



“Let’s Collaborate” presents . . .Take It To The Yard
An Eco-Conference for Environmental Study

Saturday, October 2, 2010
9:30am - 3:00pm

Join school and environmental educators as we share our successes, discover new resources and learn how easy and beneficial it is to take learning outdoors.

Who should come? Classroom teachers and environmental educators who are interested in learning more about taking students outside, relating curriculum and standards to the outdoors, and gathering new ideas for the classroom.

Mass Audubon’s Boston Nature Center
500 Walk Hill Street, Mattapan

9:30 am	<i>Continental breakfast and registration</i>
10:00 am -noon	<i>Workshop session</i>
12:00-1:00 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
	<i>Keynote Address by Dawn Chavez, Coordinator of Boston Youth Environmental Network (BYEN)</i>
1:00-3:00 pm	<i>Workshop session</i>

Registration fee: \$20.00
Continental breakfast, workshops, classrooms ideas,
lunch, raffles and great networking!

Workshop opportunities include the following:

- 1. The Good Garden** *presented by Amma Sefa-Dedeh, Director of onehen.org.* Through stories, interactive games and integrated curriculum, *The Good Garden* engages students as they learn how families everywhere move from hunger to having enough food. Recommended for grades five and up.
- 2. Using the outdoors: Why? What's the purpose?** *presented by Jeff Winokur and Karen Worth, Elementary and Science Education, Wheelock College.* Discuss the clear purpose for taking students outdoors and discover how once the purpose has been established, good questions can help teachers and students focus on important concepts and skills

3. **Making Connections....indoors and out!** *presented by Suzanne Brown, Grade 2 Teacher, Haley Pilot School.* Look at a program that weaves science throughout the curriculum. Discover how students guide their own learning through inquiry, and improve their vocabulary, writing and scientific understanding.
4. **Leaves and Seeds...the places they'll go!** *presented by Boston Nature Center Teacher Naturalists Ben Driscoll, Anjoli Fry and Jaimy George.* Experience, first hand, the practical connections to exploring fall indoors and out. BNC Naturalists will link explorations to your literacy, math and science programs with hands-on/minds-on investigations and discoveries.
5. **Questions from the Schoolyard** *presented by Kathy Clunis, Teacher of grades K and 1, Mission Hill School.* Five to seven year olds asked questions inspired by a study of their schoolyard. What do the animals in our schoolyard need to thrive? What do the footprints of a robin look like? Do ants climb trees? Discover why no school should be without an outdoor classroom, how inquiry isn't just for science, and how to let children lead an investigation to extend their own thinking.
6. **Integrating Science Throughout The Curriculum** *presented by Bo Hoppin, Educational Facilitator at Boston Youth Environmental Network (BYEN).* Explore the process of moving from the "The Big Idea" to its extensions throughout major curriculum areas. Through logical transitions students will understand and integrate their knowledge in many subject areas with hands-on, inquiry-based explorations.
7. **Natural Play Spaces...creating imaginative outdoor play environments** *presented by Erica Quigley, Teacher Naturalist, Boston Nature Center.* Discover how children can explore nature, stimulate creativity, improve cognitive skills and successfully interact with others while enjoying the wonder of the outdoors.
8. **Outdoor Writers Workshop** *presented by Kristin Metz, Director of Education, Boston Schoolyard Initiative.* How can you use the schoolyard, and outdoor classroom, to help students (from struggling to accomplished writers) improve their writing? We will be writing outdoors and reflecting on the impact of outdoor writing on our own experience as writers, then looking at the implications for classroom practice. Discussion will include outdoor classroom management, and specific strategies for making outdoor writing an integral part of your Writers Workshop.

Registration due by Wednesday, September 29.

Follow this link to register **now**...
(if not readily available, copy and paste into your browser)

http://web.massaudubon.org/site/Donation2?3280.donation=form1&df_id=3280

Questions? Call Jean Dorcus at 617-983-8500 x6903 or email jdorcus@massaudubon.org