

CRCST Spring Symposium April 10, 2014

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

**Theme: Science and
Literacy**

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CRCST SPRINGS AHEAD

It does look like spring will be arriving. Most of the snow is gone, the brave early flowers are trying to emerge in my garden, and CRCST is getting ready for the Spring Symposium.

The **2014 Spring Symposium** will be held **Thursday, April 10**, at the **Cleveland Metroparks Zoo**. The theme is **Science and Literacy**. We will meet in the Windows room in the Education Building. Registration will begin at 4:30 PM and will include a light supper. Starting at 5:00 PM, we will be listening to Rowenna Collins, Director of Academics for the

Cleveland Botanical Garden and a past President of CRCST, discussing the topic. After Rowenna's talk, we will break out into grade band groups to discuss how we can improve literacy through the teaching of science. A registration form is included in the newsletter but walk-ins will be welcomed. Please invite other colleagues to attend with you.

CRCST has been sponsoring nine awards to 7th - 8th grade participants at the Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair. This year again, we were able to

judge some amazing projects and encourage students to continue exploring their interest in the sciences. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the members who came to CSU on March 11th and helped determine our nine winners. The results of the NEOSEF are later in the newsletter.

I hope to see you at the **Spring Symposium on April 10th** and reserve **October 11, 2014** for the **Fall Conference** at the Lake Erie Nature & Science Center in Bay Village.

NEOSEF FAIR RESULTS

The Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair (NEOSEF) was held March 10 - 13, at Cleveland State University. CRCST sponsors nine special awards for participants in the 7th and 8th grade. Again this year, the judges had many excellent projects to choose as winners. The following winners were awarded CRCST prizes:

- Sandy Eisler Award for Biology - Eric Oyen "**Which Area of the School Has the Most Bacteria**" - St. Anselm
- Irene Heller Award for Chemistry - Elise Rogozinski "**Adios Lactose: The Effect of pH on Lactase**" - St. Raphael
- Sam Brooks Award for Physics - Lekha Medarmetla "**The effect of length, gauge, and conductor strand type on resistance**" - Hathaway Brown
- CRCST Health & Medicine Science - Pranav Iyer "**Vertical Impact forces on the knee while running on various gradients**" - Solon Middle
- CRCST Environmental Science - Ethan Geis "**Playing with soap: A new method for identifying micro-plastic pollution**" - Gross Schechter Day
- CRCST Behavioral Science - Elizabeth Coble "**Auditory vs. Visual Learning**" - Lake Ridge Academy
- CRCST Earth & Space Science - Nicholas Cleary "**What structure style will best withstand an earthquake?**" - Garfield Middle
- CRCST Engineering Science - Daniel Anand "**VertiGo - A very economical, adaptive, 'sitting to standing' wheelchair system**" - Home school
- CRCST Math/Computer Science - Finn Norman "**Geometric Calculator**" - Riverside Elementary
- Pranav Iyer also was the 7th/8th grade NEOSEF Grand Prize winner in the Biological Sciences.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the 2014 NEOSEF successful. Next year's NEOSEF will be at Cleveland State University March 9 - 12, 2015. If you are interested in having students participate, check the NEOSEF website at www.neosef.org for details in the fall for student entries. We will need help judging the students on March 10, 2015, so consider volunteering by contacting Susan Clay (suzieclay@aol.com).

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 10, 2014 **CRCST Spring Symposium** at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
Theme: Science and Literacy

May 7, 2014 **Rock Your World with STEAM Festival** at GLSC and Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum

October 11, 2015 **CRCST Fall Conference** at the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center in Bay Village

November 12-15, 2014 **NABT National Convention** Cleveland, OH

LOCAL HAPPENINGS



CLEVELAND METROPARKS ZOO

Educator Open House: April 26th from 9:45am-3:30pm Educator Open House: April 26th from 9:45am-3:30pm
PARKING: There are lots of available parking lots to choose from. During high volume days, please park as directed by your Guest Service representative. **CHECK-IN:** After parking, please proceed to the Reinberger Education building for check-in between 9:45am-3:30pm. This brick building is just to the left of the Main Gate of the Zoo. **PERKS OF ADVANCED REGISTRATION:** Advanced registration for the Open House is required.

