

**Volume 6, No. 2**

**January 23, 2008 - Building a Presence for Science: Ohio eBlast**

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**1. From the Ohio Resource Center: Organize your ORC Favorites**

Use the “My ORC Collection” Tool to Add, Organize, and Share Your ORC Favorites

Did you know you can organize your favorite ORC resources into folders that can be accessed anytime, anywhere and shared with others? Check out the directions for using the tool at [http://www.ohiorc.org/orc\\_documents/ORC/about/document\\_library/orc\\_bookmarking.pdf](http://www.ohiorc.org/orc_documents/ORC/about/document_library/orc_bookmarking.pdf)

This is the same tool ORC staff use to create these mini-collections:

- \*the Ohio Achievement Tests: Science, Grades 5 and 8  
<http://www.ohiorc.org/for/science/oat.aspx>
- \*the Science Instructional Strategies: A Look at the OGT  
<http://www.ohiorc.org/for/science/ogt/default.aspx>
- \*BaP eBlasts

Here are sample folders from each of the above:

Grade 5 Life Sciences Benchmark B: Plant and Animal Structures and Functions

[http://www.ohiorc.org/bookmark/view\\_a\\_folder.aspx?folderID=6653](http://www.ohiorc.org/bookmark/view_a_folder.aspx?folderID=6653)

Life Sciences Benchmark F: Biotic Relationships

[http://www.ohiorc.org/bookmark/view\\_a\\_folder.aspx?folderID=12069](http://www.ohiorc.org/bookmark/view_a_folder.aspx?folderID=12069)

Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow

[http://www.ohiorc.org/bookmark/view\\_a\\_folder.aspx?mid=23278644&folderID=3162](http://www.ohiorc.org/bookmark/view_a_folder.aspx?mid=23278644&folderID=3162)

## **2. PK-24: Here is your chance to be heard: Proposed changes in Ohio licensure**

<http://www.schoolreadiness.ohio.gov>

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is in the process of reconfiguration of the licensure grade bands and seeks feedback from key stakeholders, including early childhood. Between Tuesday, \*January 15, 2008,\* and Monday, \*February 4, 2008\*, stakeholders are invited to participate in an online survey which provides an opportunity to provide feedback about two licensure grade bands which support the work of the School Readiness Solutions Group for early childhood and primary educators. Details and the survey can be accessed at the School Readiness Web site listed above.

## **3. K-12: NSTA Seeks Feedback on New Aerospace Education Position Statement:**

<http://www3.nsta.org/main/forum/showthread.php?t=2640> [click on Post Reply]

(Note: You must register to use the NSTA Discussion Board before posting comments.)

A team of science educators, leaders from aerospace science organizations, and representatives from the NSTA Aerospace Programs Advisory Board, have worked over recent months to develop a position statement on aerospace education. According to the statement, aerospace education “is an important component of comprehensive preK–12 science education programs,” and provides “compelling, powerful, and inherent opportunities to strengthen and support the teaching and learning of science, mathematics, and technology for students.”

As always, members are encouraged to read the statement and submit comments to the panel before it is submitted to the NSTA Board for adoption. Please take a minute and tell us what you think of this new statement. Comments must be received by Monday, February 4.

## **4. K-12: Join us for the 2008 SATELLITES Geospatial Technology Conference**

February 9, 2008 at the SECO (Science Education Council of Ohio) conference in Akron.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about geospatial technologies and see student inquiry-based research projects. The conference will go from 9 am to 1 pm.

The purpose of the conference is to have elementary, middle and high school students present inquiry-based research projects based on GLOBE observations, geospatial technology and the International Polar Year in a poster format.

