

Science & Environmental Literacy

— May 2022-Santa Clara County Office of Education —



Let's be honest, every day should be teacher appreciation day.

As we enter into the final month(s) of the 2021-2022 school year, we want to take a moment to recognize all the time, effort, and energy (both emotional and physical) that went into supporting students and each other during this school year. We know the last weeks and days of the school year can feel like a mad dash towards summer, and so we encourage you to take a few opportunities to slow down. Take that deep breath. Be present and in the moment. Focus on the sights and sounds of nature. Do something creative. Make time for fun. Reconnect with yourself. Overall, show yourself some appreciation and love.

Over here at SCCOE, we're wrapping up our 2021-2022 school year and preparing for the transition to the 2022-2023. Below is a summary of that work.

The last convenings for our CoPs are as follows:

- TOSA & Instructional Coaches CoP - May 17
- Environmental Literacy Collaborative - Date TBD (May 19th Date needs to be changed)
- Growing Gardens CoP - May 23

Summer Offerings:

We also have planned a few low key professional learning opportunities for the summer.

- Foundations of Equitable Grading: a self paced virtual course. More information and registration is below.
- Summer Science Book Club: Please complete [this interest form](#) if you want to participate. (<https://forms.gle/fgMdiqLwSuiD3bp76>)
- Not Low Key, but very powerful learning experience- Solutionary Teacher Fellowship (in partnership with SMCOE):
<https://sites.google.com/smcoe.org/solutionaryteacherfellowship/2022-23-cohort->
Contact Jenn if you have questions about this and are interested in applying.

NEW for SPRING!!

Check out our new Growing Gardens Website!

<https://www.sccoe.org/isteam/science/gardens/Pages/default.aspx>

We also want to thank everyone who attended our very first Environmental Literacy Summit on April 30th. It was a great success and we've already started planning for our event for next year. We hope that we will see you there! Keep an eye out here for more information and for those who attended the event, keep a lookout in your email for the resources and recordings.

Looking ahead to 2022-2023:

We are entering the planning stages of the 2022-2023 school year and would like your feedback! Please take a moment to complete the following [survey](#) so we can best align our offering to your needs: <https://forms.gle/cuz7bNQmg2gGXeG48> Please feel free to share the survey with your colleagues.

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 and 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.

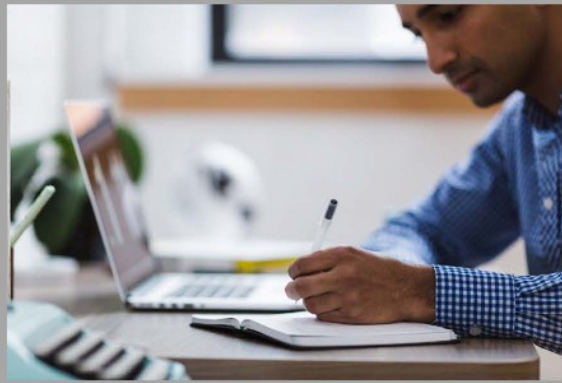
Jenn Mutch at Jmutch@sccoe.org

Tara Sikorski at Tsikorski@sccoe.org

We are here to support your high-quality science and environmental literacy instruction. Please also share your events and highlights with us! We would love to feature what you are doing in your classrooms, at your schools, and in your Districts with Science and Environmental Literacy. Send us an email if you'd like to be featured in future newsletters.

UPCOMING Events

*Foundations of Equitable Grading Summer
Online Course*



Foundations of Equitable Grading Summer Online Course

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) invites all TK-12th grade educators, TOSAs (Teachers on Special Assignment), instructional coaches, and district/school site administrators to the Foundations of Equitable Grading Online Course.

During this course you will:

- Reflect upon current grading practices and how they support/hinder a growth mindset
- Explore equitable grading practices and how these practices impact students
- Learn strategies to make grading more equitable
- Begin to build an understanding of equitable grading systems

PLEASE NOTE:

- Participants will need to purchase *Grading for Equity* by Joe Feldman.
- This self-paced course will take about 14-16 hours to complete.
- Upon completion of this course, two (2) graduate-level semester units will be available through the University of the Pacific for a fee.

