

## The W.A.L.L.

Thursday, September 02, 2010  
8:49 AM



The W.A.L.L. will be published twice a month to bring you the most up-to-date IMSA FUSION grant opportunities. It will be broken down into 7 sections. The first section, ALL LEVELS, will encompass grants that could apply to all grade levels K-12. The second, ELEMENTARY LEVEL, will list those grants specific to the elementary (4-5) levels only. The MIDDLE LEVEL will be grants specific to 6th-8th grades. Chicago Public Schools section will be those grants that only apply to CPS. The fifth section, AWARDS & COMPETITIONS, will be awards and contests that you and/or your students might want to enter. The sixth section, FREEBIES, will contain any freebies that you might want to order for your classroom. And finally, the last section, FUNDRAISERS, will contain any fundraising opportunities that you might want to participate in.

### ~Photos from the Field~



Happy Thanksgiving to you  
and your families!

## ALL LEVELS (4-8)

Wednesday, August 25, 2010

9:48 AM

### **JUNIOR ENERGY Program~Deadline:Rolling**

"Junior Energy's mission is to work in classrooms and schools to help children discover how they can positively impact the planet by engaging their parents, family, friends and neighbors in small, simple actions."

Link: <http://www.juniorenergy.org/>

### **2011 Mantis Awards for Community and Youth Gardens~Deadline: March 1, 2011**

"Each year, Mantis presents the Mantis Awards to charitable and educational garden projects that enhance the quality of life in their host communities. NGA selects 25 outstanding applicants to receive Mantis tiller/cultivators."

Link: <http://www.kidsgardening.org/grants/mantis.asp>

### **Lake Education Assistance Program~Deadline: January 31, 2011**

"LEAP funds are available to all school children whether they attend public or private schools, and for grades from kindergarten through graduate school. Funds are also available to not-for-profit organizations, such as lake associations, scouting groups, parks, and communities. LEAP has approximately \$50,000 in available funding per year. The maximum award per school and/or organization is \$500 per application period. The IEPA provides funding for approximately one hundred lake and lake watershed related educational field trips, seminars/workshops, projects, and activities per fiscal year. Projects and activities must have stated goals and involve the enhanced lake/lake watershed education of teachers, students, organizations and/or the community."

Link: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/conservation/leap.html>

### **Captain Planet Foundation~ Deadlines: March 31, June 30, Sept. 30, and Dec. 31**

"The Captain Planet Foundation reserves the right to earmark funding for specific budgetary items, and decline funding for budgetary items which are not consistent with Grant Guidelines. Generally, the range of grants awarded by the Foundation is \$250 - \$2,500\*."

Link: <http://www.captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=3&tab=apply>

### **Michael Davis Music Is Revolution Foundation~Deadlines:Jan 15, April 15 & Oct. 15**

"The Music Is Revolution Foundation administers a mini-grant program for Music Is Revolution activities designed by teachers to implement, support, and/or improve their ability to provide quality music education for their students. Mini-grants up to \$500 are available to teachers for music education activities of all types."

Link: [http://www.svengirly.com/mir2/pdf/Mini\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](http://www.svengirly.com/mir2/pdf/Mini_Grant_Application.pdf)

### **DonorsChoose.org~Deadline: Rolling**

"Here's how it works: public school teachers from every corner of America post classroom project requests on DonorsChoose.org. Requests range from pencils for a poetry writing unit, to violins for a school recital, to microscope slides for a biology class."

Link: <https://secure.donorschoose.org/common/signin.html>

## NEA Foundation Challenge to Innovate

"C2i is a web-based, open invitation to all public school educators that will be housed on the Department of Education's Open Innovation Portal. The best ideas will receive awards from the NEA Foundation and may be selected for further development. Accept our challenge. Post your problem. Help us solve and share it and become eligible for additional funding and support."