Sustainability - Getting Kids Involved: I mentioned at the meeting on Wednesday a great way to get kids (and adults) involved in sustainability and understanding the science of it. Why don't you try our myactions.org and let me know how this might work as a follow up to related science lessons. A teacher in Pittsburgh reprints the whole class and racks up lots of actions. There are private donors who contribute \$.25 per action logged until Earth Day.

AIP Master's Advanced Inquiry Program-Through a partnership between Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and Project Dragonfly at Miami University, an exciting Master's degree program continues to be offered to the Cleveland area. The Advanced Inquiry Program (AIP) is an inquiry-driven learning experience allowing participants to take classes in-person from faculty at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and online from Miami University faculty. The opportunity to earn seven credits from international travel is another exciting part of the program. And the best news of all – it's affordable! See <http://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/Zoo/Education-Opportunities/AIP-Masters-Advanced-Inquiry-Program-40.aspx>.

Summer Day Camps run from June 9 - August 15th. Lots of options for varying ages. See <http://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/Zoo/Press-Room/Register-in-March-for-Summer-Day-Camp-at-Cleveland-1686.aspx>

Circle of Wildlife Carousel and Nature Discovery Ridge Update. More than \$1.8 million has been raised for the **Circle of Wildlife Carousel & Nature Discovery Ridge**. The Carousel is scheduled to open in May 2014 and we are delighted that 47 figures plus 2 chariots have found generous sponsors. If you are interested in contributing to this project or in sponsoring a figure of your own (such as the arctic hare), please visit ClevelandZooSociety.org or call (216) 635.3323 to learn more today! <http://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/Zoo/Press-Room/1509.aspx>

Conservation: African elephants. People, wildlife, and habitats are fundamentally connected. Fostering positive relationships among them is the key to successful conservation. If you'd like to help elephants, please join us in a national campaign to raise awareness of the poaching crisis and the illegal ivory trade. **96 Elephants**, named for the number of elephants currently gunned down each day by poachers, is a Wildlife Conservation Society campaign that focuses on: securing effective U.S. moratorium laws; bolstering elephant protection with additional funding; and educating the public about the link between ivory consumption and the elephant poaching crisis. We encourage you to help spread the word. Join today - sign a petition, tell your friends, and let's do our best to save elephants! <http://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/Zoo/Field-Conservation/Elephant-Conservation-6.aspx>



GREAT LAKES SCIENCE CENTER

OMNIMAX Theater - Current Showings

For additional information: <http://glsc.org/>

Flight of the Butterflies - Take an awe-inspiring journey of insect endurance and human perseverance! Witness the remarkable Monarch butterfly migration and meet the scientist who spent 40 years trying to discover where the butterflies disappeared when they flew south for the winter. Showing through April 27, 2014.

Hidden Universe - Take a breathtaking tour of deep space through images captured by Hubble and the world's most powerful telescopes. Explore galaxies and travel the terrain of Mars; witness images of celestial structures; and peer deep inside vivid clouds of nebula. April 28 - May 22, 2014.

Born to be Wild - Experience the story of love, dedication and the remarkable bond between humans and animals. This engaging film features orphaned orangutans and elephants and the extraordinary people who rescue and raise them - saving endangered species one life at a time. Showing through April 27, 2014.

Island of Lemurs: Madagascar Journey to a remote and wondrous location, and join one scientist on her mission to help these amazing creatures survive in the modern world. Narrated by Morgan Freeman. April 4 - May 31, 2014.

ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS and EVENTS and PROGRAMS

SUMMER CAMPS 2014 Great Lakes Science Center hosts week-long Summer Camps for kids! This summer, we're offering **74 camp themes** among **10 different locations** for kids of all ages - from preschool to high school. Click on the links below for detailed camp information for each location! See <http://www.greatscience.com/programs/summer-camps.aspx> for additional information.

JUST FOR SCOUTS! Did you know we offer **private workshops** for both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts? We have exciting, tech-savvy, science-packed experiences for Scouts of all ages! Through hands-on, challenging and fun activities, Great Lakes Science Center helps Scouts complete requirements for Badges and Journeys while exploring science and related careers. We offer **customized private workshops** year-round: please call **216-621-2400** for pricing. <http://www.greatscience.com/programs/scout-programs.aspx>

SCIENCE FUN JUST FOR YOU! From workshops for the littlest scientists, to girls-only and LEGO-themed programs, we have a workshop tailored just for YOU! Click on the links for details and registration information and be sure to check out our special camps, classes and workshops. Visit <http://www.greatscience.com/programs/kid-and-teen-programs.aspx>

- **Parents' Night Out: Tax Season**
Friday, April 11
5:30 - 9 pm
- **NEW! Edgewater Park Lakefront Reservation Beach Clean-Up**
Sunday, May 4 AND Saturday May 10
1 - 2:30 pm
- **NEW! Super Science Saturday!**
Select Saturdays: January 4, February 1, March 1, March 29 or May 3
10:30 am, 11:30 am, 12:30 pm or 1:30 pm

Yuri's Night Space Party Yuri's Night Space Party. Saturday, April 12, 2014. 8 pm - 1 am. <http://www.greatscience.com/programs/adult-programs/yuris-night-space-party.aspx>

GEAUGA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



There are some great spring and summer offerings at GSWCD for both students and teachers. Check out http://www.geaugaswcd.com/education_programs.

- **Environmental Bootcamp** Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Wildwood Cultural Center. Have you ever wondered how your day-to-day life impacts the environment around you? Join us at this new one-day mini-conference style event. \$35 per person. Register today by calling the City of Mentor 440/974-5720.
- **Soil to Spoon Workshop:** This is a workshop that will expose educators to the curriculum of Project Food, Land, and People which promotes approaches to learning to help people better understand the interrelationships among agriculture, the environment, and people of the world. There will be a focus on the Food, Land, and People 700+page curriculum guide of hands-on, interdisciplinary lessons. Educators will become more familiar with the guide as they participate in several hands-on, cooperative learning lessons. Lessons correlate with state proficiency test learning outcomes and are [correlated to the Ohio Academic Content Standards](#). Visits to several local agricultural establishments, such as a large dairy farm, orchard, and an organic farm may also be incorporated. If interested in a workshop, please contact Katie Nainiger, 440-834-1122, ext 4#.
- **The Wonders of Watersheds (WOW) Workshop: Outdoor Explorations for Classroom Applications, Tuesday, June 17- Thursday, June 19, 2014** is a 3-day program held in Geauga and Portage Counties. (\$85)
- **The Advanced Wonders of Watersheds, Monday, June 23 – Wednesday, June 25, 2014** is an intensive 3-day program at Old Woman Creek National Estuary in Huron, Ohio. (\$275)



CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN

Offers an extensive lineup of educational opportunities for all ages, from pre-school students to adults. All programs are hands-on and discovery oriented. We work with groups using all the senses, as well as multiple intelligence techniques.

We teach plant science classes for children, professional development for teachers, gardening workshops for kids in home daycare and programs about plant life and nature for scouts.

All of the Garden's educational programs inform and teach people about the need to protect, improve and care for the environment, whether from a backyard garden, vacant urban lot or beyond to the world's fragile ecosystems.

The Garden also hires up to 80 Cleveland students each summer to learn and earn as part of its Green Corps urban agriculture program. Teens manage these learning farms in order to learn about business, horticulture, agriculture and life skills.

