HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We hope you had an opportunity to rest and recharge over the winter break!

With the new year, comes new opportunities! The SCCOE Science team has a whole set of new and exciting professional learning experiences that we are hosting over the next five months! We hope you see these series as an opportunity to renew your science educator energy and a way to find community to support you through the rest of the 2021-2022 school year.

We have two different Science focused series that feature best practices in NGSS pedagogy to support equitable outcomes for ALL students.

- **Creating Powerful Learning Experiences in Science** - This is not your average virtual PL series! This is a space to do some science, connect with other science educators from around the Bay Area, and renew your passion for engaging students in powerful learning experiences. Registration includes a hands on science kit of supplies for the sessions, a copy of Ambitious Science Teaching, and a fantastic surprise guest speaker at our kick-off session!

- **Antiracism & Social Justice in the Science Classroom** - Join us in creating a community of science educators who are open to engaging in conversations about equity, antiracism, and social justice. We’ll explore what these terms mean/look like in the context of our work and support each other in the next steps on our journey towards humanizing the pursuit of science. We'd love to have you join us wherever you are in your equity work!

We are also starting a new Community of Practice to support school garden initiatives.

- **Growing Gardens Community of Practice (CoP)** - Are you in charge of your school's garden but don't have a green thumb? Do you want to start a new garden or revive one from disrepair? Are you looking for ways to incorporate gardens into your curriculum? No problem, we have just the community for you! Join us in our launch of our newest CoP to
support sustainable school gardening initiatives. Our sessions are designed for collaboration & networking to support wherever you are in the process.

If any of these sessions sound interesting to you, see the next section for the registration link.

Last but not least, we are getting closer to announcing the details about our Environmental Literacy Summit. Stay tuned for more information!

WHAT DOES THE SCCOE SCIENCE TEAM DO?
We are here to support ALL educators (teachers, TOSAs/Instructional Coaches, paraeducators, and administrators) in their implementation of NGSS, embedding environmental literacy and sustainability into content areas, and building & sustaining school garden initiatives through coaching, professional learning, strategic planning, and technical assistance.

HOW CAN THE SCCOE SCIENCE TEAM HELP OUR DISTRICT/SCHOOL?
Feel free to reach out to our team via email or phone.
Jennifer Mutch at Jmutch@sccoe.org
Tara Sikorski at Tsikorski@sccoe.org

We are here to support your high quality science and environmental literacy instruction.

Upcoming Events
2021 LEADERSHIP & LEARNING SERVICES CATALOG

Growing Gardens Community of Practice (CoP)
Growing Gardens Community of Practice (CoP)

The Santa Clara County Office of Education invites all TK-12 educators, TOSAs (Teachers on Special Assignment), administrators, garden coordinators, maintenance and operations, and after school garden education providers/staff to the “Growing Gardens Community of Practice (CoP).”

During this Community of Practice we will:

- Collaborate and network with colleagues who support school gardens and outdoor learning spaces.
- Explore partnerships to create and maintain sustainable systems for school gardens and outdoor learning spaces.
- Share resources and ideas about the creative use of school gardens and outdoor learning spaces for both academic instruction and social emotional learning.
- Learn about the best practices for designing, developing and maintaining school gardens and outdoor learning spaces.

Dates:
- Monday, January 31, 2022
- Monday, February 28, 2022
- Monday, March 28, 2022
- Monday, April 25, 2022
- Monday, May 23, 2022

Time: 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual + 1 in-person field trip on May 23, 2022

Audience:
- TK-12 Educators, TOSAs, Administrators, Garden Coordinators, Maintenance and Operations, After School Garden Education Providers/Staff

Grade Level(s): TK – 12

Cost: FREE

For more information, please contact:
Jennifer Mutch • Science Coordinator • jmutch@sccoe.org
Tara Sikorski • Science Coordinator • tsikorski@sccoe.org

Register Here: Growing Gardens COP

Antiracism & Social Justice in the Science Classroom
Antiracism & Social Justice in the Science Classroom

Santa Clara County Office of Education invites all TK-12 Educators, TOSAs (Teachers on Special Assignment) and Administrators to the Antiracism & Social Justice in the Science Classroom Series in Spring 2022.

This series will explore the conditions of an antiracist science classroom along with the intentional integration of critical literacy and social justice based phenomenon into lesson sequences in order to humanize the pursuit of science and engage students in authentic sense-making.

