



# National Environmental Education Week

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

November 2008

[www.EEWeek.org](http://www.EEWeek.org)



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## Our Program

National Environmental Education (EE) Week, made possible by [Canon USA, Inc.](#), is the largest organized environmental education event in the United States. EE Week promotes understanding and protection of the natural world by creating a full week of environmentally-themed lessons and activities in K-12 classrooms, nature centers, zoos, museums, and aquariums.

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## Contact Us

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## Greetings!

**Geography Awareness Week** began yesterday, Sunday, November 16. But it is not too late to get involved! See the Programs and Resources section of this newsletter for more information about joining our friends at National Geographic to engage your students in learning about their world.

The National Environmental Education Foundation currently has two funding opportunities for which applications are being accepted. See the Funding Resources section for more information about the Planet Connect High School Challenge Grants for students and the Richard C. Bartlett Award for educators.

Have you registered your school or organization for National EE Week, **April 12-18, 2009**? Register online today at [www.EEWeek.org/register](http://www.EEWeek.org/register). Certificates are provided to recognize registered partners and students, and those who register before **January 30** will receive a free copy of *National Geographic Explorer* magazine. **Register now to receive your certificate and a free copy of *National Geographic Explorer*!** Help us spread the word by sharing this newsletter with your colleagues.

Sincerely,

Jessica Stelzner Culverhouse

National Environmental Education Week Coordinator

## EE Programs and Resources



### **Celebrate Geography Awareness Week November 16-22, 2008**

Take students on a virtual whirlwind tour of the world this November with Geography Awareness Week. Explore a range of geo-activities designed to engage students in exploring their world

while they become more informed global citizens. Take a geo-tour of global hotspots on a virtual globe, including polar regions, coral reefs, and great cities. Explore earth's marine ecosystems as you pilot an underwater vehicle. Hear from young people living and working around the world. Visit <http://MyWonderfulWorld.org/gaw> to see the world in new ways!

### **International Volunteer Day December 5, 2008**

In 1985, the United Nations designated December 5 as International Volunteer Day. It is celebrated annually around the globe. Consider planning an environment-themed volunteer project with your students this year. [Learn more](#)

### **River of Words Annual Art and Poetry Contest for Students - Entry deadline February 15, 2009**

Each year, in affiliation with The Library of Congress Center for the Book, River of Words conducts a free international poetry and art contest for youth on the theme of watersheds. The contest is designed to help students explore the natural and cultural history of the place they live, and to express, through poetry and art, what they discover. The contest is open to any child in the world, from 5-19 years of age, and there is no charge to enter. Teacher training workshops are held to help educators incorporate the contest into the curriculum. Contact your River of Words [regional coordinator](#) for more information. [Learn more](#)

### **Resources for Teaching About Estuaries**

The revamped Estuaries.gov site aims to advance estuarine and coastal literacy. Explore these living classrooms and laboratories, discover their importance and beauty, and learn what you can do to protect them. Lesson plans, online field trips, videos, and games are available. [Learn more](#)

### **Classroom Activities from Busch Gardens and Sea World**

SeaWorld, Busch Gardens, and Discovery Cove strive to provide an enthusiastic, imaginative, and intellectually stimulating atmosphere to help students develop a lifelong appreciation, understanding, and stewardship for our environment. You can bring this environment into your classroom with their series of activities designed for students in each grade level. [Learn more](#)

### **Earth Gauge Kids November Theme: Migratory Birds**

Earth Gauge Kids, a new website for 5-8th grade students, focuses on a different weather-environment theme each month. Student activities, interactive quizzes, fun facts, and links to tools and games on the web are available by visiting [Earth Gauge Kids](#).

