



November 2008

### What's In This Issue?

Activity of the Month

*Which Paper Plane Flies Best?*

### Science Talk— Nov 13

#### Upcoming Workshops

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

#### What's In Stock?

Free classroom materials for Back to School

#### Spider's Prey

Web Sites of the Month:  
Searchme  
Mathwire

#### Things To Know About

Rubber Band Contest  
California ShakeOut



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



#### *Which Paper Plane Flies Best?*

This month's activities will allow your students to:

- Use higher order thinking skills
- Make predictions
- Test their ideas
- Conduct multiple trials
- Determine a definition of "best"

See the last page of this NEWSLETTER for attached activity.

Do you feel like you're the  
**ONLY** teacher at your school  
who thinks science is cool ???

Do you like messy, oozy experiments?

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

Join us on Thursday, November 13 at 6pm 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.

### Upcoming Workshops

**IT'S TIME FOR NEW IDEAS !**

Join us for **WORKSHOPS**

to make this year **GREAT!**

**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 **619-255-2912** 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!



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 Nov 22, 2008.



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 Nov 8, 2008

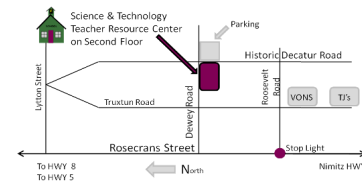


This 6 hour workshop provides you with games and activities to use with your students that introduce them to how animal life fits into the environment. **Attendees will receive a FREE 500+ page curriculum & activity guide.**

This workshop will be held at the Resource Center from 9am-3pm on Dec 6, 2008.

## Science & Technology Teacher Resource Center

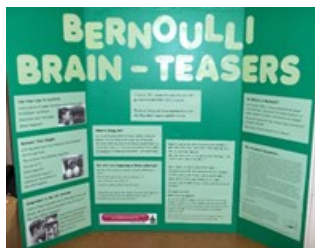
Located at NTC Promenade (former Naval Training Center) in Point Loma, just off Rosecrans Street  
**2825 Dewey Road # 205  
 San Diego, California 92106**



**CALL 619-255-2912** for an appointment to view the Center.

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

## More Workshops!



### Family Math or Science Night

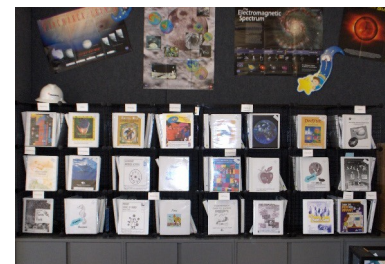
Create excitement and get parents involved with your school. Attend this workshop to find out **HOW** to organize this event at your school. We will discuss **WHAT** to include and **WHERE** to get ideas to make the event a success.

This 2 hour workshop will be held at the Resource Center from 6-8 pm on Oct 30 & Dec 2, 2008.



### 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 6- 8 pm on Nov 5, 2008.



### 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 6-9 pm on Nov 20, 2008.

### 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 held at the Resource Center from 6 -9 pm on Dec 16, 2008.

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



## What's In Stock?

Visit the Science and Technology Teacher Resource Center and take back to your classroom FREE pencils, binders, and other goodies that have been donated!

## Science is FUN Funny Science Quotes by Kids

When people run around and around in circles we say they are crazy.  
When planets do it we say they are orbiting.

Most books now say our sun is a star.  
But it still knows how to change back into a sun in the daytime.

Some people can tell what time it is by looking at the sun. But I have never been able to make out the numbers.

Vacuums are nothings. We only mention them to let them know we know they're there.

The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not "EUREKA!" (I found it!) but "That's funny..."

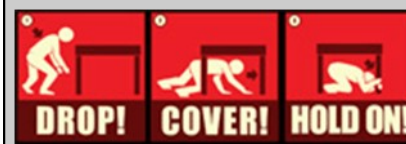
-Isaac Asimov

## Things To Know About!

Science programs you don't want to miss.

### Rubber Band Contest for Young Inventors

The contest encourages U.S. students in Grades 5-8 to create an invention incorporating rubber bands. Three finalists will be brought to Akron, Ohio, where the grand-prize winner will be announced at an awards ceremony on February 14, 2009. The grand-prize winner will receive a \$10,000 savings bond, while the second- and third-place winners will receive \$5,000 and \$2,500 savings bonds, respectively. The top 12 semifinalists who are not chosen as finalists will each receive a \$50 gift card. The teacher/mentor of each finalist will receive a \$500 gift card. Access <http://rubberbandcontest.org/> to apply by **November 14**.



