

ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERS

2008 Programs Update

Our Mission:

To promote understanding of, and responsibility for the environment, through hands-on science education.

Our Vision:

That all children will learn about and be inspired by the natural world so that they become responsible stewards of the Earth.

Kids-In-Nature Subject Areas

Baylands Ecology
Forest & Foothill Ecology
Earthquake Geology
Marine Ecology
All About Birds
Early California Indians:
 an Environmental Perspective
Water Science & Conservation
Nature in Your Neighborhood

and our newest subject area, starting in Fall 2008:

Energy & Natural Resources

The EcoCenter

Have you heard? The EV is redeveloping an historic building in the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve, using green-building design and eco-friendly materials. Once restored, the unique boat-shaped building originally designed by Birge Clark will be our new home and a community EcoCenter for the advancement of environmental education in the Bay Area.



Our commitment. Our community.

- The EV's signature program, **Kids-In-Nature** engages students in the excitement of scientific inquiry with classroom and field study activities in nine subject areas.
- The concept of **Environmental Sustainability** is taught in all our subject areas, whether children are learning about bay birds or redwood forests or energy production.
- EV educational philosophy centers on the motto, "Please touch!" so our **Learning Station Kits** are subject to significant wear. During the next 2-years, the EV will refurbish and update all 260 kits, revitalize materials, incorporate new concepts, and ensure that the content meets current state science education standards.
- Our **Equity and Ecology Program** brings EV programs to low-income schools.
- The EV's university-accredited **Volunteer Docent Training Program** continues to train our own docents, park rangers, docents from other organizations, and school and community volunteers.
- This year the EV adds **new summer programs** for middle school ages with two areas of focus: *Explore! Energy on the Move*, will culminate with a race of vehicles that youngsters make of recycled materials and power with renewable energy; and *Explore! Bay, Sea & Slough*, will include excursions to local water ecosystems and marine science centers. The EV continues with its popular S.N.A.K.E. camp for ages 6 to 10.
- **Educating for Depth** is our new initiative designed to achieve higher quality results in science education. It purposely provides multiple, sequenced services to blocks of grade levels within a school, for consecutive years. This will deliver advances in children's learning and retention of scientific knowledge, improve test scores, support teachers, and increase students' awareness of environmental stewardship.
- The EV has fostered **collaborations** with peer organizations and set a new course for our field, enabling independent organizations to join together to accomplish more than any of us could do alone.
- The EV is developing an interactive **web-based collaboration tool** to efficiently coordinate the programs of peer organizations. The web system will recommend linked program combinations and enable teachers to search by grade level, by state standards, and by subject matter. Teachers will use one convenient application to register with multiple organizations. This strategy, designed by the EV, will be adoptable by other communities, and by other academic disciplines.



We hope you agree... there's a lot going on at The EV!

DONORS play a crucial role sustaining EV programs.

Generous financial support:

- Makes it possible for the EV to touch the lives of 10,000 school children each year with exhilarating natural science experiences.
- Enables the EV to help 350 schoolteachers meet state education standards with science enrichment added to their curriculum each year.
- Provides resources to recruit and train hundreds of dedicated community volunteer docents.
- Helps the EV reach across the generations to educate young people and instill in them an enthusiastic love for nature and a lifelong commitment to responsible environmental stewardship.

VOLUNTEERS are amazing.

Nearly 200 volunteers:

- Reach 10,000 kids in 80 schools with 500 programs each year.
- Provide 6000 service hours in bringing programs to classrooms and on field trips.
- Are models of dedication and commitment. Some volunteers have been providing EV programs for 10, 20, or even 30 years!

KIDS say it best:



"You have taught us so much stuff. The field trip was the best field trip I ever had. I loved the salty taste of the pickleweed."



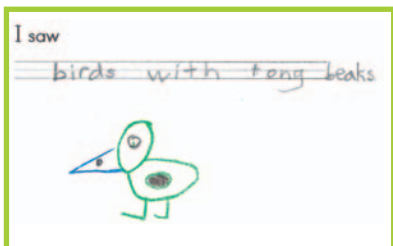
"I love the birds and I wish to be one of them."



"I really enjoyed being taught how I can look up in the sky and recognize different kinds of birds."



"My favorite part was the banana slug. I like them because they are yellow. That is my mom's favorite color."



Marking Moments:

Celebrate a birthday, anniversary, holiday, or special event with a contribution to the EV. Honor those who have passed with gifts to the EV in their memory.

A card recognizing your generous contribution will be sent to the designee of your choice.

Matching Gifts

It's worth checking: Employer Matching Gifts may double or even triple your contribution.

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