The Garden's applied research program studies important environmental issues and addresses them locally. Current research focuses on the problem of vacant lots in Cleveland and other major metropolitan cities and how they can be turned into green infrastructure to benefit the environment and strengthen neighborhood vitality. Go to <http://www.cb garden.org/lets-learn/teachers-and-students.aspx> for additional information. Visit the CBG calendar of events at <https://www.cb garden.org/calendar-of-events.aspx> for exciting opportunities.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BIOLOGY TEACHERS - NABT



2014 Professional Development Conference to be held November 12-15, 2014 at the Cleveland Convention Center. Additional information available at <http://www.nabt.org>.

GREATER CLEVELAND AQUARIUM



The GCA offers nine hands-on education programs for children entering grades pre-K through 12. Each and every one of our programs is aligned to the Common Core and the Ohio Science and Social Studies standards. All of our programs come equipped with an Aquarium Tour Guide, hands-on learning experiences and most importantly – FUN.

Visit http://greaterclevelandaquarium-px.rtrk5.com/?utm_source=ReachLocal&utm_medium=PPC&utm_campaign=RLGreaterClevelandAquarium

HOLDEN ARBORETUM



Arbor Day Friday, Celebrated all weekend 4/25/14 - Free admission 4/24/14 - 4/27/14! Lots of activities and opportunities to participate. See http://www.holdenarb.org/visit/arborday.asp?utm_source=March+2014+Teacher+Treemail&utm_campaign=Teacher+Tree+Mail+11-13&utm_medium=email

Art and Nature: Exploring Through Observation 7/29/14 - 7/31/14 from 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM. A teacher workshop co-sponsored by The Holden Arboretum and The Cleveland Museum of Art. See <http://www.holdenarb.org/education/teacher-professional-development.asp>

Growing Students in Science The Holden Arboretum started a unique program in September 2003 called Growing Students in Science: A Community Partnership to Build Interest and Ability in the Sciences. Students participate in the program for three or more years, starting in the second or third grade and completing the program in the fifth grade. Each year students participate in two field trips at The Holden Arboretum and one classroom visit by Holden staff. By providing natural science programming, in the classroom and outdoors, Holden is positively impacting students' interest and proficiency in the sciences. All programs are aligned with Ohio's science content standards. See http://www.holdenarb.org/education/growing-students-science.asp?utm_source=March+2014+Teacher+Treemail&utm_campaign=Teacher+Tree+Mail+11-13&utm_medium=email

Spring Scouting Opportunities Fabulous Garden of Trees 4/13/14 from 1:00 - 4:00 PM. Juniors and Cadettes invited, \$13/girl. Connect with nature this spring and experience the world of trees in all their spring beauty. Plant seeds, learn how we use trees, create a tree craft and enjoy some tree snacks. Complete many of the requirements for your Gardener or Trees badges. Plan to come early and bring a picnic or stay after the program to explore the beautiful grounds. Contact Sharon Graper at 440/602-3843 with questions.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS AND LINKS

DATA ACQUISITION EQUIPMENT A local company is giving away data acquisition kits to science fair students in grades 4-12. See <http://www.dataq.com/science-fair/sciencefair.php> for details.



SUMMER CAMP Techie Camp is a full-day, week-long program designed to engage elementary and middle school students in hands-on, interactive STEM-related activities. Students take a deep dive into subject matter focused on Robotics, Programming, Android App or Web Development and emerge with skills that are useful in today's classroom and tomorrow's workplace. Techie Camps will be offered at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland State University and Lorain County Community College. Details at www.techiecamp.org

SUMMER CAMP EMPLOYMENT TECH CORPS is hiring summer instructors to assist with the implementation of its Techie Camp® program. Instructors are given the training, content and guidance to coordinate and implement all day-to-day aspects of Techie Camp. Salary: up to \$900/camp. Ideal candidates include CS or Engineering undergrad/graduate students, CS Teachers and CS or Engineering Professionals. Details/Application: <http://bit.ly/1kcH6Sh>