Are you really prepared? What we do now, before a big earthquake, will determine what our lives will be like after. Register for the Great Southern California ShakeOut at [www.ShakeOut.org/register](http://www.ShakeOut.org/register) and be a

part of the largest earthquake drill in U.S. history.

At 10 a.m. on November 13, 2008 *Drop, Cover, and Hold On!*



## Spider's Prey

Web Sites of the Month

[www.searchme.com](http://www.searchme.com)

"Searchme lets you see what you're searching for. As you start typing, categories appear that relate to your query. Choose a category, and you'll see pictures of web pages that answer your search. You can review these pages quickly to find just the information you're looking for, before you click through."

This new site is great for the visual learners among us!



[www.mathwire.com](http://www.mathwire.com)

"Fall ushers in the seasonal holidays and classroom teachers and students are eager to capture the spirit of the holidays. It is very easy to incorporate mathematical concepts and skills built around these common themes. Whatever concept your class is currently developing, there are fun ways to incorporate math: estimation, measurement, basic facts, problem solving, discrete math, probability, graphing, data collection, geometry, etc.

When planning seasonal activities, be sure that the activity is mathematically rich and supports student learning or provides additional practice of basic facts and other skills. Appropriate seasonal activities are so much more than pumpkins on a worksheet! Whether you match standards activities to your current unit of study, or add some seasonal math games to your math center or game day, students will enjoy the thematic approach."



# Which Paper Plane Flies Best?

Have the children find a way to test the differences between the paper planes.

- What criteria will they use to determine "the best" plane?
- How will they test for that criterion?

They will probably come up with:

**Hang time** - a sweep hand on the judges watch will work great

**Accuracy** - place a target on the floor and be prepared to have the students measure distances - hula hoop - paper target

**Distance** - marking a flight zone with pre-labeled distances on strips of masking tape will prove useful. Use masking tape or chalk to mark the Flight Zone. Label the Start Line (zero cm), 50cm, 100cm, and 150cm, all the way to 1000cm

Have the students test their planes for each of the categories.

- Did they use multiple throws to determine the "best" plane?
- Did they use range, median, mean, or mode?

**The judge's rulings always need to be final!**  
Have the students chart their results.

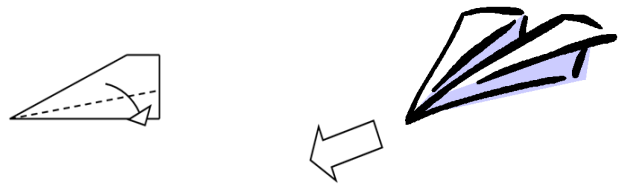
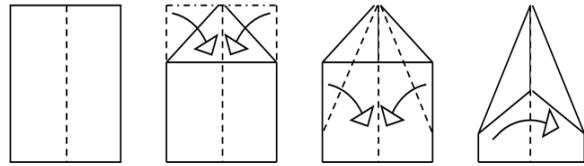
- Does this change their understanding of what "best" might mean?

**Range** - difference between highest and lowest value -  $100-80=20$

**Median** - middle - put the values in order from lowest to highest, then find the number that is exactly in the middle - 80 85 **90** ^ 90 90 100

**Mean** - arithmetic average - add up the numbers and divide by how many there are -  $(80+85+90+90+90+100) / 6=89$

**Mode** - value that occurs most often - **90**



**Create a flight zone** free of furniture and people. The Flight Zone needs to be located in a large, empty, flat area.

Flight-testing is more difficult if done outdoors with the wind.

A section of a classroom can be used if the furnishings are moved to create an open space.

Each pilot will launch his or her plane from shoulder height being careful to not cross the starting line. The goal is to never have the plane glide above shoulder height.

Test flights should be done in the Flight Zone.

Flights should only be made when the Flight Zone is clear for takeoff.

- Never throw a paper airplane at anyone!
- Never throw a paper airplane when anyone is in the way.
- Throwing harder doesn't make paper planes fly farther.

**HINT:** when folding do not crease with the fingernail. It deforms the paper at the crease. This can disrupt airflow. To make a sharp crease place the paper on the table and make the crease with fingers then use the "bowl" of a plastic spoon to put a sharp edge to the crease.



Copyright © 2008 by SGEEI

All Rights Reserved