

Workshop Schedule

AEOE Statewide Spring Conference 2017

Workshop #1

SAT 10:35am-11:25am

BEST PRACTICES

Are you an Effective Naturalist?

Dean R. Thompson

Many of us teach natural history and even hold the title of Naturalist. What does this mean? What is our role? How can you become a better naturalist and live up to the responsibilities of such a prestigious title? Dean Thompson, a teacher, storyteller, wildlife biologist and Naturalist for over 30 years will facilitate an entertaining and informative lecture/discussion on teaching techniques, resources and ways to become an even more effective naturalist.

BEST PRACTICES

The Traces of LNT

Gwen Short-Pathfinder Ranch

In this workshop we will discuss the history of how we interact with our land, and the ethics that come hand in hand with that (including how LNT came to be). This is not a Leave No Trace course, but an alternative view at the goals of LNT and the contradiction of our consumerism in the industry.

BEST PRACTICES

Keeping The Magic Alive/Coyotebush Crawl

Steve Van Zandt-San Mateo Outdoor Ed

This workshop will renew your love of teaching with ideas that you can use tomorrow. We will look at guiding principles, kinesthetic focusers, framing immersion and changing perspectives. Since it's on my home turf we can fully immerse with a coyotebush crawl. This workshop includes past workshops but always with new ideas.

BEST PRACTICES

Activating Dynamic Learning Spaces For All-Age Audiences

Cassandra Graff-California Academy of Sciences

Find out how the Naturalist Center at the California Academy of Sciences transformed from a traditional museum model into a more contemporary and dynamic learning destination which resulted in increased attendance, provided greater accessibility, and highlighted inquiry-based techniques. See examples of activities and learn fun and easy strategies for activating interpretive spaces at your organization.

CREATIVITY**Goat Milking and Cheesemaking***Jeffrey Butterworth/Devin Peyton-Vida Verde Nature Education*

Hands on learning is the best! With this truth in mind, what better way is there to learn about mammals than milking one? Join an instructor from the Vida Verde team to learn a.)how we teach our students about mammals, b.)the proper technique to milk a goat, and c.) how to make fresh cheese with a few simple ingredients.

CREATIVITY**Promoting Pollinators 2.0***Kris Cram-Pine Valley Bible Conference Center*

Come check out how you can promote pollinators in your own program with curriculum on native pollinators and honeybees. Information on beehive monitors will also be presented showing the power of gathering data to see hive health and use with citizen science projects. Workshop will be filled with videos and photos that will be available to integrate into your program along with a mason bee hotel.

K-12**STEEC: Modeling the Power of Partnerships in Environmental Education***Adilene Negrete/Reanna Suela-US Forest Service*

South Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition (STEEC) is a network of more than 20 local agencies and organizations that collaborate to bring environmental education resources to the Tahoe Basin. As stated in our mission and goals, STEEC is “dedicated to bringing high quality environmental education programs and projects to Lake Tahoe youth.” Come to learn more about working with partners and get ideas on environmental programs for K-12.

K-12**This Workshop is Lit!***Thea Doyon/Michelle Villagran-Pali Institute*

With the number of forest fires increasing in California due to drought, climate change, and other environmental factors, teaching fire ecology is important for children. Our workshop explores how to teach children fire ecology from broader environmental and human perspectives. This workshop will provide practical lessons and hands-on activities that can be incorporated into any outdoor education program

MANAGEMENT**Understanding Leadership Styles***Alex Gibbons-Camp Ocean Pines*

How do you lead? Using your strengths and knowing your challenges. Participants will learn to understand different personality/leadership styles and be able to adapt to all personality styles so as to communicate and work more efficiently with your co-workers.

MANAGEMENT**Meeting the Needs of the Next Generation: Discovering the Niche of a Statewide Environmental Education Network with GIS***Gregory Ira-UC ANR California Naturalist Program*

This presentation describes how the ecological concept of niche can be married to geographic information systems to identify the unique audience (current or next generation) for a given statewide environmental education network.

MANAGEMENT**Staff Interviews and Hiring Procedures***Ryan Mayeda-Pathfinder Ranch*

We'll discuss and compare different programs' hiring procedures, along with proper interview etiquette. Come with questions you have about how other programs operate, interview, and hire.

