



# THE EETAP BULLETIN

An update of activities for advancing education  
and environmental literacy  
February 2010 Vol. 10 (3)

## IN THIS ISSUE

(Click on title to go directly to item of interest.)

### Featured Stories

[Do You Know Your Organizational Culture?](#)

[UW-SP Announces Summer 2010 Online Course](#)

[Growing Up WILD is a Winner](#)

[Activity Guide and Music CD Teaches Children Ages 3 to 6 about the Natural World Around Them](#)

### Future Conferences of Interest

- [Register Now for EECOM's 2010 Conference](#)
- [NAAEE 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference](#)
- [ASCD's Annual Conference](#)
- [NSTA's Annual Conference](#)

### Featured Stories

## **Do You Know Your Organizational Culture?**

The winter 2010 information installment on environmental education and diversity has been posted on the NAAEE web site. In Articles of Interest (Winter 2010) environmental educators are encouraged to examine the culture of their organizations but suggest that this can be difficult. It explains that one strategy for gaining insight into the culture of your organization is listening to how others outside the organization react to your work. The article describes a situation in which environmental educators feel that they are teaching environmentally sustainable habits while others view it as teaching values and practicing "environmental religion". Other segments of the installment examine how to become an impartial observer of your organizational culture, poses an organizational cultural dilemma, presents questions for consideration when thinking about developing relationships with communities, and gives an example of an organization that keeps culture in the forefront of its environmental teaching. To view this and previous installments visit: <http://naaee.org/ee-and-cultural-diversity>



# THE EETAP BULLETIN

An update of activities for advancing education  
and environmental literacy  
February 2010 Vol. 10 (3)

## **UW-SP Announces Summer 2010 Online Course**

The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point has announced its summer 2010 offerings of the "Fundamentals of Environmental Education" (FEE) and "Making EE Relevant for Culturally Diverse Audiences" (MEER). Descriptions of the courses and links to additional information are provided below. There are \$200 scholarships available for the FEE course and \$100 scholarships available for the MEER course! Information on the scholarships is available at the online course website listed below.

### **Fundamentals of Environmental Education**

A 12-week online course about the fundamentals of environmental education is appropriate for both classroom teachers and for non-formal educators who work with students and/or teachers. Participants may obtain three undergraduate or graduate credits from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. All students, regardless of location, are eligible for the in-state tuition rate. The course is also offered at a reduced cost for those who are not interested in obtaining college credit.

The "Fundamentals of Environmental Education" online course was developed by the Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETAP) in collaboration with national EE experts. It provides educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to incorporate quality environmental education into their instruction. Participants discuss the history, definition, and goals of environmental education; develop an understanding of the professional roles and instructional methods of environmental educators; and interact with other educators from across the country. Past course participants have given the course excellent reviews.

*"The assignments were challenging, yet rewarding. The cumulative assignment was a huge jump-start to our new EE program. This class has not only taught me the fundamentals of EE, but has given me the skills to create a functional, quality educational program based on national standards."*

*~ Summer 2009 FEE Course Participant*

**Summer 2010 course dates: June 1 – August 20**

*Register by May 1<sup>st</sup>*

### **Making EE Relevant for Culturally Diverse Audiences**

This 10-week on-line course is designed to provide participants with the basic knowledge and skills needed to make EE relevant to culturally diverse audiences. Through this course participants will broaden their perspective of EE to encompass interests and issues of concern to culturally diverse audiences, assess barriers to



# THE EETAP BULLETIN

An update of activities for advancing education  
and environmental literacy  
February 2010 Vol. 10 (3)

participation among these audiences, and apply cultural competency skills in building relationships and partnerships with members of an audience they intend to work with in the future. Environmental educators must understand how to work with and involve diverse populations to ensure that their perspectives are heard and that they participate fully in environmental decisions being made at the local, regional, and national levels. This online course has been developed in collaboration with national EE experts who represent diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Although there are no prerequisites for this course, a working understanding of environmental education is essential for success in this course. Participants may obtain two undergraduate or graduate credits from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. It is also available as a non-credit workshop for those that are not seeking college credit. All participants, regardless of location, are eligible for the in-state tuition rate.

*"I recently completed the "Making EE Relevant to Culturally Diverse Audiences" on-line course and it was **WONDERFUL!!** It provided great information and the suggestions that were given for the EE program at my refuge were helpful and will be considered when we evaluate our program soon. Not only was the course great now I have great references and contacts if I ever need help in the future. I would recommend this class to other service employees especially in areas where the demographics are changing and they are trying to reach the more non-traditional audiences."*

*~ Fall 2008 MEER Course Participant*

**Summer 2010 course dates: June 1 – August 6**

*Register by May 1<sup>st</sup>*

To learn more, visit the course web site:

<https://www.uwsp.edu/natres/eetap/makeEErelevant.aspx>

To learn more, visit the course web site:

[https://www.uwsp.edu/natres/eetap/fee\\_course\\_page.aspx](https://www.uwsp.edu/natres/eetap/fee_course_page.aspx)

---

## Growing Up WILD is a Winner

The Council for Environmental Education (CEE) recently received the good news that Growing Up WILD had won a Family Choice Award!

The Family Choice Awards are managed by the Family Magazine Group, America's largest free parenting publication, and is recognized as the premier resource for the



# THE EETAP BULLETIN

An update of activities for advancing education  
and environmental literacy  
February 2010 Vol. 10 (3)

very best in children's and parenting products and services. The Awards recognize the best in children's and parenting resources.