**For more resources, visit the [Curricula Library](#) and [General EE Resources](#) pages on our website!**

## Funding Resources

### **Captain Planet Foundation Grants - Proposals due December 31, 2008**

The Captain Planet Foundation accepts applications for funding projects that help students better grasp environmental issues. Projects must promote understanding of environmental issues, focus on hands-on activities, involve students 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](#)

### **Planet Connect High School Grants - Application deadline January 20, 2009**



Do you know a high school student with an innovative solution to protect the environment? Planet Connect can help make it happen! The National Environmental Education Foundation's Planet Connect Program, developed in partnership with The Weather Channel, is a new online network for High School students to learn about the environment plus green college and career options. Planet Connect is looking for creative ideas to fix local environmental problems and will award 25 students aged 14-19 \$1000 each to support their ideas and provide them with local environmental internships. [Learn more](#)

### **2009 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award - Nomination deadline January 31, 2009**

The Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award is awarded annually by the National Environmental Education Foundation to an outstanding educator who has successfully integrated environmental education into his or her daily education programs. The award is given to a 5th-12th grade educator who can serve as an inspiration and model for others. A \$5,000 cash award is provided for the recipient to continue his or her work in environmental education. Do you know a teacher who stands out among the rest? If so, please nominate him or her for the 2009 Richard C. Bartlett Award. [Learn more](#)

### **Project Orange Thumb Grants - Application deadline February 17, 2009**

Groups with gardening projects geared toward community involvement, neighborhood beautification, sustainable agriculture, and/or horticultural education are invited to apply for these grants for gardening tools and gardening-related materials. [Learn more](#)

### **The American Museum of Natural History's Young Naturalist Awards - Applications due by March 2, 2009**

The Young Naturalist Awards program invites students in grades 7-12 to plan and conduct their own scientific investigations that include questions, hypotheses, and trips into the field to gather data. Students will then write about their investigations in essays that include artwork and/or photographs that help illustrate their findings. The website includes information on incorporating this award into the science curriculum. [Learn more](#)

For more grants and awards, visit the [Funding Resources](#) page on our website!

## Professional Development

### NOAA's Teacher at Sea Program - Application deadline December 31, 2008

The mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Teacher at Sea (TAS) program is to give teachers a clearer insight into our ocean planet, a greater understanding of maritime work and studies, and to increase their level of environmental literacy by fostering an interdisciplinary research experience. The program provides a unique environment for learning and teaching by sending kindergarten through college-level teachers to sea aboard NOAA research and survey ships to work under the tutelage of scientists and crew. Then, armed with new understanding and experience, teachers bring this knowledge back to their classrooms. [Learn more](#)

### Environmental Communication for Behavior Change - Online course held January 13 - February 22, 2009

Facilitated by the Duke Environmental Leadership (DEL) Program and instructed by Brian Day, Executive Director of NAAEE, this online course provides professionals with an introduction to the strategies and tools of environmental communication that effectively lead to changes in behavior. The social marketing tools gained will benefit all practicing professionals faced with the challenge of changing behaviors. [Learn more](#)

### Project WET Educator Workshops

Need help preparing to incorporate EE Week's *Be Water Wise!* theme into your curriculum? Consider attending a Project WET workshop. Trained facilitators deliver Project WET materials through professional development workshops. Workshop participants engage in cooperative, hands-on learning, experiencing the activities as they are presented by skilled facilitators and their peers. Upon completing the training, participants receive the Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide as well as other water resource education materials, and leave prepared and inspired to teach about water in their classroom or informal educational setting. [Learn more](#)

### The Habitable Planet

The Habitable Planet is a multimedia course for high school teachers and adult learners interested in studying environmental science. The site provides access to course content and activities developed by leading scientists and researchers in the field. Videos, interactive online labs, and an online textbook are available. [Learn more](#)

### Got the H.O.T.S. for Inquiry?

This digital workshop shows you how to increase student learning by integrating inquiry and Higher Order Thinking Skills (H.O.T.S.) into instruction, discusses how to incorporate inquiry and the revised Bloom's Taxonomy into student assessment, disaggregate the "scientific method" and connect it to inquiry, and discuss assessments for inquiry and H.O.T.S. Many science classroom activities are also presented within this digital workshop. [Access the digital workshop](#)

For more opportunities, visit the [Professional Development](#) page on our website!



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, consisting of the word "Canon" in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

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