Session Topics:

- **Session 1**: Equity, Anti-racism, and Social Justice. Oh my!
- **Session 2**: Identity & Intersectionality in Science Classrooms
- **Session 3**: Classroom Culture, Student Status, & Discourse
- **Session 4**: Humanizing the Pursuit of Science

**Dates:**
- Wednesday, March 23, 2022
- Wednesday, March 30, 2022
- Wednesday, April 6, 2022
- Wednesday, April 13, 2022

**Time:** 4 to 5:30 p.m.
**Location:** Virtual

**Audience:**
- TK-12 Educators, TOSA’s, and Administrators

**Grade Level(s):** TK – 12

**Cost:** $160

**Registration:**
https://na.eventscloud.com/655609

For more information, please contact:
Tara Sikorski • Science Coordinator • tsikorski@sccoe.org
Creating Powerful Learning Experiences in Science

Professional Learning Series in Winter/Spring 2022

Santa Clara County Office of Education invites all TK-12 Educators and Administrators to the Creating Powerful Learning Experiences in Science Professional Learning Series in Winter/Spring 2022.

Participation in the workshop series includes:
- 6 virtual sessions
- 4 optional sessions for Coaching and Support
- A copy of Ambitious Science Teaching
- Materials

Optional Sessions for Coaching & Support Dates:
- Thursday, February 17, 2022
- Tuesday, March 15, 2022
- Wednesday, April 20, 2022
- Tuesday, May 10, 2022

**All support sessions will be virtual from 3:30-5pm**

Dates:
- Wednesday, February 2, 2022
- Tuesday, March 1, 2022
- Tuesday, April 5, 2022
- Tuesday, May 3, 2022
- Tuesday, May 24, 2022
- Wednesday, June 1, 2022

Time: 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual

Audience: TK-12 Educators and Administrators

Grade Level(s): TK – 12

Cost: $250

Teams of three, get their Administrator in for FREE

Registration:
https://na.eventscloud.com/650525

For more information, please contact:
Jennifer Mutch - Science Coordinator • jmutch@socoe.org
Tara Sikorski - Science Coordinator • tsikorski@socoe.org

REGISTER HERE: CREATING POWERFUL LEARNING EXPERIENCES

LEARNING AND LEADING FOR EQUITY: A COLLABORATIVE CONVENING
Learning and Leading for Equity
A Collaborative Convening
Saturday, January 22, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
A FREE Virtual Event
Sponsor Giveaways for Attendees
Register at http://sccoe.org/learningforequity

For Educators & Administrators

Through the lens of equity, this collaborative convening will address:

Inclusion & Belonging
Supporting educators, students and families in this current, fluid environment to create a sense of inclusion and belonging so students feel safe, cared for and heard so they can learn and thrive.

Personalized Learning
Empowering students, parents, and teachers to advocate for change to engage in innovative practices that support student centered and personalized learning that humanizes students.

Family-Centered Practice
Partnersing with families and co-creating ways to support them and advocate for student success.

Keynote Speaker
Andrestesha Fitzgerald
Antiracism & UDL Author

Featured Speakers
Dr. Julia Aguime
Culturally Responsive Mathematics Teaching

Dr. Stepan Mekhitarian
Personalized Learning Data Analysis

Including Presentations by

common sense
PROJECT COUSINSTONE
exploriostrium

And Educational Leaders from the Santa Clara County Office of Education

For more information contact Paula Leggett at pleggett@sccoe.org

Valley Water & SCCOE Environmental Literacy Educator Cohort

We still have spaces available!!

We can catch you up with the first session (it was recorded). Our next session is on January 19, 2022. Contact Jenn Mutch if you are interested. jmutch@sccoe.org
This grant-funded project will establish a cohort of Teachers, TOSAs, and Instructional Coaches eager to learn about infusing water education, environmental literacy, and NGSS-based lessons and projects into your teaching. A stipend and classroom materials will be offered at the completion of the program.

If you are interested, please see the following requirements:
1. Attendance at all workshops and RAFT in-person seminar.
2. Development and implementation of 1 or more lessons or units that are water education, environmental literacy, and NGSS focused. More details will be provided throughout the cohort.
3. Partnering with Valley Water’s Outreach Team to co-present lessons to classrooms throughout the 2021-2022 school year.
4. Present an overview of the lesson(s) and/or unit that was developed over the school year with a final reflection and student feedback. This presentation will be done at one of the dates in May.
The next meeting is January 19, 2022

2021-2022 ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY LEADERSHIP COLLABORATIVE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT MEETING ON JANUARY 20TH AS WE WILL BE WORKING ON OUR VISION AND GOALS FOR THIS NETWORK
2021-2022 Environmental Literacy Leadership Collaborative

The Environmental Literacy Leadership Network is a collaborative that will explore ways to infuse environmental literacy into classrooms and schools.

