Happy September! We hope that the first month of school (or longer) has been going smoothly for you all so far. We are excited to be moving into cooler weather and have lots of exciting things coming on the horizon.

We are happy to be able to share a fantastic resource guide to accompany Climate Action Week which starts September 19th, 2022 and goes through September 25th. Climate Action Week is an annual event that gathers climate leaders from public, private, and non profit sectors. Held every year in partnership with the United Nations General Assembly and leading up to the Council of the Parties or COP later in the fall. The largest event is held in New York City but there are over 500 events held throughout the world. Some of our local and national/virtual events are included in another section of the newsletter.

We created this guide to provide background, lessons, and resources to support educators with incorporating climate education into their classrooms and at school sites during and beyond Climate Action Week.

Please check out the SCCOE Climate Action Educators Guide and share it with your teachers and administrators.
Santa Clara County Office of Education

Climate Action Week Educator Guide

September 19 - 25, 2022

UPCOMING

NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS (NGSS) LEADERSHIP LAB

- Engage in doing Science!
- Deepen our knowledge of NGSS and the associated pedagogical best practices for student centered science learning.
- Share tools and resources to improve our instructional practice.
- Build our leadership capacity to support other educators with their shifts towards NGSS.

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Leadership Lab

Date & Time: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. | Location: Virtual

Join us for an opportunity to learn about NGSS and how to implement them in your classroom. This event is open to educators and leaders interested in improving science education in their schools.

Let's work together to create a more sustainable future for our students and our planet!
additional ways to connect with other science educators from across the state.

**Register Here: NGSS Leadership Lab**

**FOUNDATIONS OF EQUITABLE GRADING**

**Fall Online Course**

- 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

**Register Here: Foundations of Equitable Grading Course**

**EQUITABLE GRADING COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE**

- Build a community of educators committed to equitable grading outcomes for all students
- Explore resources & innovative approaches that reduce bias and foster hope in our grading systems
- Share our approaches to and successes overcoming barriers in systems of grading
- Support each other as we explore, implement, and improve our grading practices
Register Here: Equitable Grading Community of Practice

TOSA & INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES NETWORK

- Develop your leadership skills as you learn more about supporting teachers with content, pedagogy, and technology
- Expand your instructional coaching toolbox with a deeper knowledge of instructional coaching frameworks, techniques, and mindsets
- Explore how to support teachers with equitable and inclusive instructional practices, Project Based Learning (PBL), Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and integration of essential skills across the content areas
- Network with other instructional leaders across Santa Clara County and beyond

Register Here: TOSA & Instructional Coaches Network

22–23 ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY LEADERSHIP COLLABORATIVE-TEACHER NETWORK

The Environmental Literacy Leadership Collaborative is a network of teachers that will explore ways to infuse environmental literacy into classrooms, schools, and districts.

We will develop a vision for environmental literacy and sustainability, build partnerships, connect content to the Environmental Principles and Concepts (EP&Cs) and explore partnerships with Community Based Partners (CBPs) in Santa Clara County. Four of our meetings will overlap with the CBP Collaborative.
22-23 ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY LEADERSHIP COLLABORATIVE-COMMUNITY BASED PARTNERS

The Environmental Literacy Leadership Collaborative is a network of Community Based Partner organizations that will continue to explore ways to infuse environmental literacy into classrooms, schools, and districts.

We will continue to build and revise our vision and develop goals for environmental literacy & sustainability, build partnerships, and connect formal and informal educators in Santa Clara County.

GROWING GARDENS COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

- 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.
COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL EDUCATION NETWORK

Join this Network to discuss:

- Best practices for implementing CHYA-compliant Sexual Health Education
- Resources and tools for building community support and responding to CSE opposition
- The intersection of Sexual Health, Mental Health, and Social Emotional Learning Education Strategies

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL EDUCATION TRAININGS

Join these Teacher Trainings to learn about:

- Trauma-Informed Approach to Sexual Health Education
- Consent Revisited
- Teaching Inclusive Anatomy
UN Sustainable Development Mini Design Challenge

This mini design challenge is an opportunity for educators to learn about the Ciena Solutions Challenge, where students of all abilities and ages are invited to form an inclusive team to study relevant real-world problems.

**This mini design challenge will include:**
- Additional details about the Ciena Solutions Challenge
- Information on how to apply for a Ciena Sustainability Award ($2500) to sustain or scale challenge projects
- Opportunities for professional learning and mentoring for educators and students throughout the development of the project

NASA TECHRISE STUDENT CHALLENGE–TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Let’s get started with integrating Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics in your lessons this school year. No experience is required to enter the challenge. The winning team will get technical support during the experiment build phase from NASA Future Engineers advisors.

The Santa Clara County Office of Education invites all 6th-12th grade educators who are interested to take up this challenge but are looking for some additional support! We will help you get started by providing technical advice from experts and guidance to help write the proposal!
Partner Workshops & Events

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF SCIENCE EDUCATORS (CASE)

Join us at case

Saturday, October 15th

1:00 - 2:30 PM
Equity, Anti-Racism, and Social Justice. Oh my!

