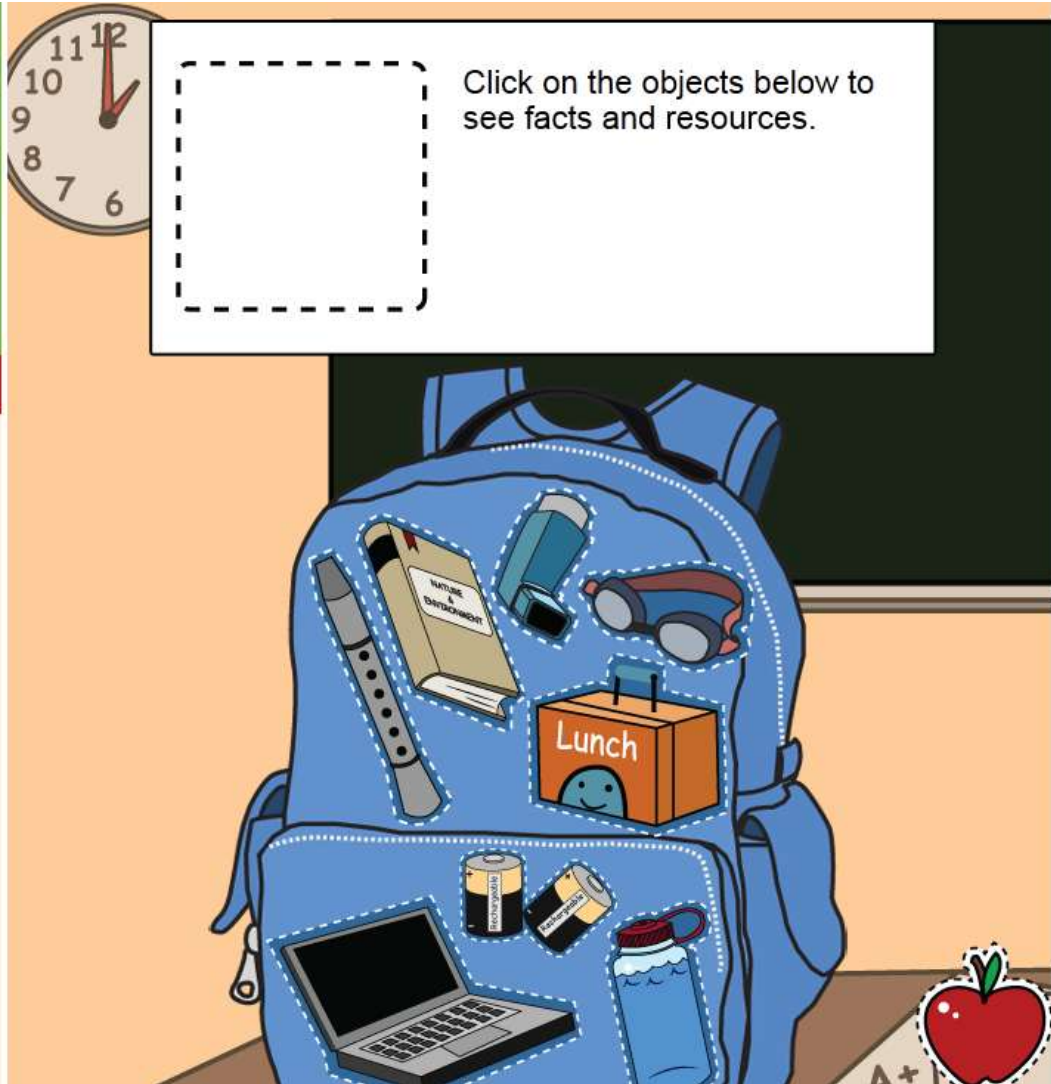


# National Environmental Education Foundation



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

# NEEF-EPA Collaboration



## EPA Resources — Classroom Ready





# Statement of Purpose

*We provide knowledge to trusted professionals who, with their credibility, amplify messages to national audiences to solve everyday environmental problems. Together, we generate lasting positive change.*



# Reaching the Public

EE Content  
Information  
Training

Primary Audience  
Trusted Professionals

Teachers

TV Meteorologists

Public Land Managers

Health Care Providers

Business Managers

Secondary Audiences

Students

School Administrators; EE/education leaders & organizations; parents; local communities

Viewers

Station manager/news directors; meteorologist professional organizations; meteorologist community; academic institutions

