



National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

February 2008

www.EEWeek.org



Greetings!

On February 29, the Association of Zoos & Aquariums will launch a [Year of the Frog](#) to educate Americans about the worldwide decline of amphibians due to habitat loss and climate change. [Access Year of the Frog educator resources](#)

In support of Year of the Frog, National Environmental Education Week has developed an additional section on amphibians and reptiles for its EE Week Curricula Library. [Access the Library](#)

We know that changes in the earth's climate affect people, plants, and animals--even the smallest of frogs--in dramatic ways. In an effort to encourage teachers and students to learn more about climate change, National Environmental Education Week is proud to announce **Carbon Footprints** as its theme for 2008!

In March, EE Week will launch a special online Carbon Calculator specifically geared for students, and during EE Week the [Earth Day Network](#) will provide special climate change education resources for EE Week students and teachers. [Read the official announcement](#) from EE Week's 2008 National Spokesperson, Alexandra Cousteau

Over 500 partners from across the country have already signed on for National Environmental Education Week, April 13-19, 2008! Registration is free. [Click here to register today.](#)

Sincerely,

Karen Schultz

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Our Program

National Environmental Education (EE) Week, made possible by [Canon, USA](#), is the single largest organized environmental education event in the United States. It increases the educational impact of Earth Day by creating a full week of environmentally-themed lessons and activities in K-12 classrooms, nature centers, zoos, museums, and aquariums.

Quick Links

[Register Now](#)

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Contact Us

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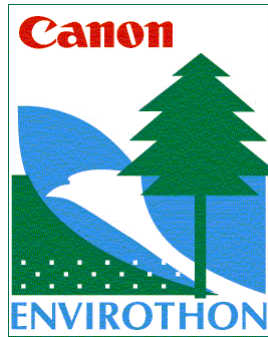
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National Partner Spotlight

Canon Envirothon

The Canon Envirothon is an annual competition in which winning state/provincial teams compete for recognition and scholarships by demonstrating their knowledge of environmental science and natural resource management. The teams, each consisting of five high school-aged students from participating US States and Canadian Provinces, exercise their training and problem-solving skills in a competition centered on four universal testing categories (i.e., soils/land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, and wildlife) and a current environmental issue. If you are an alumnus of Canon Envirothon they would like to hear from you: [Email Canon Envirothon](#) or visit [Envirothon's new website!](#)



Local Partner Spotlight

Discovery Elementary School, WA

This is Discovery Elementary School's first year to participate in EE Week. On April 19, they will culminate their EE Week activities by attempting to break the world record for the number of plastic bottles collected for recycling in an 8-hour period. Learn more about their efforts at their student-led [Green Team website](#).

*Do you have EE Week plans that you'd like to spotlight in this newsletter?
[Email them to us!](#)*

EE Programs and Resources

EE Week Nature Journaling Blog

National Environmental Education Week and the Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History are pleased to announce a new resource blog on nature journaling for teachers. Each week a new tip on introducing nature journaling to students will be posted to the EE Week website. [Learn more](#)

The People Speak Global Debates - March 1-24, 2008

Students research and prepare arguments for a public debate held in their school. The People Speak provides tips and suggestions on how to organize and publicize this event. The theme of the March debates will be "Resolved: Water Should Be Considered National Property." All

participating schools will be eligible to compete to send their four-person debate team to the United Nations Foundation Global Youth Leadership Summit in New York City. [Learn more](#)

Envision 2050 Poster Contest - Deadline May 15, 2008

EnVision 2050: Is the Future Nature? is looking for poster art works, designs and ideas created by students, in grades 6 through 12. Students will be encouraged to think about the future of tomorrow's cities, from how they will look to how people will move within them, with an eye towards nature and natural processes. Posters should address the issues of global warming and carbon emissions. [Learn more](#)

"Cetacean Investigation" - New Online Documentary Series

earthOCEAN.tv announces a new series of online educational documentary programs. "Cetacean Investigation" uncovers the science of whales, dolphins and porpoises around the world. All video programs are 10-20 minutes in duration and are freely distributed online in a number of formats with teachers' guides and fact sheets via an internet channel and iTunes. [Learn more](#)

New Environment and Ocean Literacy Website

The National Geographic Society is pleased to announce its expanded Environment and Ocean Literacy website. This site provides lesson plans, maps, photos, news articles, books, videos, and more to help teachers educate their students about the science of a healthy environment. [Learn more](#)

Wyland Foundation Art Contest - Deadline March 21, 2008

Use activities from the Wyland Clean Water Challenge and enter your school's best artists in the nationwide art and science contest. Enter individual works of art or a giant group mural of any aquatic habitat with above and below the water views and plants and animals that live in the habitat. Prizes for teachers and students include signed Wyland lithographs, invitations to a special awards ceremony to meet Wyland, and more! [Learn more](#)

Elephant Seals Homecoming Days

From January until March, over two thousand female elephant seals will return from the far reaches of the North Pacific Ocean to Año Nuevo State Reserve in California to give birth to their pups. Teachers and students can follow ten named elephant seals back to shore as researchers post blogs about their arrival, the birth of the pups, the tag removal, and what the tags are telling us. [Learn more](#)

National Geographic Live! Student Programs

National Geographic Live! presentations bring exciting science, stunning photographs, and a world of adventure to your students. World-renowned scientists, explorers, and photographers--including David Doubilet, Robert Ballard, and Mark Moffett--will grace stages this spring in Chicago, Mesa, Minneapolis, Seattle, and Washington, D.C. Apply to attend free student programs in your area. [Learn more](#)