We will develop a vision for environmental literacy and sustainability, build partnerships, and connect formal and informal educators in Santa Clara County.

**Dates:**
- Thursday, September 23, 2021
- Thursday, October 21, 2021
- Thursday, November 18, 2021
- Thursday, January 20, 2022
- Thursday, February 24, 2022
- Thursday, March 24, 2022
- Thursday, April 21, 2022
- Thursday, May 19, 2022

**Time:** 3 to 5 p.m.
**Location:**
Virtual via Zoom

**Audience:**
TK-12th Grade Teachers, History/Social Science Teachers, Health Teachers, Science Teachers, TOSA’s, Instructional Coaches, Informal Environmental Educators, and Community Based Partners

**Grade Level(s):** TK – 12

**Registration:**
https://na.eventscloud.com/618910

For more information, please contact:
Jennifer Mutch • Science Coordinator • (408) 453-6691 • jmutch@scoe.org

REGISTER HERE: ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY COLLABORATIVE

The next meeting is January 20, 2022

2021-2022 TOSA AND INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES NETWORK MEETING
2021-2022 TOSA & Instructional Coaches Network Meeting

Santa Clara County Office of Education invites all Coaches, Mentors and TOSAs (Teachers on Special Assignment) to the 2021-2022 TOSA & Instructional Coaches Network Meetings

- Develop your leadership skills as you learn more about supporting teachers with content, pedagogy, and technology.
- Network with other instructional leaders across Santa Clara County.
- Explore how to support teachers with Project Based Learning (PBL), Universal Design for Learning (UDL), integration of content areas, equity, and inclusion.

Dates:
- September 21, 2021
- October 19, 2021
- November 16, 2021
- January 18, 2022
- February 22, 2022
- March 22, 2022
- April 19, 2022
- May 17, 2022

Time: Noon to 2 p.m.
Location: Virtual via Zoom
Audience: TOSA's, Mentors, Coaches
Grade Level(s): TK – 12
Registration:
https://na.eventbrite.com/e/618609

For more information, please contact:
Jennifer Mutch • Science Coordinator • (408) 453-6692 • jmutch@sccoe.org

REGISTER HERE: TOSA & INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES NETWORK

The next meeting is January 18, 2022
Partner Workshops & Events

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF SCIENCE EDUCATORS (CASE)

CASE STATEWIDE SCIENCE LEADERS NETWORK
Click on the link below to register. Note: This will take you to your CASE "Member Clicks" login.

California Science Teachers As... nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com
CA NGSS STATEWIDE IMPLEMENTATION

CA NGSS Statewide Implementation
Online Professional Learning
Building Student Sensemaking Through Disciplinary Literacy

REGISTER AT CANGSS.ORG
SCIENCE SAFARIS

Join us for upcoming Science Safaris at our Vasona and Sanborn locations! Our science safaris are educational programs that not only bring you and your family into nature, but we will also teach you facts about your surroundings that you may not have known! These guided Science Safaris will be led completely outdoors by a YSI staff member. YSI's Science Safari programs are designed for families, so please register each attending member.

FUNGUS AMONG US AT SANBORN PARK

**Date:** January 15, 2022  
**Time:** 11:30am-1:00pm  
**Cost:** $25

Our newest Science Safari - **Fungus Among Us**, allows a YSI instructor to lead you around the trails of Sanborn to look for all the different types of mushrooms, puffballs, and other fungi that are around.
INSECT AND SALAMANDER SCAVENGER HUNTS AT SANBORN PARK

**Time:** 11:30am-1:00pm  
**Cost:** $25

Did you know that the breeding season for salamanders in California is November to March? This year, we are hosting several of these events between **January and March** for the chance to see these amazing creatures. Because we find other creatures in the same areas, why not learn about them as well! Each 90-minute science safari will allow you to search the areas around Sanborn with our experienced Instructors to learn about what you see. Remember, these animals love cool moist areas, so this event is rain or shine! Put on your mud boots and dress warm!

**Register Here:**  
- **January 17, 2022**  
- **February 12, 2022**  
- **February 19, 2022**  
- **March 5, 2022**  
- **March 19, 2022**  
- **March 26, 2022**

BIOBLITZ AT VASONA

**Date:** January 22, 2022  
**Time:** 10:30am-12:00pm  
**Cost:** $25

This fun event allows children to assist their parents with their smartphones by searching under and over, high and low for anything and everything! First, we will talk about what a Bioblitz is, then we will navigate everyone through using a wonderful app, iNaturalist, to learn how to catalog information for this Bioblitz and why it's so important.
**OHLINE NATURE WALK AT VASONA**

**Date:** February 26, 2022  
**Time:** 11:00am-12:30pm  
**Cost:** $25  

Learn about all the plants that the Ohlone Native Americans had access to while they survived here for years and years! From tree bark to berries and seeds, we will show you all sorts of local plants that have several uses! We will also walk along the lake to see what the Ohlone would have foraged for their successful survival.

