



Hands-On Nature Projects: Making Science EASY for Staff and FUN for Children!

Presented at BOOST

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Great Resources for Teaching Hands-On Science!

Websites to Visit/Register at:

National Environmental Education Week

Nature Rocks – Let's Go Explore

National Wildlife Federation – Be Out There

Project Learning Tree

Arbor Day Foundation

Children & Nature Network

Nature-Watch

www.eeweek.org

www.naturerocks.org

www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Be-Out-There.aspx

www.plt.org

www.arborday.org/kids/

www.childrenandnature.org

www.nature-watch.com

Local Places You May Already Use as Resources:

Zoos, Libraries, Museums, Aquariums, Colleges, State Parks

Local Places You May NOT Have Considered Resources , But Should:

Animal Shelters, Water District, Sanitation/Trash/Recycling Company

Books To Consider:

There are a MILLION wonderful books you could consider! A great way to make it easy on yourself is to buy any book that includes "Science Fair Ideas" in its title!

For Nature related books, consider:

Nature's Playground

Nature Oriented Activities, A Leader's Guide (4th Edition)

The Nature Specialist

Creek Stompin' and Getting' Into Nature

Pitfalls to Avoid:

Don't feel like you need to know everything about a subject in order to initiate a project; AND don't be afraid to respond to a child's question with "That's a great question. I don't know the answer....let's see if we can find the answer together."

Don't try to piece together science/craft projects at local retail craft stores – it will cost too much! Craft stores are great for certain things....not for others!

Don't over-direct the investigation. Science/Nature study is best when we interest children and tempt them to learn more....not when we force it upon them. Ask more questions than you answer!