2:45 - 4:15 PM
Environmental Tools for Teachers

Identity, Implicit Bias, and the Anti-Racist Science Classroom

#CAScience22  #CANGSS  #WeAreSCCOE
SAVE THE DATE: CA NGSS COLLABORATIVE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SERIES #2

CA NGSS COLLABORATIVE Presents:
Professional Learning Series #2 (2022-2023)

COHERENT SCIENCE ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS
Build Awareness of Equitable NGSS Assessment Systems

MEANINGFUL ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITIES (BY GRADE SPAN)

3-DIMENSIONAL ASSESSMENT (BY GRADE SPAN)

EVALUATING TOOLS AND RESOURCES

ANALYZING ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS

Offering #1: November 8-9, 2022 / 8:00 am - 3:00 pm (virtual)
Offering #2: January 10, 17, 24, 31 - 2023 / 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm (virtual)
Offering #3: March 1-2, 2023 / 8:00 am - 3:00 pm (virtual)

FORESTRY CHALLENGE
Registration information is here: [2022 Pre-registration - Forestry Challenge](#)
For more information check out their website: [Forestry Challenge - Forestry Challenge](#)

**Partner Resources**

**CLIMATE ACTION WEEK EVENTS**

**Community Climate Action Day in San Jose**
Join us for the California Climate Action Corps Community Climate Action Day, a volunteer service event and celebration hosted in collaboration with California Climate Action Corps, HandsOn Bay Area, City of San José and Mayor Sam Liccardo, VeggieLution, and other San José community organizations!

**NEEF Climate Superstars Challenge - Starts October 1st.**

*Be a Climate Star* by NEEF (neefusa.org)

**Climate Superstars** is an online environmental challenge that gets kids excited about the environment and how they can take an active role in caring for its future.

During the challenge, middle school classrooms and after-school programs (Grades 6-8) complete short tasks geared towards environmental literacy and energy efficiency.

**League for Green Leaders**
League for Green Leaders invites children to play to learn, play together, and play for our future. It has already engaged and empowered children in North America to save many tonnes of CO2e by choosing a more sustainable way to live.

[https://www.climateweeknyc.org/events/league-green-leaders-competition](https://www.climateweeknyc.org/events/league-green-leaders-competition)
SEL Activities for Global Citizenship and Environmental Literacy

Free Webinar Opportunity for K-8 Teachers
Join Population Education on Thursday, September 29th at 4:30pm ET for classroom materials and discussion to promote SEL skills while addressing global issues in the K-8 classroom.

Click here for more information and to register!

Join us for a free, interactive webinar where we will explore how social-emotional learning can help your students grow as environmentally literate, global citizens. The complex issues we face as a global family (think, climate change) will require leaders who can collaborate, solve problems, make responsible decisions, and promote tolerance. SEL helps students of all ages grow more self-aware and socially conscious, build positive relationships, and succeed both in and out of the classroom.

All participants will receive:

- Our full K-12 curriculum, Teaching Population: Hands-on Activities (over 60 lesson plans!)
- Certificate of completion, showing 1-hour virtual PD.
- Access to all digital tools for integrating technology into your classroom.

Register Now!

Population Education Teacher Workshops

SAVED BY NATURE
Experience the Change
Plan your science content with ease by choosing from our extensive database of supplemental resources. We have science videos and full films for streaming, along with a handful of compelling infographics and visualizations.

Looking for lesson plans? Here are some scannable collections:

- Astronomy Activities
- Earth Science Activities
- Life Science Activities
- Physical Science Activities
- Science Notebook Activities

Search by grade level: preK | K | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th-8th | 9th-12th

All of our resources for K-12 classrooms are free!
Healthy Oceans: Sustainable Seafood | California Academy of Sciences

Click Here for More Information

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.

NGSS NOW Newsletter for September 2022

NGSS NOW

6 things to know about quality K–12 science education in September 2022
Teacher Opportunities

AMGEN® Biotech Experience

Scientific Discovery for the Classroom
San Francisco Bay Area

Fall Training on Abridged Series

Amgen Biotech Experience (ABE) Fall training on the Abridged Series is now open for sign ups! The workshop will be held at the Lawrence Hall of Science, in Berkeley, Saturday, September 24 - Sunday, September 25. This free workshop will train you on all of the Abridged Series labs and is open to any high school science teacher interested in incorporating ABE into their class. Once you complete the training you will be eligible to check out equipment kits and receive the reagents and consumables free of charge.

Outdoor Learning Guidance

The Lawrence Hall of Science
University of California, Berkeley
PROJECT WILD FREE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR K-12 AND POST-SECONDARY

ATTENTION TEACHERS & COLLEGE FACULTY: Starting August 15, 2022 Project WILD is offering formal educators and college level instructors/professors FREE access to some of WILD’s online professional development courses. This free registration is available to K-12 classroom teachers, school staff, school district staff, college level instructors, professors, and college faculty. Each course is self-paced and a Certificate of Completion will be provided to participants for each course completed. For more information and to register, visit www.projectwild.org. You can also access the registration form with the QR code.
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/](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](https://ca-eli.org/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.
Environmental and Social Justice Awareness Days

Earth Calendar or Eco Calendar

Environmental Literacy Community Based Partner Hub

A website that features Community Based Partners that provide environmental education based experiences for classrooms and students.

Santa Clara County Office of Education

[Logo]

Walden West

[Logo]

CAELI

[Logo]

SCCOE

https://www.scc-enviro-ed.org/

Walden West

http://www.waldenwest.org/

CAELI

https://ca-eli.org/

SMCOE

[Logo]

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

EVOLS
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.

iSTEAM – Science & Environmental Literacy

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.

Santa Clara County Office of Education

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.
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.

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