



February 2009

### What's In This Issue?

Activity of the Month

## FROSTED GLASS

**Science Talk** – Feb 26

### Upcoming Workshops

- Project Learning Tree
- Project WET
- Project WILD
- Kid Friendly Report Design
- Introduction to Internet Resource Materials
- Family Math or Science Night
- Science Take-Home Bags
- Welcome to the Solar System

### What's In Stock?

Free classroom materials for your classroom

### Things To Know About

- Toshiba Grants
- INTEL Awards

### Spider's Prey

Web Sites of the Month:

- Science Songs



Come and see our extensive collection of science and technology curriculum that you can download for FREE!

Great Information Jewels You Don't Want To Miss!

# Treasures for Teachers

## TREASURE CHEST NEWSLETTER

Please **RECYCLE** this newsletter by passing it on to a friend.

### Activity of the Month



## FROSTED GLASS

In San Diego we don't usually get frost forming on our windows. Here is a way to share the beauty of frosted glass without the cold and learn a little science along the way.

See the last page of this NEWSLETTER for attached activity.

### Do you find teaching science difficult?

Would you appreciate some ideas to make teaching science more interesting?

Do you secretly dread preparing and teaching science lessons?

Are you in need of some **collaboration** with other like minded teachers?

**Join us** on Thursday, **February 26** at 5:30pm at the Science & Technology Teacher Resource Center for

## Science Talk

Science Talk is a new monthly meeting of San Diego County Elementary Teachers who would like to exchange ideas about content, activities, . . . in teaching science.

### Looking for NEW IDEAS !

**Space is still available!!!**

**MARK** your calendar then **JOIN** us for **WORKSHOPS** to improve your **SCIENCE TEACHING!**

**Come today, use it tomorrow!**



The Science & Technology Teacher Resource Center offers **FREE** science workshops to teachers! Join us for a few hours and add some new ideas to your science repertoire. Workshops are offered at our site or **they may be scheduled at a time or place more convenient to you.**

Call **619-847-5518** to schedule a time or to sign up for a workshop.

We have received a generous grant that makes these workshops possible!

## Environmental Education Workshops

These award winning programs provide more than just an introduction to environmental ed. They are balanced programs that **teach how to think, not what to think**. Each program is aligned to the California State Standards and teaches science concepts and skills in fun, collaborative ways.

Don't miss out on these wonderful FREE workshops!

**SIGN UP TODAY! 619-847-5518**



WET stands for Water Education for Teachers. Join us for an introduction to how water impacts our lives. **Attendees of this 6 hour workshop will be provided with a FREE 500+ page curriculum & activity guide** filled with games and activities to use with their classes.

This workshop will be held at the Resource Center from 9am-3pm on **March 21, 2009**.



What do you do with a Tree Cookie?

Discover activities to increase your students' awareness and knowledge of the environment, as well as their place within it.

**Attendees will be provided a FREE 470 page Environmental Education Activity Guide.**

This 6 hour workshop will be held at the Resource Center from 9am-3pm on **March 7, 2009**.



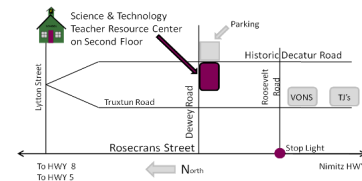
This 6 hour workshop provides you with games and activities to use with your students that introduce them to how animal life fits into the environment.

**Attendees will receive a FREE 500+ page curriculum & activity guide.**

This workshop will be scheduled later in the Spring.

## Science & Technology Teacher Resource Center

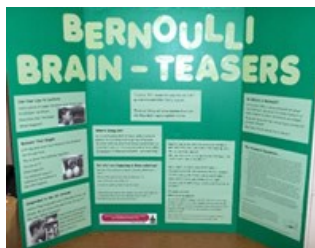
Located at NTC Promenade (former Naval Training Center) in Point Loma, just off Rosecrans Street  
**2825 Dewey Road # 205**  
**San Diego, California 92106**



**CALL 619-847-5518** for an appointment to view the Center.

We can be reached at: [sfreeburn@sgeei.org](mailto:sfreeburn@sgeei.org)

## More Workshops!



### Family Math or Science Night

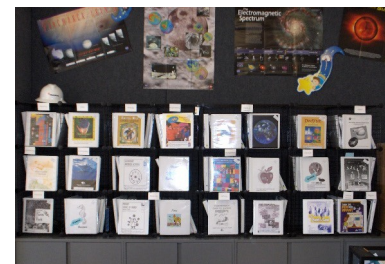
Create excitement and get parents involved with your school. Attend this workshop to find out **HOW** to organize this event at your school. We will discuss **WHAT** to include and **WHERE** to get ideas to make the event a success.

This 2 hour workshop will be held at the Resource Center from 5:30-8:30 pm on **March 12, 2009**.



### Science Take-Home Bags

What can you do with a convention bag? Attend this workshop and find out!! We will provide the bags and ideas. You will provide some imagination!! This 2 hour workshop will be held at the Resource Center from 5:30-7:30 pm on **March 19, 2009**.



### Introduction to Internet Resource Materials

The internet is loaded with FREE supplementary science materials. Find out where they are located in this hands-on workshop.