STEM AND SAFETY GRANT MONEY Weatherbug is offering grant money to become a Weatherbug school. Grant funds expire June 20, 2014. See http://weather.weatherbug.com/weather-education/register_m.asp?hq_e=el&hq_m=1330214&hq_l=6&hq_v=3bbbccd35e

FAIR ON THE SQUARE 04/28/2014 4:00-6:00 P.M. State Theatre at Playhouse Square 1591 Euclid Ave. Celebrate with your friends and colleagues at the 21st annual Fair on the Square. Enjoy free food and cocktails at the best resource for finding out about arts education opportunities and field trips for the 2014-2015 school year. Register at www.playhousesquare.org/faironthesquare

FREE GRADUATE CREDIT 5 Hours Of Free Graduated Credit From Kent State University Plus . \$850 Free Classroom Materials. Are you a science teacher of grades 3 – 9(or special ed. teacher)? Would you teach chemical concepts and critical thinking better and more often if you had practical lessons? Would you like free usable materials for your classroom? Would you benefit from a class that is enjoyable, down-to-earth and designed just for you? If the answer is yes consider taking Conceptual Chemistry a Kent State University course for science teachers of grades 3-9. Download the application at <http://personal.tusc.kent.edu/~cfenk/Chemistry/>

MORE FREE GRADUATE CREDIT Earth Systems Science is a course beginning in Summer 2014 and continuing into the 2014-2015 academic year. It is funded by the Ohio Board of Regents under its Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program and by the interest and supplementary funds and services of local schools and Kent State University. Earth Systems Science is designed to: be enjoyable, usable, and down-to-earth for the non-scientist and scientist alike, enhance your understanding of earth systems science and how to teach it, and provide you with lesson ideas and \$600 in free materials to teach your students effectively share activities that embrace the new science standards. <http://www.kent.edu/ghhlab/outreach/upload/earth-systems-science-brochure.pdf>

NBC LEARN Explore a multitude of educational resources and sign up for their informative newsletter at http://www.nbclearn.com/portal/site/learn?hq_e=el&hq_m=17233&hq_l=2&hq_v=ba76772089

PD SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR TEACHERS Cleveland Metroparks Zoo is offering **\$800 scholarships** for teachers enrolling in one graduate course for credit this summer at the Zoo. CMZ offers a variety of 3 credit hour courses through a partnership with Miami University's Project *Dragonfly*. These courses combine time spent at the Zoo and coursework online for a unique hybrid learning environment. Courses regularly cost \$997 (covering University fees, tuition, and Zoo fees), but with a scholarship, these courses would cost only \$197! <http://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/Zoo/Education-Opportunities/26.aspx>

Request for OMSP Proposal Readers Ohio's Mathematics and Science Partnership is currently seeking grant reviewers. A stipend of \$250 is available. If interested complete the survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NNV2L89> and email your resume to esther.hopkins@education.ohio.gov .

4th Annual Biology Institute at Phillips Exeter Academy June 22 - 27, 2014 Geared towards secondary school Biology/ Life Science and Environmental Science teachers. View http://www.exeter.edu/summer_programs/12595.aspx for information.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS AND LINKS (CONT.)

Computing in Secondary Schools (CSEd) Ohio Summer Institute Cleveland State University in cooperation with the National Science Foundation and the University of California, San Diego invites you to participate in the *CSEd Ohio* Summer Institute. Participation options include *CISS Fellows* who participate in a Summer Institute for two weeks at CSU June 16-20 and July 28-30, 2014. They attend and present at four day long sessions at CSU through the academic year (TBA); participate as needed in weekly support phone calls; receive online support as a member of the Computer Science Learning Commons; teach CS Principles in 2014-2015. *CISS Apprentice Teachers* participate in an online course June 23-August 8, 2014; receive online support throughout the summer and academic year; and are invited to attend the four academic year workshops via distance learning or at CSU. For more information contact Nigamanth Sridhar at 216.687.5341 or at n.sridhar1@csuohio.edu. Visit the website at <http://selab.csuohio.edu/ciss>.