For more information, please contact:

Tara Sikorski • Science Coordinator • tsikorski@sccoe.org

Christa Norum • Educational Technology Coordinator • cnorum@sccoe.org

Course Runs:

Summer Session
June 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022

Location: Online via Canvas
Asynchronous: Self-Paced

Audience:

TK-12th grade Educators, TOSAs,
Instructional Coaches, and District
Level Administrators

Grade Level(s): TK – 12th grade

Cost: FREE

Core Text: *Grading for Equity*
by Joe Feldman

Registration:

<https://na.eventscloud.com/683237>

Register Here: Foundations of Equitable Grading
Course

*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/or outdoor learning spaces
- Explore partnerships to create and maintain sustainable systems for school gardens and/or 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/or outdoor learning spaces.

For more information, please contact:

Jennifer Mutch • Science Coordinator •

jmutch@sccoe.org

Tara Sikorski • Science Coordinator •

tsikorski@sccoe.org



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

Registration:

<https://na.eventscloud.com/657647>

Register Here: Growing Gardens CoP

The next meeting is May 23, 2022

*2021-2022 Environmental Literacy Leadership
Collaborative*

THE May 19th Date Will need to be re-scheduled- look for an email with more information.



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@sccoe.org

*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.eventscld.com/618909>

For more information, please contact:

Jennifer Mutch • Science Coordinator • (408) 453-6692 • jmutch@sccoe.org

Partner Workshops & Events

*DEADLINE COMING SOON for KCI
STEAM Leadership Program*



FREE TUITION FOR CA EDUCATORS

KCI
<STEAM>
LEADERSHIP

LEAN INTO YOUR STEAM IDENTITY
WITH CRISTINA BUSTAMANTE & ED CAMPOS



PROGRAM ADVANTAGES:

- Equity-Driven Leadership
- Grant-funded Professional Learning
- Project-Based Instructional Design
- Community

Apply before May 8!



In-Person & Virtual Sessions
June 2022 - March 2023
12345 El Monte Rd
Los Altos Hills, Ca 94022

Become a CA State Certified STEAM Instructional Leader!

EMPOWERING THROUGH EQUITABLE INSTRUCTION
krauseinnovationcenter.org/steam



Forestry Challenge is Seeking Fall 2022 Applicants

Registration information is here: [2022 Pre-registration - Forestry Challenge](#)

For more information check out their website: [Forestry Challenge - Forestry Challenge](#)

California Association of Science Educators (CASE)



Registration is Now Open

Registration for the 2022 California Science Education Conference is now open! We're so excited to be back IN PERSON in sunny Palm Springs and give you an awesome, engaging and fun experience you won't forget! If you want a guaranteed spot at the conference, make sure to register early!



Take Advantage of the lowest registration rates TODAY!

[REGISTER ONLINE →](#)

Super Bird Rates in effect until June 15, 2022!

Call for Proposals!

California Science Education Conference
October 14-16, 2022 | Palm Springs, CA
CALL FOR PROPOSALS NOW OPEN!

Are you looking for an opportunity to share your knowledge and expertise in an area of science education? Are you eager for face to face interaction in a welcoming and friendly environment?

Do you want to travel to sunny Palm Springs? If you answered yes to any of these questions, submit your proposal for the 2022 California Science Education Conference today!

Choose from either of the following proposal options:

90-minute workshop

Short Course (choose between 3 or 6 hours)

PROPOSAL DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED AND ARE DUE BY FRIDAY, MAY 13th, 2022

[Submit a Proposal Here!](#)

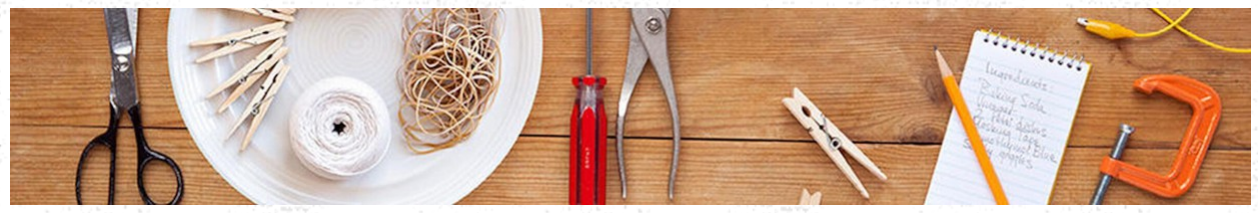
Partner Resources

raft[®]

