



National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

February 2011

www.EEWeek.org



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Greetings!

With the second half of the school year in full swing, there are many opportunities to celebrate and learn about our oceans before EE Week. We hope you will join us for EE Week's first oceans-focused webinar on February 23, entitled [Teaching about the Gulf Oil Spill](#). Read on for more information.

In addition to our upcoming webinar, many special offers are available for registered EE Week 2011 participants. Learn more below and [register](#) for EE Week to start taking advantage of these perks. It's free and easy to register and it helps us to learn about your plans for EE Week so that we can better support you.

Be sure to visit us online to access lesson plans, online resources and teaching tools to help you prepare to celebrate EE Week's 2011 theme: [Ocean Connections](#). This month we re-launched our [Nature Journaling Blog](#) with tips on observing inland connections to the coast. Also check out our new online [Ocean Bee Quizzes](#) for students, developed in partnership with the National Ocean Sciences Bowl.

Lastly, don't forget to nominate an outstanding teacher for the [Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award](#). Nominations will be accepted through March 14, and self-nominations are encouraged! Continue reading for more information on opportunities from our partners and other NEEF programs.

Sincerely,

Jessica Culverhouse
Program Manager

Sarah Kozicki
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Our Program

National Environmental Education (EE) Week is the largest organized environmental education event in the United States.

EE Week connects educators with environmental resources to promote K-12 students' understanding of the environment.

Quick Links

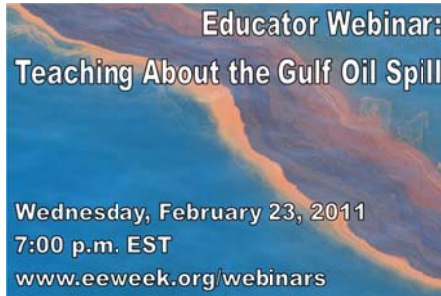
[Register for EE Week 2011](#)

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EE Week Educator Webinar: Teaching about the Gulf Oil Spill

Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2011 at 7 p.m. EST

On April 20, 2010, an explosion on the Deepwater Horizon oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico resulted in the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history. Young people are asking their teachers and parents difficult questions about the causes and effects of the spill, and many educators have elected to focus on the Gulf oil spill as a unifying interdisciplinary theme to explore throughout the school year.



Registered participants for National Environmental Education Week (EE Week) 2011 are invited to join us for an educator webinar, "**Teaching about the Gulf Oil Spill**" - on **Wednesday, February 23, 2011 at 7 p.m.** Eastern. Educators will have an opportunity to interact with Dr. Robert Twilley of Louisiana State University's Department of Oceanography and Coastal Sciences. Dr. Twilley will provide information on the timeline and effects of the spill and answer questions about its long-term consequences. Participants will also learn about the National Wildlife Federation's (NWF) Oil Spill educational materials, service projects, and how teachers and students can get involved. Eliza Russell, NWF's director of education, will present this information and discuss opportunities with webinar participants.

[Register](#) for EE Week to participate in this free online professional development experience. Registered participants will receive webinar login information via email prior to the webinar.

[Learn more](#)

EE Week Promotional Toolkit

The EE Week 2011 Promotional Toolkit is now available

National Environmental Education Week (EE Week) depends on our partners to help promote EE Week to their networks and throughout their communities. To help accomplish this, we create a series of promotional tools for schools and organizations to help us spread the word. You can help promote your EE Week events and activities by:

- Posting a 2011 EE Week web ad on your website with a link to EEWeek.org,
- Distributing the 2011 National EE Week flyer and 2011 National EE Week poster,
- Linking to EEWeek.org from your website,
- Issuing a press release outlining your organization's EE Week activities as part of the national program, or

[Success Stories](#)

[More On Us](#)

Contact Us

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Call for Stories!

Don't forget to submit your stories of successful environmental education projects and programs to help inspire your peers and share ideas! Contact EEWeek@neefusa.org to get started.

- Announcing EE Week in your print or email newsletter, listserv, blog or website.

Downloadable web ads, flyer, poster, template press release and promotional blurb are all available as part of EE Week's promotional toolkit.

[Learn more](#)

Why Register for EE Week?

Registered EE Week participants receive many benefits

When you register for EE Week, you join a national network of educators dedicated to improving the environmental literacy of students. You will also receive a certification of participation and are eligible to participate in our free educator webinars. In addition, EE Week participants qualify for special discounts and offers from our partners.

[The Video Project](#) is offering registered EE Week participants a 25 percent discount through April 30 on any title in their collection of educational media and documentary programming, including several titles on marine science and ocean issues.