As an award winner, Growing Up WILD will receive editorial coverage in participating magazines and in a host of Family Magazine publications which have a distribution of over 250,000.

[Growing Up WILD](#) is CEE's new resource for connecting early learners to nature. Designed for educators of children ages 3-7, the guide has proven to be a powerful resource in reaching new and underserved audiences with activities that encourage nature exploration. With over 10,000 copies distributed, Growing Up WILD has become a valuable resource for helping nature and conservation related organizations, childcare centers, schools and Head Start centers meet their educational goals.

Through the generous support of EETAP, Project WILD State Coordinators have been able to apply for small grants to help launch Growing Up WILD in their respective communities.

---

## Activity Guide and Music CD Teaches Children Ages 3 to 6 About the Natural World Around Them



Just as more attention is being focused on the need to connect students to nature at a younger age, Project Learning Tree® (PLT) releases a new curriculum guide and music CD to engage children ages 3 to 6 in outdoor exploration and play. Eleven field-tested, hands-on activities showcase over 130 "early childhood experiences" which integrate investigations of nature with art, literature, math, music, and movement. Early childhood educators and caregivers can obtain a copy of PLT's *Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood* curriculum by attending a PLT professional development workshop in their area.

"Exploring nature is a complete sensory experience, and early experiences with the natural world excite children's imaginations and foster their inborn sense of wonder and



# THE EETAP BULLETIN

An update of activities for advancing education  
and environmental literacy  
February 2010 Vol. 10 (3)

curiosity-important motivators for lifelong learning," says Kathy McGlaufflin, Director of Project Learning Tree and Senior Vice President of Education for the American Forest Foundation, the national sponsor of PLT.

"PLT's Early Childhood program encourages young children to learn about the natural world around them using their senses, the seasons, and neighborhood trees," says Al Stenstrup, Director of Education Programs at the American Forest Foundation. "The experiences in PLT's Early Childhood guide encourage children to explore, discover, and communicate in expressive ways. They emphasize outdoor adventure, support children having fun while learning, and utilize each child's imagination and creativity to provide opportunities for learning in groups or as individuals," he says.

PLT's *Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood* guide includes background information on facilitating experiences for the early childhood learner, how to guide children in learning about nature both indoors and outdoors, and clear objectives and benchmarks to assess learning. It also includes suggestions for activities that families and friends can conduct to enhance their child's learning experiences at home.

PLT's *Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood* guide has been correlated to national standards for preschool education by three major early childhood accreditation programs. All activities meet the National Association for the Education of Young Children criteria for curriculum, the North American Association for Environmental Education's Early Childhood Environmental Education Guidelines for Excellence, and the Head Start's Child Outcomes Framework.

Educators [receive training and PLT's \*Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood\*](#) materials by attending a professional development workshop. PLT's 50-state network trains 30,000 PreK-12 educators every year through 1,500 workshops held across the country. Contact information for each PLT state program can be found at [www.plt.org](http://www.plt.org), along with additional resources and correlations to academic standards and guidelines.



# THE EETAP BULLETIN

An update of activities for advancing education  
and environmental literacy  
February 2010 Vol. 10 (3)

## CONFERENCES OF INTEREST

### REGISTER NOW FOR EECOM'S 2010 CONFERENCE

**May 19-22 at Simon Fraser University  
Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada**

#### **DIVERSITY, SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT: EXPLORING CULTURAL AND PRACTICAL DIVERSITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING**

Diversity in sustainability and environmental learning is compounded when one considers the various cultures, practices and research traditions that inform the field. This complexity accounts for a range of forms for learning whether it occurs in formal, informal or non-formal contexts. Cultural diversity is often talked about in educational circles, and it is assumed that great benefits are to be gained by educators through careful attention to the range of perspectives that the world has to offer. In terms of curriculum content, pedagogy, and practice, there is a good deal of evidence that, in order to be more responsive to the needs of diverse populations, program developments around the world are beginning to reflect the variation in our society.

In summary, what we are planning for the EECOM 2010 conference is a focus on the diversity present within the field of environmental learning, both culturally and practically. We therefore encourage high quality, collaborative proposals which celebrate diversity in perspectives, methods and/or cultural contexts for the 2010 conference.

[Click here for more information about the conference.](#)

---

### **NAAEE's 39th Annual Conference September 29 - October 2, 2010**



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION  
*Building Connections—Bridging Gaps*  
**Buffalo-Niagara, New York**

[Click here for more information about the conference](#)

---



# THE EETAP BULLETIN

An update of activities for advancing education  
and environmental literacy  
February 2010 Vol. 10 (3)

## ASCD CONFERENCE



[Click here for information about the ASCD conference.](#)

---

## NSTA CONFERENCE

### 2010 National Conference in Philadelphia



#### **Connecting Science Past to Science Future**

Join your colleagues in the City of Brotherly Love for NSTA's 58th National Conference on Science Education. Conference registration and exhibits will be at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Most sessions and events have been scheduled at the Convention Center and the Doubletree Philadelphia Hotel, Loew's Philadelphia Hotel, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, and Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel.

The conference will begin with concurrent sessions on Thursday, March 18, at 8:00 AM, and end on Sunday, March 21, at 12 Noon. (some special events/meetings may be scheduled on Wednesday). Exhibits will close on Saturday, March 20, at 5:00 PM.

[Click here for more information about the conference.](#)