**RESOURCE AREA
FOR TEACHING**



The Tech Interactive



Exploratorium- Learning Toolbox



CALIFORNIA
ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES

Monterey Bay Aquarium

LOGIN FOR MEMBERS SHOP

VISIT ANIMALS JOIN & GIVE ACT FOR THE OCEAN FOR EDUCATORS

Learning at home

Support children's learning at home for grades PreK through 12.

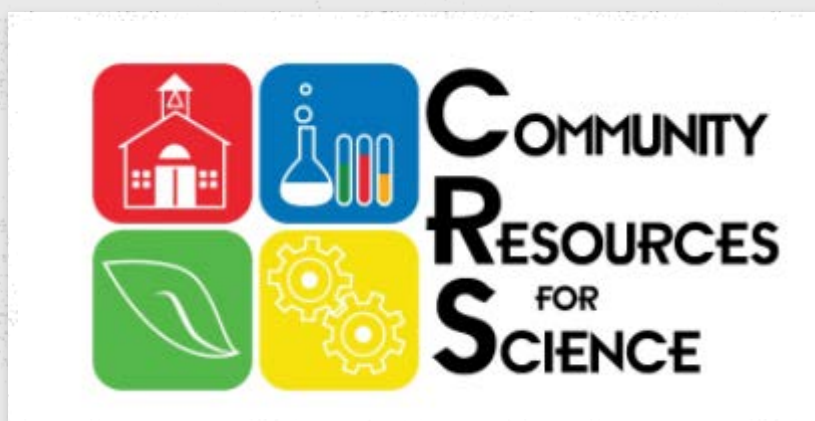
These online courses and family-friendly science activities encourage a sense of wonder and connection to the natural world while teaching important science concepts.

© Love our educational resources? Support us with a donation.

Monterey Bay Aquarium Learning at Home Resources

Upcoming STEM Workshops- In Person and Virtual in the Bay Area

The Community Resources for Science (click on the image below) has put together a comprehensive list of Bay Area and beyond webinars, workshops, and self-directed learning opportunities. Some are fee-based and others are FREE.



Teacher Opportunities

AMGEN[®] Biotech Experience

Scientific Discovery for the Classroom
San Francisco Bay Area

ABE Summer 2022 Complete Series Workshop

This workshop trains teachers in the ABE Complete Series, including plasmid digest and ligation, gel electrophoresis, bacterial transformation, protein purification, and colony PCR. We welcome new-to-ABE teachers, ABE teachers who have attended the Abridged Series PD, and teachers who would like to repeat the Complete Series Workshop. This summer we will be prioritizing new teachers, followed by teachers who have attended only the Abridged Series PD, and will maintain a waitlist for all other teachers depending on how many people sign up. Note that you must provide proof of vaccination to attend, and we anticipate that masks will be required throughout the workshop. Subject to change, courtesy of the ongoing pandemic!

Dates: Monday, June 13 - Friday, June 17

Times: 9:00am-4:00pm each day

Location: The Lawrence Hall of Science, Berkeley, CA

Register for [Full Workshop Here](#)

Register for [PCR Only Here](#) (you MUST have already completed a Complete Series ABE PD)

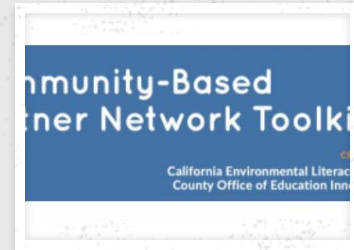
For more information, contact Maia Binding at mbinding@berkeley.edu

Protein Purification Column "Make and Take" Workshop

ABE is considering hosting a workshop in Fall 2022 for teachers already trained in protein purification who would like to make their own set of protein purification columns to use at their schools. Participants would make a class set of columns, learn about column maintenance and trouble-shooting, and leave with a class set of columns, column stands, and accessories. We would limit it to one set of columns per school, but would be happy to have multiple teachers attend, as long as all participants have completed the Complete Series Workshop prior to attending (which would include Summer 2022 participants). We would like to gauge the level of interest in this possibility. If you think you would be interested in this workshop, please fill out this [brief survey](#).

