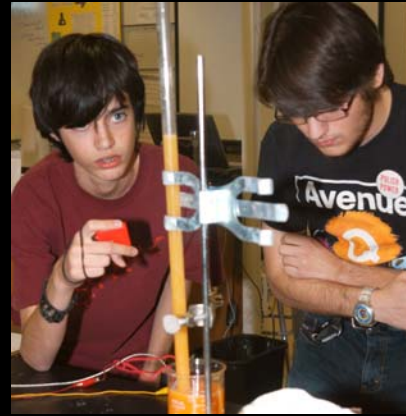


LEARNING CIRCUIT

WINTER 2007 VOLUME 22 NUMBER 1

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES AT SRP



SRP CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS GRANTS CAN FUND YOUR INNOVATIVE PROJECTS

Would you like to have “seed money” to establish your special educational program or project? Does your activity promote student achievement in math and/or science and utilize a creative approach to learning?

If so, consider applying for an SRP Classroom Connections 2007-08 grant, which offers:

- ◆ **Learning Grants by SRP** – These grants help schools, teachers and students develop projects and programs geared toward state-mandated competencies. As much as \$5,000 per school is available to support innovative teaching strategies that improve student performance in math and science.
- ◆ **Applied Science Grants by SRP** – Formerly the EnviroTech program, Applied Science Grants provide funding for a broader range of high-school student projects beginning in the 2007-08 school

year that employ applied science and technology. As much as \$5,000 is available to individual student teams to design and plan a project that involves practical application of scientific principles.

- ◆ **Powering Our Future Mini-Grants by SRP** – Targeted at grades 4-12, these grants of as much as \$350 per classroom can be used to supplement SRP’s Powering Our Future renewable energy program.

The SRP Classroom Connections grant application process is ongoing until March 30, 2007 (April 27 for “Mini-Grants”). A brochure providing details and forms was included in this mailing. Details and forms also are available at www.srpnet.com/education/grants/default.aspx. Please read all directions thoroughly. If you have questions, please call Kathie Marshall, (602) 236-2497.

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STUDENTS LEARN STEWARDSHIP VIA PROJECT WET

What once was an isolated event has become a collection of popular festivals throughout the state.

Project WET water festivals have become fun, interactive learning experiences for thousands of fourth graders statewide. The goal of Project WET – Water Education for Teachers – is to increase awareness, appreciation and stewardship of water resources through education. Project WET festivals take complicated water information and present it in an interactive, fun format.

It's a great way to address state academic standards pertaining to science – students participate in creative, hands-on learning activities to understand water resources, water conservation and the science of water. Fourth-graders find out about watersheds, groundwater, the water cycle and water conservation. Project WET also provides a complete curriculum of water education teaching materials, books and training opportunities.

An example of one such event was the Central Yavapai Water

Festival held in Prescott in October. About 1,150 students from 15 schools participated, including children from the Chino Valley, Humboldt, Mayer and Prescott unified school districts.

“Even with the challenges provided by the weather and change of venue, we received wonderful feedback regarding the festival,” said organizer Crystal Frost of the Arizona Department of Water Resources.

Frost said one teacher offered the following, “The volunteers were amazing. I’ve never seen such a large group of people who all had such great personalities, who were all having fun and who all seemed to really care about educating the students.”

In metropolitan Phoenix, more than 1,000 fourth graders from the Avondale Elementary School District attended a similar event.

“Two shifts of about 500 students were split into smaller groups and rotated among four interactive stations over a two-hour time period,” said SRP Community Outreach Representative Jennifer Deiley. “It was

a fun day for students, teachers, volunteers – all who participated.”

Fall Project WET festivals coincide with National Water Education Day. Similar events are held in all 50 states; it's the largest water education event in the country. Locally, SRP is a major sponsor, along with other local and state agencies.

For more about Arizona Project WET, visit their Web site, <http://ag.arizona.edu/AZWATER/wet/>, or the University of Arizona's Water Resource Research Center, (602) 470-8086 ext. 333.

SRP also offers free material for teachers on water conservation; see our Web site at www.srpnet.com/education.

(clockwise, from top right) Interactive discussions were an important part of the day's activities; SRP's Jennifer Deiley explains the dynamics of a watershed as part of the water cycle; students transport water the original way – by hand and foot; students examine a watershed model. (photos courtesy of Crystal Frost)