**REGISTER HERE: OHLINE NATURE WALK**

---

**STORY TIME: HOW DO FLIES WALK UPSIDE DOWN?**

**Date:** January 22, 2022  
**Time:** 12:30pm-1:00pm  
**Location:** Vasona Lake County Park  
333 Blossom Hill Road Los Gatos, CA 95032  
**Cost:** Free!  

After we read the book together, we will meet a live insect!

**REGISTER HERE: HOW DO FLIES WALK UPSIDE DOWN?**

---

**STORY TIME: FISH IS FISH**

**Date:** February 26, 2022  
**Time:** 1:00pm-1:30pm  
**Location:** Vasona Lake County Park  
333 Blossom Hill Road Los Gatos, CA 95032  
**Cost:** Free!  

After we read the book together, we will meet a live YSI animal ambassador that lives in the water!
STORY TIME: WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A TAIL LIKE THIS?

Date: March 12, 2022
Time: 1:00pm-1:30pm
Location: Vasona Lake County Park
333 Blossom Hill Road Los Gatos, CA 95032
Cost: Free!

After we read the book, we will meet a couple of animals with tails!

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE TEACHER WORKSHOPS

LET’S GO OUTSIDE! (GRADES PREK-3+)

Are you wondering how to help young children to become active and engaged explorers? This workshop is for you!

We will model strategies that support young children exploring their school yard, around their home, or another outdoor setting. We will demonstrate ways to
lead this learning equitably, both remotely and in-person. You will have the opportunity to talk with fellow educators and apply strategies to your own unique teaching context. This workshop is designed for Preschool - 3rd grade teachers, but teachers of older students may also find it valuable. All educators are welcome.

Saturday, January 22, 2022
9:00 am to noon (Pacific time)
Cost: $35
Registration will close on or before Friday, January 21

AFRICAN PENGUINS: SCIENCE, STORIES, SPECIAL FRIENDS GRADES K-2: LIVESTREAM SERIES

This interactive series consists of three weekly consecutive sessions in one month. Each live session lasts approximately 30 minutes, is a lesson taught by a team of professional educators, and is broadcast to multiple classes at the same time via YouTube Live. Students will interact with the educators through browser-based polls and hands-on activities.

This program is designed for grades K-2, but all are welcome. Pick the language option that works best for your class:

- 10 am PT on Tuesdays (February 1, 8, & 15) for presentation in English (ELL supported)
- 10 am PT on Wednesdays (February 2, 9, & 16) for presentation primarily in Spanish
- 11 am PT on Wednesdays (February 2, 9, & 16) for presentation primarily in Cantonese

*Registration will close at 12pm PT on Tuesday, January 25

DIGGING INTO DATA (GRADES 6-12)
Support students in using data to draw conclusions and tell stories about the world. Prepare them to think critically about claims made based on data and correlations. This three-hour online learning experience will be highly interactive and will engage you in small-group discussions and individual exploration. You will try out activities as a learner, as well as reflect with your peers on how to apply these ideas in your own teaching.

This workshop is designed for teachers of grades 6 - 12. All educators are welcome.

**Saturday, February 5, 2022**
9:00 am to noon (Pacific time)
Cost: $35
Registration will close on or before Friday, February 4.

---

**THRIVING CALIFORNIA (GRADES 4-8)**

By exploring the world around us, we can find clues that will tell us about California's past and present. What we learn can help us to shape solutions that will ensure a thriving California for the future.

Ecology and ecosystems are big concepts. In this workshop you will engage with some strategies that make them both accessible and relatable. These strategies will involve direct interactions with both the natural and the built environment around us.

You will be supported to figure out how the strategies we practice in this workshop might be translated for successful implementation in your unique teaching & learning context.

This workshop is designed for people who work with grades 4-8, but is not limited to that range and all educators are welcome.

**Saturday, March 12, 2022**
9:00am - 12:00pm (Pacific Time)
Cost: $35
Registration will close on or before Friday, March 11.
EXPLORING YOUR ENVIRONMENT WITH MATH AND SCIENCE (GRADES 3-5)

What do scientists and mathematicians have in common, and how do they work together? Experience model activities that bring together math practices and science practices and support students to succeed at both. These activities will also get students outside and exploring their local environment. Workshop participants will reflect on the experience and discuss ways to apply these pedagogical strategies in your own context. This three-hour online learning experience will be highly interactive and will engage you in small-group discussions and individual exploration.