The Conference Program includes:

- Keynote presentation by David Herring, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
- Student presentations of their Inquiry-based Research Poster Projects (Themes: International Polar Year and Surface Temperature)
- Information about geospatial technologies and geospatial careers
- Awards for the Top three poster projects by age group.
- Information about the 2008 SATELLITES summer institutes

Check out the SECO program for more information. You don't want to miss the SATELLITES Conference. Information sent in by Kevin Czajkowski, Associate Professor, University of Toledo

## 5. K-12: LiteracyStudies@OSU presents: Achieving Scientific Literacy (Central Ohio)

Thursday, January 31, 2008 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.  
 Institute for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities  
 George Wells Knight House 104 East 15th Avenue

In 1980, 80% of Ohioans believed that the sun rotates around the earth. Twenty years later, 76% of Ohioans still believed in the Ptolemaic view of the heavens despite intense focus on science in public schools. A recent A.C.Nielsen poll revealed that 13% of North Americans had not heard of global warming. In addition, more than 50% of Americans believe the idea that they are direct descendants of Adam and Eve who lived in the Garden of Eden about 6,000 years ago best describes human origins.

This panel will explore what it means to be scientifically literate. Is scientific literacy simply a matter of being conversant with the scientific method? Is it based on knowledge of scientific content? Does the idea of scientific literacy vary with disciplines, and how does scientific literacy align with other forms of literacy? If having a scientifically literate citizenry is important to democracy, how can do a more effective job of teaching science at all levels?

\*Caroline Breitenberger , Associate Professor of Biochemistry; Director, Center for Life Sciences Education

\*David Tomasko , Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering; Director, Honors Collegium

\*Linn Van Woerkom, Associate Professor of Physics  
 Moderator : Susan Fisher, Professor of Entomology

Space is Limited : RSVP to [literacystudies@osu.edu](mailto:literacystudies@osu.edu)

LiteracyStudies@OSU is supported by the College of Humanities, Department of English, Institute for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities, and the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences at The Ohio State University.

## 6. K-12: The Great Lakes ROCK!

<http://coexploration.org/coseegreatlakes/> or <http://www.coseegreatlakes.net/>

COSEE Great Lakes presents a free on-line workshop from January 27-February 8, focusing on the geology of the lake basin and its relevance to the lakes themselves and the life of the region. Six presentations by experts will be offered over the workshop period, and the scientists will be available to answer questions related to their topics. Converse with the scientists and educators, collect and contribute teaching resources, share experiences, and expand your understanding of Great Lakes geoscience. Graduate credit is available.

This asynchronous program with video streamed presentations is produced through the College of Exploration and sponsored by NSF and NOAA. Register any time for free at the URL above.

While you're waiting for the new workshop, your registration will allow you to look in on last year's archives to explore "What's so great about the Great Lakes?"

### **7. K-12: Project WILD Workshop: FREE to formal and non-formal Educators!**

February 23, 2008  
Saturday 9 am-3 pm  
Fort Island Primary  
Fairlawn, Oh

#### **A Day On The Wild Side**

Project Wild is a tested, innovative, K-12 curriculum teaching ecology and wildlife principles that are correlated to the Ohio Academic Standards. The ODNR Division of Wildlife is providing the curriculum and activity guides FREE to our participants! The award - winning guides have over 120 dynamic activities.

#### **Experience Being The Animal**

Join us as we learn and play (simulations) our way to a better understanding of topics that include: interdependence, food chains and webs, wildlife populations, ecosystems and water. And go away with fun, easy, effective and inexpensive activities to add to your instructional repertoire.

Bring a Sack Lunch

Presenters:

Gene Easter, City of Cuyahoga Falls Departments of Water, Energy, and Recycling  
Linda Easter, Brushfire Educational Consultants  
Sandy Barbic, Education Specialist, Summit Soil & Water Conservation District

Supported by ODNR, Summit Soil & Water Conservation District, the City of Cuyahoga Falls, and Copley-Fairlawn Schools

Spaces are limited: contact Jamey Graham at 330-245-3020 or [jamey.graham@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:jamey.graham@dnr.state.oh.us) to register

### **8. K-12: Become an Ohio Project WILD and Aquatic Project WILD facilitator**

<http://www.wildohio.com>

Registration for the 28th Annual Ohio Project WILD and Aquatic Project WILD Facilitator Training is now open! You can find registration information online at the above link. Click on the link to the registration packet, print it off and return to my attention by February 8th!

