., during landed operations to help investigate the surface of Mars.

Applications are due Apr. 25, 2007.

Also see NASA Education at <http://www.nasa.gov/education> for more education links and opportunities.

12. Gr 9-12: A request for collaboration from your High School colleagues in Massilon:

This request comes from Richard Dinko at Jackson High School in Massilon:

Does anyone have information about using a block approach to collaboratively teaching 9th grade science & math as one block and 10th grade science and math as a second block over 3 periods (50 min each) for students who struggle academically and/or behaviorally?

We are looking at extending time and sharing around 40 at risk students between a math and science teacher over 3 periods or 150 min total (not necessarily co-teach as much as flip sections and have opportunity to put all 40 students together at times). We are looking for resources, schools to contact, sample conduct expectations, parent involvement, intervention pyramids, etc.

We are looking for information on developing a blocked science/math class for incoming freshmen most at-risk. It might consist of two sections of 20 students each rotated over 3 periods (50 min each) by two teachers (perhaps a 4x4 block scheme).

Do any of you know of class structures like this and would be willing to share ideas?

Are any of you working on something similar?

Do you know of any districts with such a class set-up that I could contact?

Any there any resources/training/workshops you recommend?

Do you have some ideas for parental involvement or discipline expectations?

Do you have any curriculum ideas for math/science integration at 9th & 10 grade level?

Your timely reply is critical- we are trying to set this up for next school year.

Thanks for your help.

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13. Gr 9-12: Ohio Wesleyan announces a Research Experience opportunity!

<http://reu.owu.edu>

Ohio Wesleyan University is happy to announce an NSF-funded Research Experience for Teachers for the summer of 2007. They are looking for a couple of high school physics, astronomy, math, and/or computer science teachers who would be interested in working with a faculty member here at OWU on a 6-10 week research project.

Any questions can be addressed to Brad Trees (Department of Physics and Astronomy, Ohio Wesleyan, Delaware, Ohio) at brtrees@owu.edu or at 740-368-3776.