[Nature-Watch](#) is offering registered EE Week participants a 10 percent discount through May 1 on any order through their online store, which offers educational nature products and craft activity kits designed to help children learn about nature.



Coming soon: EE week planning toolkits, as well as additional special offers, will be made available in March to registered participants. Stay tuned!

[Register today!](#)

EE Resources

Conservation Connection - Registration deadline April 18

Conservation Connection, a program of Chicago's Field Museum, engages middle and high school students across the country in the stewardship of Fijian coral reefs and local ecosystems through direct involvement in the scientific process. Students can access WhyReef, a virtual coral reef game, and FijiReef, a digital community for teens and scientists interested in marine conservation. Additional educator resources include content from Encyclopedia of Earth and an activity guide. [Learn more](#)

Live Video Events with the JOIDES Resolution

The JOIDES Resolution--a seagoing research vessel--provides live video broadcasts with the educators and scientists on board the ship during every expedition. Teachers can request a date for an exclusive video conference with their students and sign up to receive the monthly JOIDES

Resolution newsletter, order free materials, watch videos on ocean exploration and submit questions to scientists online. [Learn more](#)

Sea Turtles and the Quest to Nest

This online game, developed by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service and the National Ocean Service, is designed to help students understand how they can help protect turtles and their habitat. The game takes place in the southeastern United States. Students are introduced to all of the people and animals that play a role in the life of loggerhead turtles. [Learn more](#)

For more resources and classroom materials, visit us [online](#).

Student Opportunities

Planet Connect Get Green Video Contest - Entry deadline February 23

High school students throughout the United States are invited to enter Planet Connect's 2011 Get Green Video Contest: *Show Us Your Ocean Connection*. Students are invited to submit a 30- to 120- second video showing how their everyday actions impact the ocean. Prizes include cash and cool prizes from Samsung, including the Galaxy Tab and an HD camcorder. Public Choice Award winners will receive prizes from Volcom, etnies and a Firewire surfboard. [Learn more](#)



AMNH Young Naturalist Awards - Entry deadline March 1

The Young Naturalist Awards from the American Museum of Natural History is an inquiry-based science competition for students in grades 7-12 to promote participation and communication in science. Students plan a research project and submit a final report, including an essay and artwork or photographs. Awards include cash prizes and certificates of recognition. Winning essays will be posted on the museum's website. [Learn more](#)

Igniting Creative Energy Challenge - Entry deadline March 4

Johnson Controls invites K-12 students and teachers to enter the Igniting Creative Energy (ICE) Challenge by submitting their energy efficiency ideas. Now in its 10th year, this year's competition includes *ICE Water*, a new water conservation category. Five grand prize winners will receive a trip to the United States Energy Efficiency Forum in Washington, D.C., June 15-16, 2011. Other prizes include energy efficiency-related items and the opportunity to receive a charitable donation. Entries postmarked by February 18 will qualify for additional early bird prizes. ICE is a partnership program developed by Johnson Controls, Inc and the National Energy Foundation. Additional services provided by Kohler Co. [Learn more](#)



Ocean for Life - Application deadline March 7

Ocean for Life, a program of NOAA's National Marine Sanctuaries, brings together students of diverse backgrounds and cultures to discover marine science, conservation and how the ocean connects us all. Students from around the world will come together for an immersive, two-week field study at a marine sanctuary in July. The location and exact dates are still to be determined. [Learn more](#)

Disney Friends for Change Grants - Application deadline March 10

Youth Service America, together with Disney, is now accepting applications from youth around the world for the Disney Friends for Change Grants. The \$500 grants fund youth-led service projects that focus on making environmentally friendly changes and engaging youth on Global Youth Service Day, April 15-17. Applicants must be between the ages of 5 and 25 and be associated with a school or organization. [Learn more](#)



Endangered Species Day Art Contest - Submission deadline March 15

The national Endangered Species Day Youth Art contest provides young people with an opportunity to learn about endangered species and express their knowledge and support through artwork. Winners will be chosen in four grade level categories: K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12. From these, one grand prize winner will be selected and honored with his or her name engraved on a special trophy and will receive a round-trip flight to Washington, D.C. to attend a reception in May. The four category winners will receive a special plaque and gift certificate for art supplies. [Learn more](#)

Staples Urban Environment Challenge - Registration deadline January 31

The Staples Foundation for Learning and Earth Force invite students in grades 5-9 to share their creative, youth-led solutions to climate change through a service learning project in their urban community. Projects must involve 10 or more students and 60 percent of the student population must qualify for free or reduced lunch. Students in the San Diego, Seattle, Las Vegas, Denver, Chicago, Boston, New York City, Charlotte, Atlanta and Dallas metro areas are eligible to compete. One winner in each region will receive a \$1,000 technology and supplies packages. Two runners up in each region will receive \$500 packages. Projects are due on Earth Day, April 22. [Learn more](#)



