

Welcome to...

Food for Thought!

October 2011

...a periodic e-newsletter to promote agricultural, environmental, and garden-based learning enrichment for youth and families in El Dorado County.

Please share this newsletter with anyone that might be interested! Subscribe or review past issues at http://cecentralsierra.ucanr.org/Newsletters_280/Ag_Literacy_Food_For_Thought_Newsletter/

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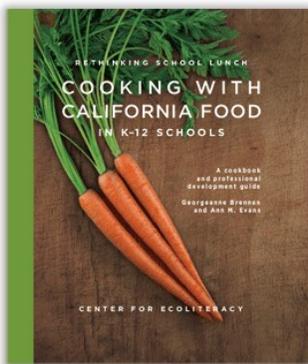
Save the Date – Farm Day 2012!

El Dorado County Third Grade Teachers are encouraged to save the date for the best third grade field trip around! Every May, El Dorado County Ag in the Classroom hosts hundreds of third grade students at the fairgrounds for an all-day interactive learning event. During this fun educational field trip, students learn about agriculture in context of local farms, ranches, and forests. All activities are designed to meet California state standards for third grade curriculum. Watch for registration information in January at www.agintheclass-edc.org.



Cooking with California Food in K-12 Schools

The Center for Ecoliteracy, in partnership with TomKat Charitable Trust, presents *Cooking with California Food in K-12 Schools*, an inspiring cookbook and guide to menu planning co-written by award-winning cookbook authors Georgeanne Brennan and Ann M. Evans.



Cooking with California Food introduces the concept of the dynamic 6-5-4 School Lunch Matrix, based on six dishes students know and love, five ethnic flavor profiles, and four seasons. It offers ideas for adding more fresh, local, healthy foods to school lunches; helps meal services devise an appealing variety of menus around dishes that children already prefer; honors California's rich history and cultural heritage; and describes a tested plan for effective professional development for food services staff.

Download the guide at: <http://www.ecoliteracy.org/cooking-with-california-food>

Play Worm Bin Bingo!

From our friends at Life Lab, here are Worm Bin Bingo instructions and a download for a set of bingo cards at: <http://www.lifelab.org/2010/05/worm-bingo/>

Funding Opportunities

Caring for Our Watersheds

Workshop: Oct. 14, 2011 (Register by Oct. 3)

Application Deadline: Feb. 3, 2012

Center for Land-Based Learning and Agrium, Inc. invite students in grades 9-12 in the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Watersheds to participate in the 2011-12 Caring for our Watersheds program. Counties include Yolo, Solano, Sacramento, Colusa, Yuba, Sutter, Glenn, El Dorado, Placer, and San Joaquin. By answering the question "What can you do to improve your watershed?" entrants will compete for up to \$1,000 in cash and \$1,000 to complete their project. Schools can receive up to \$1,000 in matching rewards and can receive \$100 for every ten complete proposals submitted, even if they do not send students to finals.

To learn more about the program and watershed issues, attend a workshop on Oct. 14 in Winters, CA. For more information, contact [Beth Del Real](mailto:Beth.Del.Real@ucdavis.edu) at (530) 795-1544 or visit caringforourwatersheds.com.

Whole Kids Foundation - New Grant Program to Support School Gardens

The School Garden Grant Program is a collaboration between Whole Kids Foundation, Whole Foods Market and FoodCorps. Thanks to the generosity of Whole Foods Market customers, Whole Kids Foundation is able to provide grants of \$2,000 to support school garden projects in the US, UK and Canada.

To be eligible for a garden grant, applicants must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or nonprofit K-12 school that is developing or currently maintaining a school garden project that will help children engage with fresh fruits and vegetables. Garden projects may be at any stage of development; planning, construction or operation. To be considered, applications must be received by 5pm CST, December 31, 2011. For more information on how to apply go to: <http://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/gardengrants-application.php>

Please pass this e-newsletter along to anyone that might be interest!

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