NATURAL HISTORY**Fungi Explorations***Emilie Lygren/Kevin Beals-BEETLES, Lawrence Hall of Science*

Wanna get students stoked about observing and learning about weird and wild fungi at your site? Come participate in a brand-spanking new (and not yet published) BEETLES activity, Fungi Explorations. We'll learn how to guide students to be intrigued by fungi, to use a simple key to identify fungi, and to discuss how fungi interact with ecosystems.

NATURAL HISTORY**The Power of eBird***Ian Gledhill-Shady Creek Outdoor School*

Do you like adventure? Do you like scavenger hunts? Do you like nature? If so, this might be your workshop. By the end of this presentation and birding adventure, you will have the ability to harness the power of eBird in order to tell the story of the birds that surround you every day. Through this citizen science database, you will learn how birding can be a lifelong adventure that promotes conservation of our precious planet.

Workshop #2**SAT 1:55pm-3:25pm****BEST PRACTICES****Best Practices in Nature Journaling***John Muir Laws/Emilie Lygren-KEYNOTE*

Learn how to lead nature journaling activities that enhance observation, curiosity, and nature connection. Bring a journal and pencil to make the most of this hands on workshop.

BEST PRACTICES**How to Teach Smart Observation while Modeling Best Naturalist Practices***Maxwell Lewis-San Mateo Outdoor Education SMOE*

This workshop will teach new methods for instructors to use to help students practice smart observational skills, and will accomplish that by modeling a lesson about scientific observation that can be done at any age.

CREATIVITY**Team Building with Extreme Science***Daniel Bragdon-Pine Valley Outdoor Education*

Cryogenics, rockets, and explosions are great ways to peak interest in science. They can also provide the same perceived risk and problem solving as a low ropes course experience. It is not uncommon to use initiative games to teach science, but this session will explore the power of scientific experiments to stand alone in developing community. We will conduct experiments with dry ice, liquid nitrogen, and test tubes rockets while incorporating the skills of framing, sequencing, and debriefing.

CREATIVITY**Lessons in Architecture and Landscape Design: Gnome Homes, Fairy Houses and Hobbit Huts***Deborah McArthur/Ronja McArthur-Nature Connection*

We'll explore how building miniature shelters (for gnomes, fairies, hobbits or your mini-self) can open the door to discuss sustainable architecture and eco-friendly landscape design. This workshop is completely hands-on, modeling a lesson that can be used in a diversity of habitats (school playgrounds or garden or outdoor school), for a diversity of audiences (family or student groups). It supports NGSS crosscutting concept of "structure and function", science and engineering practice "developing and using models" and DCI - engineering design.

K-12**Making Meaning from the Magic***Ian Gledhill-Shady Creek Outdoor School*

So what? Why should I care? As naturalists, we often overlook these crucial questions while teaching. In this hands-on activity, you will be given tools that will help students find meaning in the magic that surrounds them every day. You will explore methods for connecting kids to nature through best practice teaching techniques. By the end of our time you will have the ability to facilitate an outdoor experience that inspires love and lasts a lifetime.

K-12**Opportunities in the New Curriculum Frameworks for Bridging Environmental Literacy from the Classroom to the Outdoors***Laura Powell-CalRecycle*

The State Board of Education recently included environmental literacy as part of its recent Science and History/Social Science Frameworks. The California Science Framework addresses California's Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Learn how the Environmental Principles and Concepts are included in the frameworks and how you can include these EP&Cs in your outdoor education programs to support environmental literacy and classroom instruction.

MANAGEMENT**Becoming the Next Generation of Camp Directors***Chris Cameron-Camp Ocean Pines*

No one stays in the same position forever. You have a chance to move up! This session will look at "promotions" from both sides of the employee vs employer relationship. Help your program develop an intentional culture of leadership talent identification and upward mobility. Learn to identify and promote positive organization transitions using a developmental approach.

MANAGEMENT**How to Start a Raptor Program at Your Site***Kat Montgomery/Alex Gibbons-The Coastal Institute at Camp Ocean Pines*

Have you ever wondered what it would take to house live birds of prey at your site? In this session, we will cover the basics of starting a raptor program including permits, enclosures, care, and more.

MANAGEMENT**Garden Mechanics***Mike Shanahan-Shady Creek*

How does your garden and your program interact? Are they growing together or is one left in the dust?