Don't delay as space is limited to 40 participants. The training will be March 7-8, 2008 at Salt Fork State Park Resort and Conference Center. Cost of the training is \$65, which includes your meals, lodging, and all your materials.

If you need to have a registration packet mailed to you, please contact Jen directly.

> > Jen Dennison  
 > > Wildlife Education Coordinator  
 > > ODNR-Division of Wildlife  
 > > 2045 Morse Rd. Bldg G.  
 > > Columbus, OH 43229  
 > > 614-265-6316 phone  
 > > 614-827-5828 cell  
 > > 614-262-1171 fax  
 > > [jen.dennison@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:jen.dennison@dnr.state.oh.us)

**9. K-12: Here is a fundraising possibility you may wish to consider:**

<http://www.green-recycling-fundraiser.org>

Looking for a great way to raise thousands of dollars for your school, church or club? The EcoPhones Recycling Fundraiser pays up to \$300 per item. There's nothing to buy and nothing to sell. Simply ask parents, neighbors, co-workers and local businesses to donate and recycle their used consumer electronics:

- \* Cell Phones
- \* Ink Jet Printer Cartridges
- \* DVD Movies & Videogames
- \* Portable DVD Players
- \* Laptop Computers
- \* MP3 Players
- \* X-Boxes, Sony Playstations, Wii
- \* Digital Cameras & Digital Video Cameras (DVRs)
- \* Digital Picture Frames
- \* Portable Navigation & GPS Devices (Garmin, Magellan, Tom-Tom)

Earn cash for every item guaranteed! We even pay for damaged, non-working and non-listed models.

According to the Consumer Electronics Association the average U.S. household owns 25 consumer electronics devices. With more than 2 billion DVDs, 30 million digital cameras and 41 million MP3 players sold each year in the U.S. plus the more than 150 million used cell phones stockpiled in U.S. households the EcoPhones Recycling Fundraiser is much easier and more profitable than you may think. In addition, EcoPhones provides free customizable marketing materials and free shipping from anywhere in the U.S. including Alaska. Join the more than 22,000 schools, clubs, and churches just like yours that have raised much-needed funds for their organizations.

For more information, you may register online at <http://www.green-recycling-fundraiser.org> or call (888) Eco-Phones / (888) 326-7466. They'll send you a free Welcome Kit packet with color posters, price lists, pre-paid shipping labels, and everything else you'll need to get started.

## **10. Gr K-4: Facing the Future Releases K-4 Curriculum on Global Sustainability**

<http://www.facingthefuture.org/Home/CurriculumDetails/tabid/131/Default.aspx?ItemID=TGSPG>

Facing the Future\* is pleased to announce the release of Teaching Global Sustainability in the Primary Grades: A K-4 Curriculum Guide, a standards-aligned resource that addresses core concepts related to sustainability while encouraging critical thinking and a systems perspective among young students. The curriculum guide includes four lessons that explore topics including identity and culture, food, biodiversity, and systems. This curriculum features hands-on activities, teacher background reading, vocabulary, service learning projects, and assessment rubrics.

"I am delighted by these lessons. I found:

- \* Complete lessons (from A to Z, from "An Overview" to "Reproducible Handouts")
- \* Creative, imaginative learning activities that 'get' primary-grade children
- \* Key issues/concepts are identified along with inquiry questions for each lesson
- \* Challenging content . I don't know that I've seen a better introduction to problem solving for primary children"

~ Dr. Walter Parker, Professor of Education, University of Washington

All lessons included in this book have been reviewed and field tested by content experts, teachers, and students. To learn more about this brand new curriculum and to download a lesson for FREE, click on the link above. For questions or comments, contact Kim Rakow Bernier at [kim@facingthefuture.org](mailto:kim@facingthefuture.org) or (206) 264-1503.

## **11. Gr 4-9: Operation Physics: Learn What It Takes To Really Teach Physical Science**

Operation Physics is a highly motivational, teacher-friendly, proven-to-be-effective graduate course for teachers grades 4-9. This tuition-free five (5) credit hour, graded Kent State course combines basic physical science concepts with hands-on materials and activities. \$800 in materials free.

