

WONDERS of Education

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Spring 2011

SPECIAL DAYS OF SPRING...

2011 is the INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS

<http://www.un.org/forests>

and part of the

International 'Water for Life' Decade (2005-2015)

<http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/>

APRIL

National Poetry Month

Keep America Beautiful Month

Apr. 10-16 National Library week: <http://www.ala.org/nlw/>

Apr. 10-16 National Environmental Education Week: <http://www.eeweek.org/>

Apr. 15-17 Global Youth Service Day: <http://www.gysd.org>

Apr. 22 Earth Day: <http://www.earthday.net/>

MAY

Asian Pacific Heritage Month

American Wetlands Month

May 2 -8 National Wildflower Week:

http://www.crayola.com/calendar/detail.cfm?event_id=198&year=2009

May 7 International Astronomy Day: http://cascaeducation.ca/files/genastro_astroday.html

May 14 International Migratory Bird Day: <http://www.birdday.org/>

May 18 International Museum Day: <http://icom.museum/imd.html>

May 20 Endangered Species Day: <http://www.stopextinction.org/>

May 22 International Day for Biological Diversity: <http://www.cbd.int/idb/2009/>

May 23 World Turtle Day: <http://www.turtleconservationcentre.org/trrg-blog/today-is-world-turtle->

May 29 International Day of U.N. Peacekeepers: <http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/peacekeepers/>

JUNE

Zoo and Aquarium Month

American Rivers Month

June 4 National Trails Day: <http://www.americanhiking.org/>

June 5 World Environment Day: <http://www.unep.org/wed/index.asp>

June 8 World Oceans Day: <http://www.theoceanproject.org/wod/>

June 20-26 National Pollinator Week: <http://www.pollinator.org/>

WONDERS of Education newsletter is made possible by Biodynamics, Inc., producers of the television series WONDERS OF THE WEST for PBS. Visit us online at <http://www.wondersofthewest.net>



OPPORTUNITIES for EDUCATORS

American Wilderness Leadership School Scholarships

The American Wilderness Leadership School was established with the vision of providing educators with a useful, hands-on experience that they can use in the classroom. Teachers will have the opportunity to attend an eight-day course on wildlife conservation, land management issues, and more. Teachers can apply to their local Safari Club International chapter for sponsorship by April 1, 2011. http://www.safariclubfoundation.org/content/index.cfm?action=view&content_id=231

Fulbright Specialist Program

The Fulbright Specialist Program promotes linkages between U.S. academics and professionals and their counterparts at overseas universities or institutions with education focused programming. The program is designed to award grants to qualified U.S. faculty and professionals to engage in short-term collaborative 2 to 6 week projects at higher education institutions in over 100 countries worldwide. Eligible activities include teacher training, short-term lecturing, conducting seminars, special conferences or workshops, as well as collaborating on curriculum planning, institutional and/or faculty development. U.S. faculty and professionals apply to join a Roster of Specialists for a 5-year term. See the website for complete details. <http://www.cies.org/specialists/>

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Journey North

Journey North has begun again. Track the arrival of spring and the migrations of numerous wildlife species, study photoperiods, explore weather and climate, and more. Journey North is a free online program engaging students in a study of wildlife migration and seasonal change. Students share their own field observations with classrooms across the hemisphere. In addition, students are linked with scientists who provide their expertise directly to the classroom. The Annenberg Channel also offers free Journey North video programs, downloadable teaching tools and classroom lessons, and more. <http://www.learner.org/jnorth/>



GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Craig Tufts Environmental Education Fund

The Craig Tufts Educational Scholarship Award will be given to a young person 8-18 years old, to attend a week-long, summer outdoor educational adventure camp with a parent or guardian. This year's summit will take place in the Ozark Mountain Region of Missouri, August 1-7, 2011. Deadline for application is March 31, 2011. <http://www.familysummits.org/craigtufts.php>



State Farm Youth Advisory Board Grant Program

The State Farm Youth Advisory Board Grant Program funds student-led service-learning projects throughout the U.S. and Canada. Specific areas of interest include natural and societal disasters, environmental responsibility, and more. Educators interacting with students in public K-12 schools are eligible to apply. Deadline for application is May 2, 2011.

<http://www.statefarmyab.com/apply/national-grants/>

Improving Literacy Through School Libraries

The purpose of this program funded by the U.S. Department of Education, is to improve student reading skills and academic achievement by providing students in public schools increased access to up-to-date school library materials; well-equipped, technologically advanced school library media centers; and well-trained, professionally certified school library media specialists.

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/lsl/index.html>



CONTESTS and AWARDS

Marine Debris Art Contest

NOAA's Marine Debris Division offers the 2011 Marine Debris Art Contest, *Keep the Sea Free of Debris*, for K-8 students in all states and U.S. territories. The deadline for submission is April 16, 2011. <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/outreach/artcontest.html>

Project Blue Planet

This contest from the Smithsonian National Zoological Park challenges kids nationwide to get their schools and communities involved to improve the environment for marine life. Depending on the school's environmental priorities, there are four ways to achieve a "Seal" of Approval. Project categories include waste, energy, habitat, and lifestyle. The project deadline is April 30, 2011.

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Education/BluePlanet/default.cfm?fonzref=makewaves.htm>

Windland Smith Rice International Youth Photography Competition

The Windland Smith Rice Youth competition is now accepting photographs for its Youth Photography Competition. Photographers must 18 years old or younger. The deadline for submission is May 2, 2011. Note that there is an entry fee for submission.

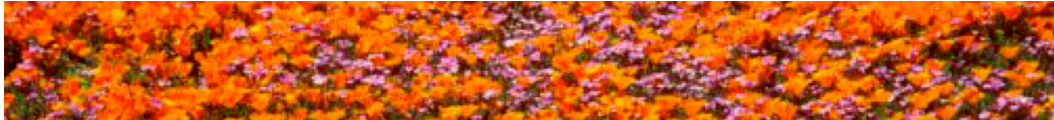
http://www.naturesbestphotography.com/competition_overview.php



Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge

The Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge is for students in grades 5-8. Students are challenged to create a one- to two- minute video on an everyday problem related to the way we move, the way we keep ourselves healthy, or the way we make a difference. The idea must be a new innovation or solution. The deadline for entry is April 15, 2011.

<http://www.youngscientistchallenge.com/>



RESOURCES

Dolphins in the Classroom

Bring your students to Dolphin Research Center in Florida. Thanks to webcam and Internet technology, you and your classroom can watch and listen to live or pre-taped demonstrations and engage in question and answer sessions with experts in the fields of marine mammal care, training, and research. Different options are available. http://www.dolphins.org/distance_learning.php

National Environmental Education Week 2011: Ocean Connections

Make sure you register for EE Week 2011, April 10-16, 2011. Check out the resources, register your activities, and more. http://www.eeweek.org/ocean_connections

Bigelow Lab Resources

The scientists at the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences share their discoveries with educators, students, and the public through a variety of programs. Their website offers on-line education resources available for teachers to use in a range of grade levels, in addition to other resources and networks for further information. <http://www.bigelow.org/education/>

Coral Literature, Education and Outreach Program

The Coral Literature, Education and Outreach (CLEO) Program offers educational modules developed primarily for middle school classes. Each module consists of three segments: background information of the science behind the instrument, a classroom experiment, and a teacher's section. Modules include Coral Spawning, Coral Bleaching, and Effects of CO₂ on Coral Reefs.

http://www.coral.noaa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=145&Itemid=182

Wishing you a WONDER-FILLED spring!!

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