Come and share your garden system as we travel to a garden on site. Find out more about my experience with regards to:

- Garden mission statements and tying them to your program
- Finding your garden goals that supports your program
- How to create permaculture features (i.e. vertical gardening, Hugelkultur beds and more) to meet your garden goals

NATURAL HISTORY**Wildlife Tracking for Beginners***Garth Harwood-Hidden Villa*

Wildlife Tracking is not just looking at footprints, cool as they are. You can also keep track of the wild things around you by way of the holes they dig, the ways they forage and eat, and their territorial markings. This workshop will combine hands-on contact with tracks and sign, first with displays and discussion, then with field exploration if weather permits.

NATURAL HISTORY**Exploring the Intertidal Zone!***Mark Nolan-San Mateo Outdoor Education*

Come explore the intertidal zone at the Pigeon Point tide pools. Identify tide pool life and discuss species biology, natural history and ecology. Catch an Eastern Pacific Red Octopus!

NATURAL HISTORY**A Look into the Night Sky***Shannon Diaz/David Bretodeau-YMCA Camp Campbell*

We'll get to explore the night sky during the daytime with the StarLab dome. Come learn about the night sky, stars, constellations, and different night hike activities! This will be an interactive tour of the night time, and also a chance for people to share their knowledge of constellations, and night hike activities.

NATURAL HISTORY**Beginner's Plant Walk In the Redwoods***Alison Irwin/Ben Nelson-San Mateo Outdoor Education*

Do you like plants? Do you LOVE plants? Do you wish you had more time to appreciate and learn about them? Then look no further! Spend the afternoon on a stroll through the mixed redwood forest with one mission: learning to love and identify some herbaceous plant friends. We can share our knowledge, ID together, and appreciate the beauty of botany. All experience levels welcome!

Workshop #3**SAT 3:35pm-4:35pm****BEST PRACTICES****The Importance of Dessert Night***Ben Bear-Pathfinder Ranch*

Many of us work very closely with our co-workers and housemates. Because we spend so much time together, it is good to be aware of ways to interact and encourage positive group dynamics. Whether you are a novice seasonal staffer or a sage seasoned veteran, come explore the nuances of how groups form, storm, norm, perform, and even adjourn.

BEST PRACTICES**Motivational Interviewing***Jason Schmidt-Outward Bound California*

Motivational interviewing is a client-centered counseling style for eliciting change. While it originally developed for substance abuse counseling it has far wider applications. This workshop will give you useful tools and approaches to dealing with students, especially potentially difficult students. There is no prior experience necessary. While this workshop will likely most benefit those who instruct on overnight expeditions, it can be useful to all.

BEST PRACTICES**Meet CA State Standards, by Getting out on a Mountain***Tom Hinojosa/Britta Casey-Skyline Bear Valley Resort*

This workshop will describe an approach to true environmental education by providing an experiential opportunity for both students and their teachers in an alpine mountain environment. The program will address current CA State Science Standards in a fun and adventurous learning setting.

BEST PRACTICES

Experiences that support NGSS - A Tool for Informal Educators

Joey Scott/Mary Whaley-Monterey Bay Aquarium

To support the NGSS, educators at the Monterey Bay Aquarium have created two tools for informal science institutions. These tools will help you take a look at your current curriculum and identify how you can better support the standards, dimensions, and pedagogies of the NGSS.

CREATIVITY

Using our Powers for Good: Creating Education, Training, and Development Opportunities for Maasai Women Living in Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Tanzania

Kim Laizer-NatureBridge

Travel to northern Tanzania with Kim Laizer as she shares a story of human connection, challenge, and inspiration, weaving together her experience in environmental education, graduate school, and northern Tanzania to create a program designed to help Maasai women help one another to improve the quality of their lives and those of their families.

CREATIVITY

Mistakes are Awesome: How to Bring Innovation to Outdoor Education

Tamara Perreault-Nature Bridge

Tired of teaching the same old lessons? Sick of those students who just can't seem to have a positive attitude? Come learn about innovation education, and be inspired to revamp your lessons with mindsets and a creative process specifically developed to empower your students.

K-12

Man vs. Wild: Lessons on the Earth and Human Impacts

Janice Carr-Foothill College

In this hands-on session, the presenter will lead participants in small-group problem solving, data analysis, online tools and discussion that cover human population and consumption trends over the past 200 years, impacts on land use and natural resources, as well as possible paths toward sustainability. A variety of teaching techniques will be outlined for a truly inclusive classroom. Participants will receive lesson plans and background materials in an electronic format, all matched to NGSS.