SCCOE Environmental Literacy, Sustainability & Climate

This is our updated site to find resources and information about Environmental Literacy, Sustainability and Climate Education.



California Environmental Literacy Initiative (CAELI)

The California Environmental Literacy Initiative (CAELI), led by [Ten Strands](#), works statewide with guidance from a leadership council to create systems change in support of environmental literacy with a focus on access, equity, and cultural relevance for all students.

Check out all of the Toolkits and Resources developed for Administrators, Teachers and Community Based Partners. <https://ca-eli.org/resources-administrators/>

Teacher Call to Action for Environmental Literacy

[The Teacher Call to Action for Environmental Literacy](#) is a three-part publication developed for educators by educators. Part 1: *The Imperatives for Environmental Literacy* defines the field and recounts its development in California. Part 2: *Voices from the Field* presents case studies of effective instruction at every grade level. Part 3: *Roadmap for Instruction* describes steps to increase Environmental Literacy integration. Discussion and reflection questions in each section will help move along your practice, individually or with your colleagues.

Community-Based Partner Network Toolkit

The [Community-Based Partner Network Toolkit](#) has been designed to help county offices of education, school districts, and community-based partners establish and maintain networks to expand environmental literacy within California's K-12 educational landscape. The toolkit includes sections on types of community-based partners and networks, guidance for networks at different stages, self-assessment rubrics, and more.

Lawrence Hall of Science Releases Updated Outdoor Learning Guidance

When the [National COVID-19 Outdoor Learning Initiative](#) was launched in the summer of 2020, as a joint effort between founding partners Ten Strands, the Lawrence Hall of Science, Green Schoolyards America, and San Mateo County Office of Education, it was done to disrupt the educational inequities that were exacerbated by COVID-19. Since then, the intersection of new learning models and funding has created an opportunity to redefine the educational experience and better serve students, families, and communities. Read more here: [The Lawrence Hall of Science Releases New Guidance For Implementing Outdoor Learning - Ten Strands](#)

Lawrence Hall of Science Outdoor Learning Guidance

<https://ca-eli.org/link/the-lawrence-outdoor-learning-guidance/>

Outdoor Learning Menus

<https://ca-eli.org/link/the-lawrence-outdoor-learning-menus/>

CRS- ARC-GIS Educator Resources

There is also an ARC-GIS webinar series for Educators (3rd-12th Grade):
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ap_jzkOQSMxTI6fit8RQ3JeROu18jC4P3tEEmluculM/edit

Navigating the Political Dimensions of Climate Change Teaching and Learning from STEM Teaching Tools

[Click Here to Read the STEM Teaching Tools](#)

Environmental Literacy Community Based Partner Hub

Environmental Literacy Community Based Partner Hub

A new website that features Community Based Partners that provide environmental education based experiences.

Environmental and Social Justice Awareness Days

Earth Calendar or Eco Calendar



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/>
Distance Learning Resources:
[Distance Learning NEW FOR 2020 | Santa Clara Valley Water](#)



EVOVS

<https://www.evols.org/>
Distance Learning and COVID Modified Resources:
[2020/21 Programs \(COVID Modified\) | Environmental Volunteers - Environmental Volunteers \(evols.org\)](#)



Living Classroom

<https://www.living-classroom.org/>

More Environmental Literacy Resources and Partners Featured on the SCCOE and SMCOE Environmental Literacy websites above.



STEAM- Science & Environmental Literacy

@sccoe

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.

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4084536587

sccoe.org/isteam/science/Pa...

SCCOE Science Google Webpage

For even more resources, workshops and upcoming conferences, please visit our webpage. We are updating this weekly. Please also let us know if you have any events or workshops that you would like to share.

