Welcome to an e-newsletter to help you build a better world, meet student achievement goals!

Generate curiosity, motivate your students--and have fun at the same time. This e-newsletter will introduce you to teacher-tested activities and lesson plans! Most focus on the environment, and you'll find easy connections to student achievement goals. All activities and lessons focus on real, relevant and interesting topics.

We expect your favorite part of this newsletter will be ideas shared by your colleagues. Enjoy this newsletter, developed as a response to teacher requests.

If you have e-news ideas, send them to susan.salterberg@uni.edu or carole.yates@uni.edu

Educator profile - Ideas for all!

Sarah Nowack, 5th grade, Decorah Middle School, writes:

I [recently] taught a lesson where I pretended to be "bored" with my cell phone (less than a year old). I asked the students for advice on a new one. Then, I showed the Life Pscycle-ology (life cycle of a cell phone) video (6 minutes). Wow! My kids were sure fired up. They all fell into my trap of wanting a new phone and gave me lots of suggestions. But, after showing them the video and [having] a rich discussion..., they all knew the difference between need vs. want, the life cycle of a cell phone, and had a better idea of what to do with old/used phones.

The energy in my classroom could have lit up a small country! They were so on fire (and really 'got it'!). This week... Life of a Hamburger and Just Look at Our Shoes lessons -- so excited about both of them!
This issue's resource list features educators' favorites to help youth explore the life of everyday products and how "stuff" relates to life satisfaction. These free favorites are in the Educator Resources database.

**Landfill tours** - PreK-adult audiences. Contact the landfill and/or solid waste educator in your part of Iowa. Your county auditor's office may be able to connect you to the appropriate staff if you need help.


**72 Hours** - Upper elementary through high school. Students collect their trash for 72 consecutive hours and think about what they could reduce or reuse.

**Bag It!** DVD - Available for streaming on Amazon or itunes, or check out from your AEA. DVD plus community service ideas for educators.

**Everything Comes from Something teacher kit** - PreK-adult audiences. Pictures of natural resources and the products made from them with activities and kit instructions. (Takes some time to download).

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**Earth Month planning ideas ready-to-use**

What better way to celebrate and reclaim the earth than to reduce the natural resources we use! Our web site, Helping Students Protect the Environment & Live Well, offers many activities and lesson plans for Earth Month. Most are easy to use with all ages. Some of our teachers' favorites are listed in the article above.

Many of these resources in the Educator Resources database can help move students to take community action. One educator is working with 6-8th grade students to convert five water fountains in their school by adding a water bottle station at each. Another teacher is supporting students as they talk with their superintendent about reducing paper use in various forms in their school.

For the earth, take the time to explore lots of free resources on the database!

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If you thought this newsletter was valuable, click on the Forward this email link below so your friends/colleagues can read it. They can also subscribe by clicking the Join Our Mailing List button in the left-hand column.
Hoping all have a successful Earth Month,

Susan Salterberg
Carole Yates
UNI Center for Energy & Environmental Education