K-12

Using NGSS to Promote Critical Thinking

Kevin Beals/Emilie Lygren-BEETLES Project

Now more than ever as instructors, we need to help students develop critical thinking and reasoning skills. Outdoor science and the NGSS are ideal backdrops for deepening students' capacities to engage in respectful discourse and become more flexible, open-minded thinkers. Through short activities and longer learning experiences, learn some ways to use NGSS in your regular teaching practice to help your students become critical thinkers while they deepen their relationship with nature.

MANAGEMENT**Fear and Loathing in a Ropes Course***Aaron Pardee/Todd Mitchell-Pali Institute*

Fear and Loathing in a Ropes Course aims to connect outdoor professionals to a facilitation process geared toward safely and confidently addressing fear on ropes courses. In this meeting we will discuss talk downs, front loading course objectives, and framing of fear and safety while climbing.

MANAGEMENT**Food...it's Kinda a Big Deal!***Kayla Reece-Pathfinder Ranch Outdoor Science School*

When it comes to a participant's experience at your outdoor/ environmental education facility, food service can make or break it! Every year we encounter more helicopter parents and kids who seem to be allergic to EVERYTHING! At this workshop we will discuss different strategies to prepare participants before coming and supporting them throughout their stay at your facility. It is my belief that no matter the allergy or restrictions, everyone deserves good and safe food!

NATURAL HISTORY**The Greatest Story Ever Told: The Evolution of the Animal Kingdom on Planet Earth***Natasha Fraley-Shape of Life*

Please join founder, Nancy Burnett, as she introduces outdoor educators to the FREE online resource: Shape of Life shapeoflife.org. We will explore short videos, lesson plans, featured stories and the resources.

Workshop #4**SUN 8:45am-10:15am****BEST PRACTICES****The Gendered Landscape of Outdoor Ed***Allie Rigby/Julia Rigby-Walker Creek Ranch*

This workshop will explore the role of gender in the educational and environmental field. How can our programs provide alternatives to a world with gender stereotypes? What micro-aggressions might we face as educators, and might our students face? Do our programs use gender-neutral language? What impact does the gender of instructors have on students? What is all this talk of feminist outdoor leadership?!!

BEST PRACTICES**Empower the Students!***Jocelyn Berkowitz-Exploring New Horizons*

Feeling tired of watching students walk past trash on the ground? Feeling powerless in a world filled with people making choices you don't agree with? Let's talk and share ideas, activities, and inspiring stories that will have your students leaving their time with you feeling inspired and empowered to make a positive impact on the world.

CREATIVITY**Storytelling for Education and Entertainment***Dean Thompson*

Storytelling was one of the original forms for teaching humans, transferring culture, imparting morals and providing entertainment. Come learn how to become a more effective storyteller and gain ideas for using storytelling in an educational setting. We will discuss and share traditional stories and also focus on generating stories from personal experiences. Come prepared with questions about storytelling and perhaps a short story to share as well.

CREATIVITY**Marshmallow Madness***Rachel Levy-Pathfinder Ranch*

This activity focuses on planning and teamwork by allowing participants to become architects. Using spaghetti, mini marshmallows, and regular marshmallows they will build their very own structure that can hold a book. Also, students will be like engineers who test and calculate the forces that are affecting their structure.

K-12**The Path to NGSS***Melissa Amacher/Justin Smith-InspireOut*

Participants will go on an exploration of NGSS. Gaining a deeper understanding of the Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts with an exploration of hands-on phenomena.

K-12**Charter Schools, Environmental Education and the Chrysalis Model***Sara Hoxie-Chrysalis Charter School*

Come and join us as we discover how public charter schools differ from standard public schools. Find out how environmental education can become a focus in a charter school and how the teachers at Chrysalis Charter in Shasta County created this in a K-8 setting. Learn how charters can be started in California. Leave with a hands on STEM lesson that can work in most outdoor settings incorporating language arts, engineering and the natural world.

MANAGEMENT**Moving Up the Ladder: Transitioning into a Supervisory Role***Kat Montgomery-The Coastal Institute at Camp Ocean Pines*

At some point in your outdoor education career, you may choose to make the transition from instructor to supervisor - which can be a rough transition! In this workshop, we'll discuss some common pitfalls of new supervisors and how to avoid them.