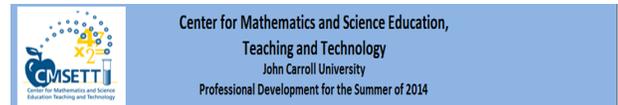
Action Research Opportunity The Lawrence Hall of Science at UC Berkeley and Boston College would like to invite you to participate in a curriculum research study during the 2014-2015 school year. We are interested in exploring teachers' ideas about the science practices described in the Next Generation Science Standards and how Lawrence Hall of Science curriculum supports teachers' understanding of these practices. karenenelson@berkeley.edu

ASM Materials Camp for Teachers Camp for High school general science, chemistry, physics, math and technology teachers and middle school physical science teachers. Help your students discover careers in science and engineering. See <http://www.asminternational.org/foundation/teachers/teacher-material-camps/schedule> for camps in Cleveland and throughout the US.

NSTA Student and Teacher Competition Participants and Judges Needed If you are a current NSTA member and HS science teacher interested in judging a major competition sponsored by Toshiba please contact Brian Short **asap**. If you are a teacher interested in entering the competition or have students interested you can read the info at this site: http://www.toshiba.com/csr/education_tomodachi_stem.jsp. We will be accepting applications for both the student essay competition and the teacher competition from March 15 through April 15. We will begin virtual judging shortly thereafter, with the goal of having a complete list of winners and alternates by the end of April.

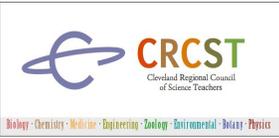
Center for Mathematics and Science Education, Teaching and Technology Summer 2014 Professional Development Workshops are now available to view at <http://sites.jcu.edu/cmsett/>

Rock Your World With STEAM Theme: Zero Waste! This All-City Arts & FACE Family Festival with STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Arts Math) showcase. May 17, 2014 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. at the Great Lakes Science Center and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. See <http://cmsd-artseducation.com/joomla/index.php/rockyourworldwithsteam> for information.



Lake Metroparks Environmental Learning Center The ECO Café Wednesday 4/16/2014 from 7:00-8:30 PM . Free - Featuring Bryan Palaszewski of NASA Glenn Research Center who will discuss the current Mars rover (Curiosity) and human Mars missions. <http://www.lakemetroparks.com/select-park/EnvironmentalLearningCenter.shtml#ecocafe>

SaiLS Workshop FREE **When:** Sat, May 10, 10am – 2pm. **Where:** Parma Branch-Cuyahoga County Public Library Supported by the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, Case Western Reserve University's Leonard Gelfand STEM Center and Cuyahoga County Public Library is offering free to in-service, pre-service, home school teachers, formal and informal educators, a placed based workshop around Lake Science and Shipwrecks focusing on hands-on activities connected to national and state science standards. Curriculum materials come from a variety of sources included Immersion Learning (JASON Learning), Population Education, and more. Did you know that there may be as many as 2000+ shipwrecks in Lake Erie? Learn more about discovering shipwrecks in our Great Lake! Jim Paskert of Cleveland Underwater Explorers will be the keynote speaker sharing a life long passion of his Great Lakes shipwreck research and exploration. Bring your own brown bag lunch. **Registration is required.** Forms available in mid-March. Call [216-368-5075](tel:216-368-5075) or e-mail: kmk21@case.edu for more information. CEU Certificates of participation will be available upon request. Great Lakes Maritime Treasure Chest will be gifted to one lucky school (see contents of chest here: http://wupcenter.mtu.edu/education/great_lakes_maritime/Teaching-Chest-FLYER-REQUEST-FORM-April2012.pdf). All attendees will receive at least one free curriculum CD from Immersion Learning (JASON Learning) and/or Population Education.