From The Lab To The Classroom

The course includes instruction in Physical Science concepts appropriate for middle school and constructivist teaching strategies that will lead to student (and teacher) involvement and understanding. Activities are designed to help teachers learn basic concepts, and most of the activities can be used or adapted for use in the middle school classroom.

Location: This year's course will be hosted at a high school within the Akron City School District, TBA.

Dates: August 4 – 8, 2008 and multiple days through the 208-09 school year.

Operation Physics is supported with federal funds distributed by the Ohio Board of Regents under its new Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program and by the interest and

supplementary funds and services of local school administrators and Kent State regional campus deans.

For more information, contact Dr. Lisa Donnelly, Kent State University, 330/672-0614 or [ldonnell@kent.edu](mailto:ldonnell@kent.edu)

### **12. Gr 6-8: 24<sup>th</sup> Women in Science Day to be held at OSU on March 14, 2008**

The Association for Women in Science of Central Ohio cordially invites teachers to bring girls in gifted and talented programs in grades 6th-8th to the 24<sup>th</sup> Women in Science Day program at the Ohio State University. The program features hands on workshops, tours, and demonstrations led by faculty in science, mathematics, engineering, and medicine. At noon, former astronaut Dr. Kathryn Sullivan now at OSU will deliver the keynote speech.

Registration is open to school groups only. The limit is 18 students plus 2 adults per school. Fees, including lunch, are \$15 per person if received by February 29. We regret we can not accept purchase orders. The Women in Science Day Program details are posted at <http://awisco.osu.edu>. Online registration will open on February 1.

The Women in Science Short Essay and Picture Contest for 2008 honors the life and work of Rachel Carson. This year's winners will receive their awards at the program. The contest is open to students in grades 6-8. Information about the rules and guidelines for the contest is also posted at <http://awisco.osu.edu>.

For more information contact Dr. Raquel Diaz-Sprague, Director, Women in Science Day, 614-268-1488 [diaz-sprague.1@osu.edu](mailto:diaz-sprague.1@osu.edu) or [womeninscienceday@gmail.com](mailto:womeninscienceday@gmail.com).

### **13. Gr 8-12: A Gem gleaned from the NSTA Earth and Space listserv** <http://www.stellarium.org/>

Stellarium is a robust, \*free\* planetarium software, recommended by Lee Trampleasure Amosslee, of the Carondelet High School in Concord, CA.

Here is what Lee wrote about the program:

"It's open source software that really rocks (or, should I say, stars). The program installs like any other program, and comes in Windows, Mac, and Linux varieties.

One of the neat things about it is you can take photos of your school (or other local landmark) and set it as the landscape onto which the night sky is projected. This takes a bit of work, including creating a panorama and making the sky portion "transparent," but if you do it the kids really like seeing "their" sky. It also is fairly easy to add new comets when they are discovered (see <http://trampleasure.net/lee/index.php/35>).

### **14. Gr 9-12: 2008 AAAS Leadership in Science Education Prize**

[http://www.aaas.org/aboutaaas/awards/hs\\_scied\\_leadership/hs\\_scied\\_leadership.shtml](http://www.aaas.org/aboutaaas/awards/hs_scied_leadership/hs_scied_leadership.shtml)

Call for Nominations: Help spread the word about an outstanding science teacher in your school or district. AAAS is now accepting nominations for the 2008 AAAS Leadership in Science Education Prize for High School Teachers. This \$1,000 prize honors a high school science teacher who has contributed to the AAAS goal of advancing science education by developing an innovative and effective strategy, activity, or program.

Entries must be able to demonstrate the results of an inventive teaching strategy designed to encourage a diverse range of students to become motivated, successful learners of the ideas and skills that are critical to science literacy.

#### Qualifications for Prize Candidates:

The teacher must be currently employed as a science instructor in a public or private school for grades 9-12 in the United States or its territories. Science teachers must be nominated by an administrator within their school (e.g., a principal), their district (e.g., the science curriculum specialist), or their state (e.g., the state science supervisor) who is in a position to know the nominee's work and to assess the extent of its impact on others.