**Challenge 1-Post your most pressing classroom problem beginning on September 7, 2010**

Link: <http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/c2i-the-nea-foundations-challenge-to-innovate>

## ExploraVision

"The Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision Awards program is back for its 19th year. The ExploraVision program is open to K-12 students who could win up to \$10,000 in savings bonds and other valuable prizes. To start the year off right, NSTA will host the first in a series of free web seminars designed to answer questions and assist teachers in using the ExploraVision program in their classrooms. "What is ExploraVision and How Can I Use It?" is scheduled for Wednesday, September 15, 2010, at 6:30 pm ET. Coaches of prior winning teams will share their experiences, give tips, and answer questions."

**Applications available online starting August 30, 2010**

Link: [www.exploravision.org](http://www.exploravision.org)

## The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation

As featured on *The Today Show*, "Fruit Tree 101" is a program that brings fruit tree orchards to schoolyards so students can improve the quality of the air and water while creating a source of tasty snacks for decades to come. Not only do our schoolyard fruit orchards help the environment, but they give your teacher an excuse to hold class outside when it's time for science lessons!

Link: <http://www.ftpf.org/fruittree101.htm>

## Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grant~Deadline: January 31, 2011

"Take your students on a field trip to study some aspect of Illinois' natural or cultural biodiversity."

Link: <http://www.dnr.state.il.us/education/Classrm/grants.htm>

## Schoolyard Wildlife Habitat Action Grant Program Application Form

**~Deadline: November 30, 2010**

"Involve your students in hands-on natural resources stewardship."

Link: <http://www.dnr.state.il.us/education/Classrm/grants.htm>

## Illinois Rain Garden Initiative Application Form~ **Deadline: November 30, 2010**


"Students and community organizations can construct a rain garden to help control storm water runoff, improve wildlife habitat and address flooding concerns. This program is sponsored by the Illinois Conservation Foundation and Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Funding is provided through a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service."

Link: <http://www.dnr.state.il.us/education/Classrm/grants.htm>

## **NCR-SARE Youth & Youth Educator Grants~Deadline: January 14, 2011**

### Youth Grant Program

The deadline for the 2010 Youth and Youth Educator Grant proposals is Friday, January 14, 2011.

 [2010 Youth & Youth Educator Sustainable Agriculture Grant Call for Proposals \(Word\)](#)

Youth and Youth Educator grants are an exciting new part of the Farmer Rancher Grant program. Their purpose is to provide opportunities for youth in the North Central Region to learn more about Sustainable Agriculture. There are two options:

1. **YOUTH GRANTS.** These are grants for on-farm research, demonstration, or education projects by youth ages 8-18. Research and demonstration projects are for hands-on efforts to explore sustainable agriculture issues and practices. Education projects can involve teaching others about sustainable agriculture or attending a sustainable agriculture conference, workshop, or camp. \$400 maximum.

2. **YOUTH EDUCATOR GRANTS.** These are grants for educators to provide programming on sustainable agriculture for youth. \$2,000 maximum.

- Questions? Contact Joan Benjamin at 402-472-0809, 1-800-529-1342 or [jbenjamin2@unl.edu](mailto:jbenjamin2@unl.edu).

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Link: <http://www.sare.org/ncrsare/cfp.htm>

## **Community Action Grants~Deadline: January 15, 2011**

"Applicants must be women who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Nonprofit organizations must be based in the United States. Grant projects must have direct public impact, be nonpartisan, and take place within the United States or its territories. Special consideration is given to projects focused on K-12 and community college girls' and women's achievements in science, technology, engineering or math."

Award: \$2,000-\$10,000

Link: [http://www.aauw.org/learn/fellowships\\_grants/community\\_action.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/learn/fellowships_grants/community_action.cfm)

## **CeMaST Teacher Innovation Grants~Deadline: Feb 1, 2011.**

Center for Mathematics, Science, and Technology (CeMaST)

Grants support Illinois teachers involved in STEM teaching, learning and research in a variety of ways. