



# TEACHING KIDS TO LOVE SCIENCE AND NATURE

**The hallmark of our educational philosophy is small group, hands-on learning. We don't lecture...we want students to touch, taste and smell their way to a nature education.**

The Environmental Volunteers has been teaching natural science to children in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties since 1972. Our programs nurture a connection to the environment and spark interest in lifelong discovery and learning. We believe that stewardship comes with understanding. Thus, we offer children hands-on experiences in the wonders of science and nature so they will become stewards of our shared environment.

Our science education classroom and field trip programs now reach over 11,000 students and their 400 teachers annually. Passionate trained volunteers bring lessons alive for students utilizing our acclaimed hands-on learning stations. On follow-up field study excursions, students explore tidepools, study bay birds, learn about redwood forest ecosystems, track the path of geological fault zones, and more. Common to all our programs is an emphasis on the value and excitement of learning, the importance of science, and the role each of us can play in being good stewards of our shared environment.

Our programs assist teachers to meet their state mandated standards while providing science education resources to schools that would not otherwise be available to them.

We invite you to turn the page and learn more about the Environmental Volunteers, our programs, our volunteers, and the communities we serve.



## NATURE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD (URBAN ECOLOGY)

Grades K-2—Introduced in 1977

Understanding how animals (raccoons, squirrels, birds, worms and insects) and plants coexist with humans, thrive in backyards, community parks and vacant lots is an essential lesson that will form a basis for appreciation of all environments. We look at the way nature is incorporated into our everyday life, including a field trip through the schoolyard.

## ALL ABOUT BIRDS

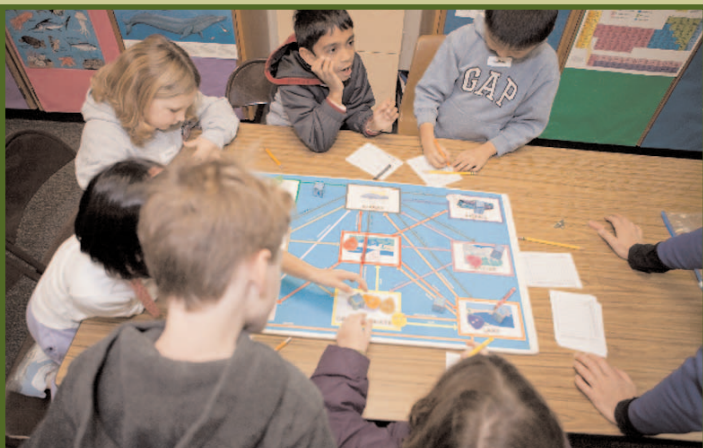
Grades K-2—Introduced in 1996

What kinds of birds are typically found in our local suburban and urban areas? How can they make such complex nests using only their beaks and feet? How are eggs made, and how do an egg's insides change to hatch out a baby bird? We investigate the birds' niche in our environment and their adaptations, coloration, feeding and nesting habits.

## BAYLANDS ECOLOGY

Grade 1 and up—Introduced in 1972

Healthy bays contain an abundance of life as well as decay. Knowing about the health and interrelationships of this environment also teaches children why the San Francisco Bay is one of the largest significant estuaries in the world. We look at the animals and plants of the diverse Baylands ecosystem, its history and its importance to our region.





## FOREST & FOOTHILLS ECOLOGY

Grade 1 and up—  
Introduced in 1973

“It was moving fast, probably scared.” Learning how to read tracks and see animals who stay invisible is only one of the many stimulating activities offered through this program. To fully appreciate nature we must understand the significance of all its aspects.

We identify the interaction and adaptation of species in a Foothill environment, and share an appreciation for organisms and plant communities.

## WATER SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION

Grades 1 and up—Introduced in 1987

A drop of water cycles from air, to ground, to you. The components of water and how they change into a liquid, gas or solid state make water the wonder chemical. Human uses of water to maintain life, grow food and produce goods must be carefully balanced to keep the environment viable. Learning ways to keep that balance is an important lesson The EVs teach. We detail the water cycle, pollution, water chemistry, and wise ways to use water as well as the importance of water to all life.

## MARINE ECOLOGY

Grade 3 and up—Introduced in 1990

The marine program teaches about the physical and biological world of beaches and tides as well as the fascinating, often exotic looking inhabitants. We focus on human impact on the ocean environment, adaptations of marine animals and plant life, and tidal action.

## EARLY CALIFORNIA INDIAN LIFE: AN ENVIRONMENTAL FOCUS

Grade 3 and up—Introduced in 1989

We can learn so much from the way Native Americans interacted with the environment. The Early California Indian program seeks to generate an appreciation for the old ways of co-existing, of living gently on the planet and understanding the concept of living so that the next generation will also enjoy nature’s bounty. We present an historical view of the conservation ethics and environmental impact of local Native Americans.

## EARTHQUAKE GEOLOGY AND PREPAREDNESS

Grade 4 and up—Introduced in 1977

The structure and formation of plates, magnetic fields, magma cycling, soil composition and volcanoes play crucial roles in when and where earthquakes will occur. Californians must be prepared mentally and physically to deal with the inevitable outcome of living along and on top of active faults. We present interactive models to teach about earthquake geology, plate tectonics, and earthquake preparedness.

## ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Grade 4 and 5—Introduced in 2009

Our environment provides us with all of the resources we need, but do we use them in a sustainable way? Fourth grade students explore how electricity is generated and learn that unwanted heat, light, or motion is an inefficient use of electricity. They learn to evaluate the trade-offs of different forms of electricity generation and they simulate building their own town with a balanced level of electricity supply and demand. Fifth grade students discover how human activity alters the carbon cycle and the green house effect, leading to climate change. They look at the impact of the choices they make in their daily lives on the environment around them and ways they can reduce their impact and be stewards of our planet.



## THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS...OUR MOST CHERISHED ASSETS!

Thanks to these volunteers who have dedicated their time and passion to the Environmental Volunteers in a variety of ways throughout the year. You are the heart and soul of the EV!

Elaine Andrews  
Serena Aquino  
John Armstrong  
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### The Robert Brownlee Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service

Each year the EV honors two of our outstanding volunteers with The Robert Brownlee Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service. It is always an incredibly difficult choice as so many of our volunteers do so much for the organization. This year's recipients are both long time EVs who devote many hours in classrooms, on field trips, and mentoring new EVs.



**Bobbi Callison**

This year's honoree from our Peninsula service area is Bobbi Callison. Bobbi has been an EV for 25 years and most recently served on the committee that developed our new curriculum, Energy and Natural Resources. Bobbi also volunteers to improve the science content and activities in our educational kits helping us maintain our high educational standards.

This year's honoree from our South Bay service area is Sandy Gant. Sandy has been an EV for 13 years. Sandy shares her enthusiasm with her friends and has successfully recruited them to become EVs. She cheerfully volunteers wherever the need is, be it teaching students or stuffing envelopes. Many of our special events benefit from Sandy's organizational skills and her contagious enthusiasm.



**Sandy Gant**

We congratulate Bobbi and Sandy on this award, and thank all of our EVs for their dedication and support.

## 2008 YEAR IN REVIEW

### 2008 Program Highlights

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Classroom Programs                            | 344    |
| Field Trips                                   | 151    |
| Students Participating in Science Ed Programs | 10,890 |
| Teachers Assisted in Meeting State Standards  | 344    |
| Low-income Classrooms Served                  | 104    |
| Number of Schools Served in Two Counties      | 56     |
| Education Programs Delivered by Subject:      |        |
| Foothill Ecology                              | 123    |
| Earthquake Geology                            | 81     |
| Bay Ecology                                   | 80     |
| Early California Indians                      | 51     |
| Nature in Your Neighborhood                   | 49     |
| Water Science and Conservation                | 44     |
| All About Birds                               | 35     |
| Marine Ecology                                | 32     |
| Total Volunteer Hours Donated                 | 7,933  |



### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION: JUNE 30, 2008

| ASSETS                         |                           | LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Current Assets                 |                           | Current Liabilities:       |                           |
| Cash                           | \$12,151                  | Accounts payable           | \$43,163                  |
| Investments:                   |                           | Accrued vacation           | 10,614                    |
| Operating Account              | 307,463                   | Deferred Revenues          | 9,350                     |
| Building Account               | 1,169,199                 | Other accrued expenses     | 3,480                     |
| Accounts receivable            | 465                       | Total Current Liabilities  | 66,607                    |
| Pledges receivable             | 36,200                    |                            |                           |
| Prepaid expenses               | 24,164                    | Net Assets:                |                           |
| Total Current Assets           | 1,549,642                 | Unrestricted               | 648,628                   |
|                                |                           | Temporarily restricted     | 1,253,241                 |
| Investments – Endowment        | 217,057                   | Permanently restricted     | 217,057                   |
| Pledges Receivable – Long-Term | 12,558                    | Total Net Assets           | \$2,118,926               |
| Property and Equipment, Net    | 11,222                    |                            | <b><u>\$2,185,533</u></b> |
| Construction In Progress -     | 395,054                   |                            |                           |
|                                | <b><u>\$2,185,533</u></b> |                            |                           |

# MANY THANKS TO OUR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS

It is with great appreciation that we recognize these individuals, businesses, foundations, and other funding partners for their generous contributions. Thanks to your financial support each year, 10,000 children discover the joy of learning, the beauty of nature, and the important role they can play as environmental stewards.

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Taproot Garden Design & Fine Gardening  
Gary Sagabaen, The Hensley House  
The Mynt  
The Party Helpers  
The Sharks Foundation  
Thomas Fogarty Winery  
Wegman's Nursery, Inc.  
Wente Vineyards  
Whole Foods Market, Palo Alto  
Wild Bird Center of Los Gatos  
Wines of Vine Hill

#### GIFTS IN KIND - INDIVIDUALS

Shannon Amidon  
Amy Boggs  
Anshu Bedi, Cupertino HS Woodshop Class  
Frances Bennett  
Mike Bennett  
Allan Berkowitz  
Rebecca Black  
Jocelyn Blum  
Peter Brenner's Art Class, Palo Alto HS  
Karla Broman  
Kelly Bronfman  
Annie Bronfman  
Trudi Burney  
Emma Calderon and Haley Conner,  
Palo Alto HS  
Mrs. Carlson's 4th Grade, Taylor School  
Mrs. Carlson's 5th Grade, Taylor School  
Mrs. Carlson's 6th Grade, Taylor School  
Ally Christian  
Jeanette Christian  
Patrick Christian  
Karen Clancy's 3rd Grade, Oak Knoll  
Bob Clark  
Megan Coleman and Manon Van Kaenel,  
Palo Alto HS  
Josephine Cooley  
Andy Cresci  
Kit Davey  
Manon de Fleurac's Art Class, Palo Alto HS

Hillary Detamore  
Bob Dodge  
Jeri Downey  
Ros Edmonds  
Nancy Eldredge  
Bob Elliott  
Jan Fenwick  
Lee French  
Sandy Gant  
Steven Guillen, Cupertino HS Woodshop Class  
Janet Hansen  
Jim and Janella Hansen  
Susan Hansen  
Alyssa Hartman's 4th Grade, Huff School  
Emma Heath and Gail Blumberg  
Janet Hedley  
Alison Hlady  
Marilyn Hornor  
Freddy Howell  
Penny Hutchinson  
Rainer Johnk  
Jodi Johnson, Monta Vista HS  
Mrs. Jorgenson's 2nd Grade, Covington School  
Leo Kafetz, Anna's Art Workshop  
Carlos Kennedy, North Carolina Woodturners  
Ingrid Kerstan  
Frosty Krieger  
Kathy Ladra  
Leslie Larson  
Renee Lavezzo's 3rd Grade, Oak Knoll  
Jake Leeman, Anna's Art Workshop  
Beth Leibbrandt  
Susan Leitner  
Safa Lele  
Max Lewis, Palo Alto HS  
Kristen McKay  
Madison Mills, Anna's Art Workshop  
Susanne Mulcahy & Jan Raissle  
Shari Mullen  
Cal Muyoraz, Cupertino HS Woodshop Class  
Laura Ness  
Cyndee Newick  
Ginny Nordling  
Hannah Olson, Salorina Lee and Emma Tucher  
Andrew Page  
Carrie Perzow  
John Phillips  
Leah Quenelle's 4th Grade, Eisenhower School  
Thelma Ramm  
Megan Rawlins  
Ken Rhoads, William Gray Designs  
Anita Rodriguez & Pat McCaffrey  
Laura Rohde's Art Class, Palo Alto HS  
Francisca Romero's 4th Grade,  
Seven Trees Elementary  
Matthew Root, Cupertino HS Woodshop Class  
Janet Schachter  
Rui Shu's Art Class, Palo Alto HS  
Sally Skapinsky's 2nd Grade, McCollam School  
Bonnie and Pete Sorenson  
Andrew Tey  
Jack Tomlin  
Janeen and David Tuitupou  
Barbara Turner  
Michelle Vo, Taylor School  
Charles Wade  
Sydney Wallich  
Melissa Walton  
Susan Wicks  
Star Williams  
Kristin Wong, Cupertino HS Woodshop Class  
Mitchell Yoshikawa  
Alex Zerem and Renel Sun, Palo Alto HS  
Patti and John Zussman  
Anonymous

## 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.

## EV PROGRAM AREAS INCLUDE:

All About Birds  
Baylands Ecology  
Early California Indian Life:  
An Environmental Focus  
Earthquake Geology & Preparedness  
Foothills Ecology  
Marine Ecology  
Nature in Your Neighborhood  
Water Science & Conservation  
Energy and Natural Resources



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**Anita Rodriguez**, Program Services Coordinator  
**Brittany Sabol**, Education and Training Director  
**Justyne Schnupp**, Development Assistant  
**Vandy Shrader**, Summer Programs Director  
**Sue Trautman**, Executive Assistant

## HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED?

### • Become a Volunteer:

You, too, can inspire children to become stewards of the environment. No experience necessary. Our fun and engaging training program will give you all the tools you need to make a difference.

### • Stay Informed:

Join our email list and receive our monthly e-newsletter.

Sign up at [www.EVols.org](http://www.EVols.org)

### • Support Our Programs:

We invite you to partner with us. Your tax-deductible contribution can provide the resources for more students to learn to love science and nature.



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