MANAGEMENT**Thunder and Rain and Lightning...Oh My!***Kayla Reece-Pathfinder Ranch*

No matter where our program is located, eventually the weather takes a turn for the worst and our outdoor classes have to head inside. With 5 hands on experiments, students will understand different weather phenomenons like thunderstorms, rain, frost, dew, and snowflakes.

NATURAL HISTORY**Animal Perspectives Lesson***Clare Rankhorn-San Mateo Outdoor Education*

The "Animal Perspectives Lesson" will be a demonstration of an hands-on lesson geared toward fifth and sixth grade students. The activities will be applicable and adaptable for other ages. Participants will hike through the trails of Camp Jones Gulch while learning about its animal residents and their strengths. New or practicing outdoor educators will walk away with new lesson ideas to adapt for their programs. Bring a journal and something to write with!

NATURAL HISTORY**Each One Teach One EXTREME***Jeremy Miller-California State University, Chico*

Are you ready to take your Professor Hike ("Each One Teach One") to the next level? Join us for graduate level ecology concepts, ideas for embedded assessment, new types of learning stations and more. Each One Teach One EXTREME. More than just "fun plant facts".

NATURAL HISTORY**Field Trip: Pescadero Coast***Kim Laizer-NatureBridge Yosemite*

Join Kim Laizer for a walk through the Pescadero Marsh, along the sandy shore, and amongst the critters of the intertidal zone just a short drive from Jones Gulch. We'll explore and share our knowledge of natural history, geologic processes, and geography as we develop a deeper sense of this place. Participants will carpool to and from the coast (a 20+ minute drive). Bring binoculars, field guides, plenty of water, snacks, and sun/rain gear. Maximum: 20 participants

Workshop #5**SUN 10:25am-11:15am****BEST PRACTICES****Hot, Cold, and Different***Ben Bear-Pathfinder Ranch*

Come explore some of the factors that cause us to march to the beat of our own drum. Are you rigidly punctual? Always feeding your friends? Put off by indirect communication? Let's talk about it!

BEST PRACTICES**Resume Building***Gabriel Germanow-Foothill Horizons*

Learn some resume-writing tips and tricks, and workshop your resume with fellow environmental educators.

BEST PRACTICES**Going Beyond - Bringing Other Subjects into Outdoor Education***Mary Jo Juran-Pali Institute*

This presentation will look at how to connect outdoor education classes beyond the science curriculum into other classroom subjects. We discuss examples of how to include social studies and reading standards into outdoor education curriculum.

CREATIVITY**Earth Dance: A Multicultural Night Activity***Kaitlin R Greenfield/Clare Rankhorn-San Mateo Outdoor Education*

Are you looking for a way to revamp or diversify a night activity? This is the workshop for you. Come ready to participate in “Earth Dance”, which focuses on multicultural awareness, traditions and movement.

K-12**Incorporating NGSS into K-5 Environmental Education programming through the Crosscutting Concepts and the Science and Engineering Practices***Willie Richerson-Catalina Island Conservancy*

Applying NGS Standards to your lessons through the SEP's and CC's offers a deepening of concepts and creates greater scientific awareness. We will present multiple lessons for K-5th grades, looking at the Catalina Island Conservancy's approach to lesson creation and adaptation.

MANAGEMENT**Cabin Supervision: Best Practices, Trends & Challenges***Cathy Haas/Kris Turner-YMCA Camp Campbell*

This session will focus on the best practices, trends and challenges of supervising high school and elementary aged participants while attending a residential outdoor science school experience.

NATURAL HISTORY**Inspiring Wonder with Astronomy***Halley Finkel-Web of Life Field School*

If you've ever felt overwhelmed by space, needed to teach an astronomy program and felt that you didn't know enough, or just love nerding out about stars, planets, black holes and time relativity, come play! We'll do a planet walk, talk about how to use star charts, tell some basic star stories, chart our way through the night sky, and talk about the wild and fathomless universe beyond our world.

NATURAL HISTORY**Floaters and Stickers, Teaching Botany Through the Lens of NGSS***Nicole Barden-Pepperwood Preserve*

Did you really just bring bear scat into a classroom?! Pepperwood has been working on incorporating NGSS practices and Beetles philosophy into our teaching of younger students. Come see how we have done it and learn a fun lesson on seed dispersal!

NATURAL HISTORY**Tour of Sustainable Living Center***Neil Richardson-SMOE*

Come tour the Camp Jones Gulch Sustainable Living Center. Visit the solar strawbale classroom and garden while learning about how to live more sustainably!