Volunteers

Public land organizations; Federal, state & local government agencies; youth natural resource organization

Patients

Families, doctors, nurses, academic institutions/faculty; public/environmental health communities; underserved communities

Employees

Management, families, local communities



Classroom Earth



Earth Gauge



Public Lands Program



Health & Environment



Business & Environment




# Earth Gauge



**July**  
**Lightning!**  
Take a quiz and test your knowledge.  
[Click here!](#)

**Earth Gauge Kids**

**Earth Gauge**

**Climate Fact**

In North Cascades National Park, the total area covered by glaciers has shrunk by 40 percent since 1850. Glacial retreat has been particularly noticeable since about 1980.

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

"The Climate Facts have been a great addition to my science journal online, and I get frequent feedback from viewers about the science I mention."

*Meteorologist Dan Satterfield at WHNT-TV in Huntsville, Alabama.*

**Weather and the Built Environment**

UNIT 1: WHERE WE LIVE  
UNIT 2: IMPACTS ON THE WATERSHED  
UNIT 3: IMPACTS ON THE ATMOSPHERE

**Weather and the Built Environment**

**Weather & Health**

About This Course: About This Course, Everyday Weather, Year-Hold, Interconnectors, Extreme Weather, Well-Being



**Weather and Health**



## Every Day Capacity Building Grants

SHARE 

The Every Day Grants provide "Friends Groups" with grant funds of up to \$5,000 to help the Friends Group build their capacity to serve public lands.

Friends groups are invaluable to the public lands they serve. While dedicated and passionate, they are often underfunded and understaffed. The [National Environmental Education Foundation \(NEEF\)](#) wants to unleash their potential and help strengthen these organizations to enable them to do more to connect their communities to the land.

The latest Every Day Grant cycle closed on January 31, 2011. [Learn more about the application and eligibility requirements.](#)

### 2011 Grant Winners

[Branch Brook Park Alliance](#)  
Newark, N.J.

[Carson Valley Trails Association](#)  
Minden, Nev.

[Discover Your Northwest](#)  
Seattle, Wash.





# Health & Environment

## Prescribing Nature

### Rx for Outdoor Activity

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

My Schedule (when and where will you practice this event?)  
 Weekdays: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Weekends: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Child signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Health Care Provider signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Go Outside and

- Play!
- Visit a national wildlife refuge, national fish hatchery, park, playground, or nature center
- Take a walk around the block
- Ride a bike (wear a helmet), go bird watching, or just explore.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_



### Rx para la Actividad al Aire Libre

Nombre: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fecha: \_\_\_\_\_

Mi horario (¿cuándo y dónde jugaré al aire libre esta semana?)  
 Los días de la semana: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Los fines de semana: \_\_\_\_\_

Firma de mi hijo/a: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Firma del Profesional de Cuidado Médico: \_\_\_\_\_

Vaya afuera y

- Juegue!
- Visite un refugio nacional de vida silvestre, un criadero nacional de peces, un parque, un patio de recreo, o un centro de naturaleza
- Dé un paseo por el vecindario
- Junte un insecto (use un cepillo), observe las aves, o simplemente explore.

Comentarios: \_\_\_\_\_



★ Children and Nature Initiative Pilot Sites

### Children and Nature Initiative

Our children are suffering from a variety of chronic health conditions such as obesity and asthma. Research indicates that unstructured outdoor activities may improve children's health by increasing physical activity, reducing stress, and serving as a support mechanism for attention disorders. The National Environmental Education Foundation's (NEEF) Children and Nature Initiative is taking action to improve children's health by addressing these issues:

- Educating pediatric health care providers about prescribing outdoor activities to their patients
- Encouraging pediatric health care providers to refer their patients to local nature areas so that they can get outside safely and easily

Various health conditions like asthma, diabetes, and obesity are affecting children to nature.

NEEF is building capacity among pediatric health care providers by creating Nature Champions who train other health care providers about prescribing nature.

The health care providers refer families to parks or nature centers in their communities where NEEF's nature partners provide active nature programming.