This 3 hour workshop will be held at the Resource Center from 5:30-8:30 pm on **February 11, 2009**.

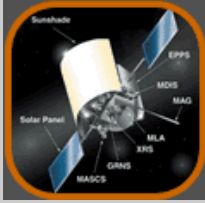
### Kid-Friendly Report Design

Looking for a more interesting way for your students to present science reports? This workshop will introduce you to a fun, kid-friendly report design.

This 3 hour workshop will be scheduled again later in the Spring.

**Drop by to discover all of the wonderful FREE treasures available to take back to your classroom!**

## MESSINGER Welcome to the Solar System



Learn how to incorporate NASA's MESSENGER program materials into your classroom's study of the Solar System during this hands-on, collaborative, interactive presentation. Make a scale model of the Solar System. Make a model showing how craters are made. Try an activity to share with your students that shows how the sun emits UV light and what simple things will protect them from the UV light.

This 3 hour workshop will be presented by NASA MESSENGER Educator Fellow, Sharon Freeburn, at the Resource Center from 5:30-7:30 pm on **February 18, 2009**.



### What's In Stock?

We have **tote bags** from conventions that were held in San Diego. Tote bags are a wonderful way to store science units. Drop by and pick some up to help organize your science materials.

### Science is FUN

Q. Where does bad light end up?  
A. In prism.

Q. What happens when you cut a prism in half?  
A. All the prisms escape!

From way down in my cranium,  
This prediction I will make:  
That if you eat uranium,  
You'll get atomic ache.

*Learning IS experience.  
Everything else is just  
information.*

*~Albert Einstein*

*Only those who attempt the  
absurd will achieve the  
impossible.*

*~M.C. Escher (1898 -1972)*

### Things To Know About!

Science programs you don't want to miss.

#### Toshiba America Foundation:

##### Grades 7-12 Science and Math Education Grants

The purpose of this program is to provide funding for teachers to make educational improvements in 7th-12th grade classrooms. Applicants should prepare a detailed plan that lays out what educational improvements they intend to make and how exactly they plan to implement those changes. Decisions about grants under \$5,000 are made on a rolling basis and applications are accepted throughout the year. The funding agency will give priority to projects with potential for improving classroom teaching and learning in science and mathematics. Projects planned and led by individual teachers or teams of teachers for their own classrooms are strongly encouraged. This funding opportunity provides resources to forward-thinking teachers who may opt to use science and mathematics to engage students in positive and challenging learning experiences.

For additional information, please visit their website at [www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/home/default.jsp](http://www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/home/default.jsp)

The County of San Diego Office of Resource Development has identified this as a funding opportunity you may be interested in pursuing. Should you decide to apply, or require additional information, please contact their office at: [Renee.Rambus@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Renee.Rambus@sdcounty.ca.gov) or [Lisa.Snowden@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Lisa.Snowden@sdcounty.ca.gov).



### Does your school demonstrate excellence in math and science?

The yearly **Intel Schools of Distinction Awards** recognize U.S. schools that demonstrate 21<sup>st</sup> century teaching and learning environments and implement innovative, replicable programs that inspire their students to excel in the areas of math and science. Winners will receive \$10,000 each. Applications are due February 17!!!

For additional information, please visit their website at [www.intel.com/education/schoolsofdistinction/index.htm](http://www.intel.com/education/schoolsofdistinction/index.htm)



### Spider's Prey

#### Web Sites of the Month

#### Science Songs

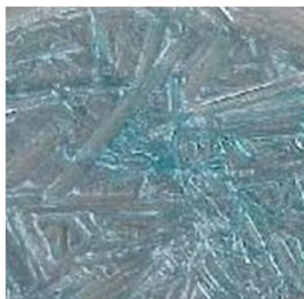
This website includes numerous science songs about a wide variety of scientific topics.

<http://faculty.washington.edu/crowther/Misc/Songs/>

This is a link to an article on educational uses of science songs which appeared in the March/April 2006 issue of CONNECT magazine.

<http://www.science-groove.org/SSA/DifferentDrum.pdf>

# FROSTED GLASS



## Materials:

- glass jam jar
- glass bottle or jar
- Epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) available from pharmacy
- water
- paint brush

1. Dissolve Epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) in a jam jar of hot water until no more will dissolve. The salt solution is called 'saturated' - it is holding as much salt as it possibly can.
2. Brush a small amount of the liquid onto the glass bottle or jar.
3. Leave for 15 minutes or so and the liquid will evaporate. As some of the water evaporates, the water that's left can't hold all the dissolved salt. The Epsom salts re-crystallize and appear as an intricate pattern of needle shaped crystals on the glass surface.
4. When it is dry, paint on another layer and continue until the glass or jar is covered with a film of beautiful needle shaped crystals that resemble ice crystals that form on winter windows.

Epsom salts is a common name for magnesium sulfate heptahydrate,  $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , a water-soluble bitter-tasting compound that occurs as white or colorless needle-shaped crystals.

Crystals are a 3-dimensional organized array of atoms or molecules. They form in particular shapes depending on how each face of the crystal develops. Magnesium sulfate is orthorhombic in shape.



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