Wild Studies Summer Science Adventures

Dive, hike, and explore endangered environments in the Bahamas, Costa Rica, and Baja Mexico with Wild Studies. Learn about local environmental issues, earn graduate credit, and participate in data collection for conservation organizations. Teachers travel and participate free with just 7 or 8 students, travel with 4 students for just \$300. [Learn more](#)

Walden: The Ballad of Thoreau

"Walden: The Ballad of Thoreau" is an educational play that tells the story of the final two days Henry David Thoreau spent in his cabin before leaving Walden Pond. The complete script (in English, French, and Spanish), lesson plans, director and actor instructions and more are available for free to schools on the Walden website. [Learn more](#)

Funding Resources

Captain Planet Foundation - Deadline March 31, 2008

The Captain Planet Foundation accepts applications four times each year for funding projects that help students better grasp environmental issues. Grants range from \$250 to \$2,500. Projects must promote understanding of environmental issues, focus on hands-on activities, involve children and young adults ages 6 to 18, promote interaction and cooperation within a group, help young people develop planning and problem-solving skills, include adult supervision, and commit to follow-up communication with the Foundation. [Learn More](#)

Pay It Forward Mini-Grants - Three funding cycles in 2008!

Applications for the first round of Pay it Forward Mini-Grants are currently being accepted. The Pay It Forward Foundation provides these mini-grants to support one-time-only service-oriented projects identified by youth. In order to be considered, applicants must demonstrate that their projects contain a "pay it forward" focus, based on the concept of one person doing a favor for others, who in turn do favors for others, with the results growing exponentially. Mini-grants of up to \$500 will be awarded. Applications are due April 15 and October 15. [Learn More](#)

Christopher Columbus Awards - Deadline March 17, 2008

The Christopher Columbus Awards is a national, community-based science and technology program for middle school students. The program challenges the students to work in teams of three to four, with an adult coach, to identify a problem in their community and apply the scientific method to create an innovative solution to that problem. Four finalist teams and their coaches will receive an all-expense-paid trip to *Walt Disney World*® to attend National Championship Week and compete for valuable U.S. Savings Bonds plus a \$200 development grant to further refine their idea. [Learn more](#)

Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes - Deadline April 30, 2008

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes honors outstanding young leaders who have made a significant positive difference to people and our planet. Each year, the Barron Prize selects ten winners nationwide.

Nominations for the Prize should be made by adults who have solid knowledge of the nominee and his/her work, but who are not related to the nominee (e.g. teachers, librarians, civic or religious leaders, etc.). [Learn more](#)

Greenworks Grants - Deadline April 30, 2008

Grants of up to \$5,000 are available to help fund neighborhood environmental improvement projects that partner Project Learning Tree educators and their students with local businesses or community organizations. [Learn more](#)

Plum Grants - Awarded Weekly!

Did you recently create a sustainable community improvement project, program, or organization? Do you need \$500 to further the growth and success of your program? If you answered, "YES!", you are eligible to apply for a Plum Youth Grant. Plum grants are given out weekly by Do Something. [Learn more](#)

Professional Development

International Sustainable Development Studies Institute: Thailand Program

The People, Ecology, and Development study abroad program in Thailand will focus on the links among culture, ecology, and sustainability through the experiential study of specific communities and ecosystems. Includes the intensive study of Thai, as well as studies of organic farming and agroecology; islands, reefs, and mangrove ecosystems; and ethnic peoples and forests. Application deadline is March 14, 2008. [Learn More](#)

NOAA Teacher Training Opportunities

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) trains teachers to use the mathematics, science, and technology associated with exploring the oceans in their classrooms to help increase awareness and understanding of the ocean world. These ongoing workshops are designed to introduce educators to premiere ocean scientists/explorers and their research and explorations. [Learn more](#)

America Walks Webinars

For teachers and community organizers looking to encourage students to walk and bike to school, the Safe Routes Coaching Action Network is a way for you to learn from people who know how to make things happen. Attend FREE monthly presentations from experts across the country. Get FREE coaching from experienced America Walks organizer with experience in your safe routes to school issue or in your region. [Learn more](#)

Teacher-Friendly Online Encyclopedia

Encyclopedia of Earth is a new electronic reference about the Earth, its natural environments, and their interaction with society. The *Encyclopedia* is a free, fully searchable collection of articles written by scholars, professionals, educators, and experts who collaborate and review each other's work. The articles are written in non-technical language and will be useful to students, educators, scholars, professionals, and the general public. [Learn more](#)

Approaching Walden Seminar - July 13-18, 2008

The Walden Woods Project is currently accepting applications for *Approaching Walden*, a professional development summer seminar for high school educators and graduate students. This six-day workshop is professionally as well as personally enriching, and provides teachers with the skills needed to lead their students in a study of their home community. This place-based, interdisciplinary workshop uses Henry David Thoreau's ethic and his experience at Walden Woods as a model. [Learn more](#)

President's Excellence in Teaching Awards - Deadline March 1, 2008

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through 12th-grade mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. [Learn more](#)

National Parks Seek Teacher Rangers

The Teacher to Ranger to Teacher (TRT) Program links National Park units with teachers from low income school districts. Under this program, selected teachers spend the summer working as park rangers, often living in the park. They perform various duties depending on their interests and the needs of the park, including developing and presenting interpretive programs for the general public, staffing the visitor center desk, developing curriculum-based materials for the park, or taking on special projects. [Learn more](#)



At the National Environmental Education Foundation, we provide objective environmental information to help Americans live better every day. At a time of conflicting and challenging messages about the state of our environment, we provide trusted knowledge, resources and opportunities to improve our lives and the health of the planet.

The Canon logo is the word "Canon" in a bold, red, serif font.

National Environmental Education Week is made possible by [Canon, USA](#)