NEEF's nature partners include:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Audubon Society
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service
- National Park Service

A Program of





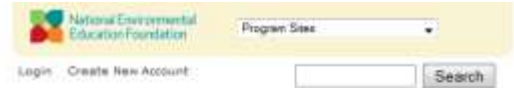
# Classroom Earth







# Classroom Earth



Like 131 Tweet 65 Pin it

Sign up for our E-Newsletter  
Get the latest resources, funding opportunities and more!  
Email  Sign up

View current issue

## National EE Week



Join a national network of educators and organizations dedicated to increasing the environmental knowledge of K-12 students. 2013 National EE Week will explore how technology can enhance environmental learning both inside and outside the classroom.

Learn More

## Find Resources



### Enhance Environmental Learning

with free K-12 educational resources...

- Lesson plans and activities
- Curricula
- Videos
- Websites

Browse Resources

## Connect with Us



## Wildlife Conservation Resources

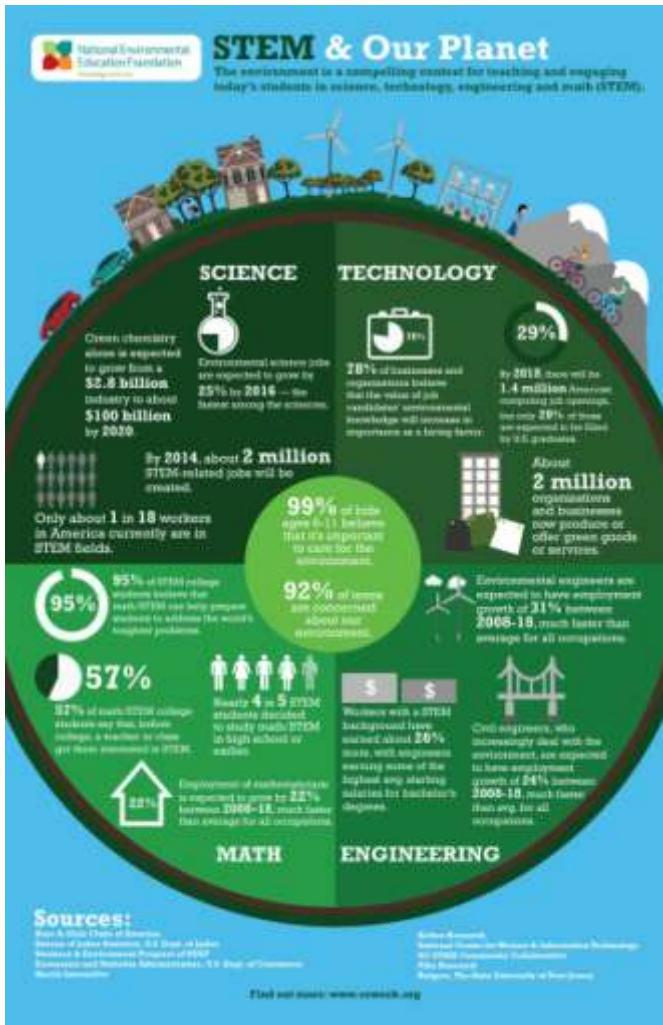


Check out Classroom Earth's **wildlife conservation resources**, including lesson plans, curricula, professional development opportunities, news, fact sheets, funding opportunities, videos and more!

[read more ...](#)



# Greening STEM




- Solutions to 21st century environmental challenges often result from STEM knowledge and skills.
- Hands-on environmental education projects enrich STEM learning and offer an exciting opportunity to engage more students in STEM.



# National Environmental Education Week

## Greening STEM: Taking Technology Outdoors

April 14-20, 2013


 National Environmental Education Week

EE Week is  
April 14-20, 2013  
Register at  
EEWeek.org

### Greening STEM: Taking Technology Outdoors

Benefits of registration include:

- Free educator webinars and toolkits with tips, tricks, resources and ideas for using technology to enhance environmental learning
- Case studies, success stories and examples of technology in action
- Discounts, giveaways and special offers



### Top 10 Apps for Taking Technology Outdoors

National Environmental Education Week's 2013 theme is **Greening STEM: Taking Technology Outdoors**, part of EE Week's Greening STEM focus. Join educators around the country discovering new, digital resources to connect students with the environment. Check out our suggestions for free apps:

-  **Project Noah** - Engage students in documenting local wildlife by uploading photos via mobile phone or tablet as part of a classroom or school-wide mission. A global community can help I.D. their "spotings" which in turn help scientists uncover and track wildlife populations.
-  **Journey North** - Your students can be citizen scientists, tracking wildlife migrations and seasonal changes in the environment around them. They can report their sightings from the field, view maps, take pictures and leave comments.
-  **WeatherBug** - Give your students access to the world's largest network of real-time weather sensors for forecasts, alerts and more. Students can check weather conditions before heading out for field study or collect weather data over time and study how it impacts the local environment.
-  **Creek Watch** - Be stewards of your local watershed by using this app to snap photos of a local waterway and report how much water or trash there is. The app aggregates the data and shares it with local water agencies to help them track pollution and water resources.
-  **What's Invasive!** - Help scientists locate invasive species by making geo-tagged observations and taking photos in their natural areas. The information students collect can help stop the spread of invasive species which destroy native habitats.
-  **Nature's Notebook** - Observe and record plant and animal lifecycle events (also known as phenology), such as flowering and bird migration. The observations also help scientists understand how species respond to environmental changes.
-  **NatureFind** - Find nature areas near your school for your students to experience and learn in. Parks, zoos, botanical gardens and nature centers, among many others, can provide places for study across subject areas.
-  **iNaturalist** - Record nature observations and share them with the online community of naturalists. Students can also keep a log of the wildlife they discover and the biodiversity they experience while being outdoors.
-  **Google Earth** - Help students explore their natural environment from a bird's eye view and compare and contrast it with habitats around the world. Layers, including roads, borders and places, provide additional perspective of the surroundings.
-  **Marine Debris Tracker** - Students can contribute to NOAA's efforts to keep the nation's coastlines and waterways free of trash by tracking debris in local waterways and submitting their data with the mobile app.

[Learn more about EE Week at eeweek.org](#)



- ### 10 Ways to Participate in EE Week
1. Incorporate environmental themes into daily lesson plans.
  2. Help students identify and investigate their watershed.
  3. Use GPS technology to enable students to map and inventory invasive plant species.
  4. Use mobile technology to inventory wildlife on your school grounds.
  5. Organize a virtual or in-person field trip to a local aquarium or zoo.
  6. Partner with a business or community group to host a clean-up or water quality monitoring event.
  7. Construct a wildlife habitat, schoolyard garden or outdoor classroom on your campus.
  8. Help students launch a school recycling program.
  9. Utilize an app that monitors water and energy use in the school building.
  10. Help students develop a service-learning project around improving the environment in their community.

# A Message by U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan



“We know so many of the jobs of the future are in the STEM fields, and there are so many great ties between STEM education and environmental education. If we really want to keep those good jobs in this country, if we want our students prepared, I think there’s no better way to start to get at that, whether it’s in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade or in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade, than to get kids out in the outdoors with environmental education.”

# Tech & Our Planet

- 75% of 1,900 surveyed educators said students who spend regular time outdoors tend to be more creative & better problem-solvers
- 77% of teachers believe using tech in the classroom increases student motivation to learn.
- Children who experience the natural world & have opportunities to play & learn within it are more likely to choose science or related fields as careers



Available at: [www.eeweek.org](http://www.eeweek.org)



# Greening STEM: Taking Technology Outdoors



Use smartphones and apps to create a scavenger hunts in parks, zoos, etc.



Use software tools to determine the ecological benefit of trees.

Put QR Codes on plant labels and outdoor signs to link to changeable online information including videos, text, images and sound.



More case studies at: [www.eeweek.org](http://www.eeweek.org)



Home

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Missions

Education

 Sign in



**Project Noah** is a tool to explore and document wildlife and a platform to harness the power of citizen scientists everywhere.

[Join Project Noah Today](#)



### **Global Schoolyard Bioblitz!**

Project Noah is teaming up with the National Environmental Education Foundation and National Geographic Education to launch our Global Schoolyard Bioblitz campaign! Project Noah has quickly become a leading resource for nature exploration and documentation and now we're collecting wildlife observations from schoolyards around the world in an effort to get kids outside and exploring nature. Help us spread the word and let's see how many students we can reach!

[Sign in to join mission](#)

 Tweet 31

 Like 57



Overview



Details



Map

# Using Technology to Connect Students & the Environment





# Apps for Outdoor Learning

## Examples



**What's Invasive!** - Help scientists locate invasive species by making geo-tagged observations and taking photos in their natural areas. The information students collect can help stop the spread of invasive species which destroy native habitats.



**Leafsnap** – a free mobile app that uses visual recognition software to help identify tree species from photographs of their leaves. \*\*For iPhone & iPad only.



**iNaturalist** – Record nature observations and share them with the online community of naturalists. Students can also keep a log of the wildlife they discover and the biodiversity they experience while being outdoors.