Cleveland Regional Council of Science Teachers Presents
2014 Spring Symposium: Science and Literacy
Registration Form



At Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
Thursday, April 10, 4:30 – 7:00

Promote critical thinking skills in your students as science lessons fulfill the requirements from the Common Core.

Network with your peers, gain information from local resources!

- 4:30 – 5:00 pm Registration, Light Supper, Networking
- 5:00 – 5:45 **Presentation** - Rowenna Collins, Director of Academics, Cleveland Botanical Garden
- 5:50 - 7:00 **Science and Literacy groups:** Split into grade band appropriate groups to discuss activities you can use in your own classroom



Further details and information will be forthcoming via emails or may be accessed at <http://www.crcst.org/>. Questions: Susan Clay, suzieclay@aol.com, 440-570-1155

Please use one form per person, copy as needed. **Membership in CRCST or CRABS is required.**



	<i>Fee (circle one)</i>
Symposium only (existing member)	\$10
1 year CRCST membership & symposium (full time graduate or undergraduate student)	\$15
1 year CRCST membership & symposium	\$25
2 year CRCST membership & symposium	\$39
Additional donation	

Make check payable to
CRCST
 Mail to:
 Mark Waner, Dept. of
 Chemistry, John Car-
 roll University 20700
 North Park Blvd.,
 University Heights, OH
 44118

Name _____ H Phone (____) _____

H Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Grade _____

School/Work Site _____

*****SAVE THE DATE: CRCST Fall Conference - Saturday, October 11, 2014**



Nature Play Camp at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo– Coming Summer 2014

Imagine a beautiful sunny summer day. You can feel the breeze, smell the flowers, and hear the insects buzzing about. Now listen for the sounds of laughter - children splashing in a creek, digging in the dirt and climbing over logs. All signs of children experiencing the joy of being outdoors and connecting with nature. But there is more to nature play than just fun and games. Through nature play children also construct knowledge, problem solve, build a foundation for early science skills, and learn to appreciate wildlife and the environment.

Recent research in both the conservation and education fields has highlighted the benefits of children's unstructured nature based play. Not only can early nature play experiences have a profound and lifelong effect on how a person views wildlife, but it can also positively impact children's social, emotional, physical and cognitive development. Studies show that these early experiences with nature foster children's emerging sense of wonder, influence a deeper understanding and appreciation of the natural world, and contribute to greater learning and knowledge.

Among these and other reasons, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo is excited to announce the addition of Nature Play Camp for children ages 3-4 that will take place in one of the Zoos newest exhibits, Nature Discovery Ridge. A fun filled half day summer camp program where young explorers will discover natural wonders, play outdoors, tour zoo exhibits and even get up close and personal with a few smaller Zoo residents.

Nature Play Camp will give children the important opportunity to connect with nature and provide unstructured open-ended creative play and discovery. At Nature Discovery Ridge children are invited to climb, splash, and explore the six natural Ohio habitats, while learning about essential elements such as water, shelter, and food. Through this and other programs we are committed to supporting early learning and development, while remaining on the cutting edge of science, education and conservation by connecting people with wildlife and nature. Here at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, we are giving children natural places to play, learn, wonder, and experience joy!

Nature Play Camp begins June 9th 2014. Registration begins March 1st for CZS Members and March 15th for Non-Members.

Reprinted from Cleveland Zoo Society "Z"

<http://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/Zoo/Education-Opportunities/Camp-Nature-Play-Camp-37.aspx>

CRCST

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Hannah Gibbons-STEM School
1401 Larchmont Rd.
Cleveland, Oh 44110



Save the Date!!

CRCST Spring Symposium April 10, 2014

at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

Theme: Science and Literacy

We are on the web!

www.crcst.org