This workshop is designed for teachers of grades 3 - 5. All educators are welcome.

Saturday, March 19, 2022
9:00am - 12:00pm (Pacific Time)
Cost: $35
Registration will close on or before Friday, March 18.
Buses and Biofuels: Sustainable Transportation

Grade level: 6-10
Length: 4 minutes
NGSS Disciplinary Core Ideas: MS-ESS3.A, MS-ESS3.C, MS-ESS3.D, MS-ETS1.1

For Video Discussion Questions and Accompanying Activity, please visit https://www.calacademy.org/educators/buses-and-biofuels-sustainable-transportation?utm_campaign=educator_enews_20211129&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Mailjet
The Tech Challenge 2022: Kinetic Commotion

Partner Resources
You are invited!: Teacher coach professional learning community program

The STEAM Team at CDE Foundation is excited to bring back our Teacher Coach Professional Learning Community Program beginning this spring. We want to nurture an asset-based, peer-led professional learning community, and this program is specifically designed for coaches of educators with the goal of interdisciplinary learning and advancing equitable outcomes for every student. A $500 stipend is provided for active participation.

Deadline: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 11:59 pm
Virtual PLC - Apply Today!
Go to https://cdef.ink/CoachPLC22

- Develop coaching skills to advance equity
- Access brave space to explore challenges
- $500 stipend provided

Winter of CS 2-Day Workshop for Administrators

January 26 and 31, 2022 | 9am-3pm | $20

The Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, Glenn, Merced, Sacramento County Offices of Education, Elk Grove Unified SD, Kapor Center, UCLA/Center X, and the CSforCA Coalition are proud to announce Winter of CS for Administrators! You will have opportunities to learn from and with other administrators implementing the California K-12 Computer Science Standards.
BIOMIMICRY OVERVIEW FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS

Register: K-5 Teachers: January 25, 2022 | 3-4:30pm | FREE
Register: 6-12 Teachers: February 1, 2022 | 3-4:30pm | FREE

This professional learning begins with grade band overview of biomimicry, moves into specific tools for supporting biomimetic design, including the use of biomimicry instructional units. The overview concludes with an invitation for educators to teach a biomimicry unit and receive a funded Continuing Education Unit through UC Merced Extension.
Critical Features of Instructional Materials Design for Today's Science Standards:
A Resource for Science Curriculum Developers and the Education Field

Today's science standards have initiated a significant shift in all parts of the science education system. As a result, science instructional materials are also changing. Educators, school and district administrators, and developers of instructional materials need to be able to develop a common vision of high-quality curricula that will prepare students for success in school and beyond.
This resource is jointly authored by EdReports and NextGenScience to illustrate critical design features of science instructional materials and provide common language for describing high-quality materials.
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING EDUCATION NEEDS TO BE PRIORITIZED THROUGH FIFTH GRADE, SAYS NEW REPORT

Starting in early childhood, children are capable of learning sophisticated science and engineering concepts and engage in disciplinary practices. They are deeply curious about the world around them and eager to investigate the many questions they have about their environment. Educators can develop learning environments that support the development and demonstration of proficiencies in science and engineering, including making connections across the contexts of learning, which can help children see their ideas, interests, and practices as meaningful not just for school, but also in their lives. Unfortunately, in many
preschool and elementary schools science gets relatively little attention compared to English language arts and mathematics. In addition, many early childhood and elementary teachers do not have extensive grounding in science and engineering content.
Distance Learning Resources:

SCCOE: https://www.scc-enviro-ed.org/
WALDEN WEST: http://www.waldenwest.org/
CAELI: https://ca-eli.org/
SMCOE: https://eeproviders.smcoe.org
SANTA CRUZ COE: https://sites.google.com/view/environmental-literacy-for-all/professional-learning
SJCOE: https://www.sjcoescience.org/environmental-literacy.html
VALLEY WATER: https://www.valleywater.org/
EVOLS: https://www.evols.org/
LIVING CLASSROOM: https://www.living-classroom.org/

More Environmental Literacy Resources and Partners Featured on the SCCOE and SMCOE Environmental Literacy websites above.
The mission of the Science Department is to provide service and support for all educational stakeholders. We offer workshops, conferences, and student events that promote the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

Science explores and explains phenomena around us. It is a way of gaining, organizing, applying, and conveying knowledge of that phenomena. Having science as one of the core contents in K-12 education is vital as it influences our culture and has allowed society to flourish.

1290 Ridder Park Drive, San Jo... vdejesus@sccoe.org
4084536587 sccoe.org/isteam/science/Pag...