# EE Week 2013 Educator Toolkit



National Environmental  
Education Week

**Greening STEM: Taking Technology Outdoors**



**EE WEEK 2013 EDUCATOR TOOLKIT**



# EE Week Free Educator Webinars



## Announcing a Free EE Week Educator Webinar: *Using Technology to Investigate the Outdoors*

Thursday, February 28, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. ET

Get ready for **EE Week 2013: Taking Technology Outdoors** by tuning in with [Pacific Education Institute](#) (PEI) to explore how to use technology to engage student investigative outdoor field experiences.

**Breanna Trygg**, Environmental Education Program Coordinator at PEI will share how Fish and Wildlife biologists across the country employ technology tools in the field and recommend technology resources for expanding student learning in outdoor field studies.

**Erica Baker**, Educational Consultant with PEI, will highlight a variety of examples and studies that illustrate how educators are using technology in the field to engage tod students.

[Register for EE Week 2013](#) to participate in this webinar. The webinar is free and will be archived online for later viewing at [eeweek.org/webinars](#).



## Announcing a Free EE Week Educator Webinar: *Taking Technology Outdoors: Geography Connections*

Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. ET

Get ready for **EE Week 2013: Taking Technology Outdoors** by tuning in with [National Geographic Education](#) and [Esri](#) to explore tech tools that engage students in citizen science projects and connect them with their local communities.

**Sean O'Connor** from National Geographic Education will introduce FieldScope, mobile tech and online communities and how they can be used for citizen science projects. He'll also discuss how schools can use technology to conduct bioblitzes in schoolyards or local parks to document biodiversity.

**Charlie Fitzpatrick**, Esri Schools Program Manager, will introduce story maps — an online platform for showcasing the data collected by teachers and students in the field and in their local communities via map-based storytelling.

[Register for EE Week 2013](#) to participate in this webinar. The webinar is free of cost and will be archived online for later viewing at [eeweek.org/webinars](#).



## Announcing a Free EE Week and Green Teacher Webinar: *21st Century Tools for Environmental Learning in the Community*

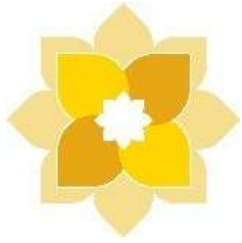
Wednesday, April 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. ET

Get ready for **EE Week 2013: Taking Technology Outdoors** by tuning in with EE Week and [Green Teacher](#) to learn about turning student interest in technology tools and media into a powerful venue for learning.

**Ruth Kermish-Allen**, Education Director and **Rachel Thompson**, Education Programs Associate at the [Island Institute](#) will introduce the island institute and their strategies for integrating and applying technology with community-based environmental education programs. They'll discuss lessons learned and explore how to apply these strategies in a formal classroom setting. They'll also discuss how to engage students in hands-on environmental learning through the application of 21st century skills and knowledge.

[Register for EE Week 2013](#) to participate in this webinar. The webinar is free and will be archived online for later viewing at [eeweek.org/webinars](#).





# EE Week Photo Contest

Upload your photos - including those from digital cameras, camera phones and social media sites like Instagram - to the **EE Week Photo Contest**.

Prizes include a Samsung Galaxy Note® 10.1 (Wi-Fi) 16GB, a 14.2 Megapixel Samsung SMART Camera and a Dual-View Smart Camera with Built-in Wi-Fi.

Upload your wildlife photos to Project Noah's **Global Schoolyard Bioblitz** mission now through May 31 for the chance to earn a commemorative digital EE Week 2013 patch.





Register, tune in, and experience our latest LIVE programs or access our past adventures and join the nature action!

- Live adventures take you to exciting places where you meet experts and educators.
- PAST Adventures allow you to access full programs, searchable video segments and classroom resources anytime.
- Education Resources aligned to the standard provide lesson plans and educator resources that can be integrated into your classroom and beyond.



**Classroom Earth**  
A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

## Connect With Us

**Jennifer Tabola, Senior Director, Education,**

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**[skozicki@neefusa.org](mailto:skozicki@neefusa.org)**

**Classroom Earth: [www.classroomearth.org](http://www.classroomearth.org)**

**EE Week: [www.eeweek.org](http://www.eeweek.org)**

**Planet Connect: [www.planetconnect.org](http://www.planetconnect.org)**