Self-nominations are not permitted. Deadline: 2 March 2008.

Get more information and download the nomination and application forms.

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### **Upcoming Events/Opportunities/Deadlines**

January 27 – February 8, 2008: Online course: The Great Lakes ROCK!  
<http://coexploration.org/coseegreatlakes/> or <http://www.coseegreatlakes.net/>

January 29, 2008: Deadline for The Earth Expeditions summer program  
<http://www.EarthExpeditions.org>

January 31, 2008 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.: Achieving Scientific Literacy (Central Ohio)  
 Presentation at the Ohio State University, Columbus

January 31, 2008: Deadline to apply to become a NASA Explorer School.  
<http://explorerschools.nasa.gov/portal/site/nes/menuitem.d601ef1f9fdc2c2d7010ea1051008a0c/>

January 31, 2008: Deadline for the Amgen Award for Science Teaching Excellence  
<http://www.amgen.com/citizenship/aaste.html>

February 4, 2008: Deadline to apply for the ARMADA Project- Research and Mentoring Experiences for Teachers: <http://www.armadaproject.org>

February 4, 2008: Deadline to comment on NSTA Aerospace Education Position Statement:  
<http://www3.nsta.org/main/forum/showthread.php?t=2640>

February 4, 2008: Deadline to comment on Proposed changes in Ohio licensure

<http://www.schoolreadiness.ohio.gov>

February 7-9, 2008: SECO Annual Conference in Akron, Ohio

<http://www.secoonline.org/conference>

February 8, 2008: Early bird deadline to register for the NSTA National conference in Boston

<http://www.nsta.org/boston>

February 8, 2008: Deadline to apply for the March 7- 8 Project WILD facilitator training

<http://www.wildohio.com>

February 12, 2008: Darwin Day Celebration

<http://www.darwinday.org>

February 23, 2008, 9-3: Project WILD Workshop: FREE to formal and non-formal Educators!  
Fort Island Primary, Fairlawn, Oh

March 2, 2008: Deadline to complete nomination for the 2008 AAAS Leadership in Science Education Prize

[http://www.aaas.org/aboutaaas/awards/hs\\_scied\\_leadership/hs\\_scied\\_leadership.shtml](http://www.aaas.org/aboutaaas/awards/hs_scied_leadership/hs_scied_leadership.shtml)

March 7-8, 2008: Ohio Project WILD and Aquatic Project WILD facilitator training

<http://www.wildohio.com>

March 12, 2008: The 2008 Wildlife Diversity Conference: Back in Black

<http://www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife>

March 14, 2008: 24<sup>th</sup> Women in Science Day, at the Ohio State University, Columbus

[diaz-sprague.1@osu.edu](mailto:diaz-sprague.1@osu.edu)

March 14, 2008: Deadline for entries to the new Earth Heroes contest

<http://www.earth-heroes.org>

March 14, 2008: Deadline to apply for the Florida State summer research programs

<http://www.ret.magnet.fsu.edu/education/ret/> (Magnet Lab)

<http://bio.fsu.edu/osta/RET> (Coastal Marine Lab)

March 15, 2008: Ohio Amphibian Research and Conservation Conference

<http://www.ohioamphibians.com/meeting/>

March 17, 2008: Deadline for the 3rd Annual DNA Day Essay Contest

[http://genednet.org/pages/k12\\_dnaday08.shtml](http://genednet.org/pages/k12_dnaday08.shtml)

March 26, 2008: NSELA Professional Development Institute in Boston, MA

<http://www.nsela.org>

March 27-30, 2008: NSTA National Conference in Boston, MA

<http://www.nsta.org/conferences/>

April 4, 2008: Deadline for entries for the 2008 Thacher Scholars Award

<http://www.strategies.org/ThacherScholars>

April 24 - 27, 2008: EECO Conference at Mohican State Park

<http://www.eeco-online.org>

July 1, 2008: Applications for the next group of Astronauts are due

<http://www.nasa.gov/astronauts/recruit.html>

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Follow the directions in the lower right hand corner of the page to become a Point of Contact.

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