2011 Thacher Environmental Research Contest - Entry deadline April 11

The 2011 Thacher Environmental Research Contest, sponsored by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, challenges high school students to conduct innovative research on our changing planet using the latest geospatial tools and data. The best projects will win \$2,000 for first place, \$1,000 for second place and \$500 for third place. Winners will also be featured in an Encyclopedia of Earth article. In addition to the student prizes, teachers of winning students or teams will receive a \$200 Amazon.com gift card. [Learn more](#)

For more student contests and awards, visit us [online](#).

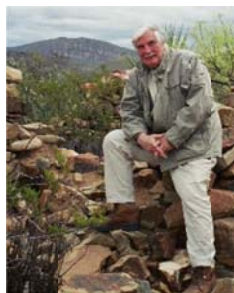
Grants and Awards

Toyota TAPESTRY Grants for Science Teachers - Application deadline extended to March 3

Toyota TAPESTRY recognizes outstanding K-12 science teachers who are making a difference by demonstrating excellence and creativity in science teaching. Fifty large grants of \$10,000 each will be awarded this year to K-12 science teachers in the United States. To apply for funding, qualified teachers must write a Toyota TAPESTRY proposal according to the proposal requirements. [Learn more](#)

Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award - Nomination deadline March 14

The 2011 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award will recognize outstanding middle school teachers who successfully integrate environmental education into their curriculum and engage students in interdisciplinary solutions to environmental challenges. The winner will receive \$5,000 and two merit winners will receive \$750 each. The award will be announced during Teacher Appreciation Week, the first week in May 2011. [Learn more](#)



Grants for Education in Microbial Science - Application deadline May 2

The Center for Microbial Oceanography: Research and Education, based at the University of Hawaii, awards grants of up to \$1,500 to foster awareness in microbial science. Funds can be used for any project related to microbial science. Any educator within the United States may apply for one of these grants, but preference will be given to public school teachers, nonprofit organizations and first-time applicants. [Learn more](#)

AAAS Leadership in Science Education Prize for High School Teachers - Application deadline May 27

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Leadership in Science Education Prize for High School Teachers recognizes high school science teachers for the development and implementation of innovative methods for teaching and encouraging the next generation of scientists. Teachers 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. Teachers must be nominated by an administrator within their school, district or state. The winner will receive a \$1,000 cash prize to support the development and continuation of the strategy, activity or program. Additionally, an announcement will be published in the AAAS website and in *Science* magazine and the winner will receive a one-year institutional subscription to *Science* magazine. [Learn more](#)

For more grants and awards, visit us [online](#).

Professional Development

Down Under and Out Yonder - Application deadline February 25

Applications are now being accepted for the annual Down Under and Out Yonder education workshop and field experience, July 9-13, 2011. Any scuba-certified teacher or informal educator, grades K-12, are welcome to apply. The workshop takes place at Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary in the Gulf of Mexico and is conducted in partnership with the Gulf of Mexico Foundation and sponsored by ConocoPhillips. [Learn more](#)

American Museum of Natural History Seminars on Science - Registration deadline February 28

Learn and understand how scientists study climate and the consequences of climate change for the future with *Climate Change*, the newest *Seminars on Science* course from the American Museum of Natural History. All courses run for six weeks and are fully online. Each participant receives a CD of course resources suitable for classroom use. Affordable graduate credit is available for all courses. Spring sessions run March 14-April 24 OR May 9-June 19. Register early for a \$50 discount. [Learn more](#)

Chesapeake Classrooms

This professional development program from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) equips educators with the knowledge, tools, skills and confidence to use the local environment in their curriculum. Educators examine the connections between land use and water quality through hands-on investigations, standards-based activities and assessments and action projects. On-site instruction takes place at schoolyards, local tributaries and oftentimes at one of CBF's island educational centers. Educators can receive recertification or graduate credit for participating. [Learn more](#)

For more opportunities, visit us [online](#).



The National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) provides knowledge to trusted professionals who, with their credibility, amplify messages to national audiences to solve everyday environmental problems. Together, we generate lasting positive change.

NEEF partners with professionals in health, education, media, business and public land management to promote daily actions for helping people protect and enjoy the environment. Through our primary programs - Classroom Earth, National Public Lands Day, National Environmental Education Week, Business and Environment, Earth Gauge(r) and Health & Environment - we offer Americans knowledge to live by. To learn more, call (202) 833-2933 or visit <http://www.neefusa.org>.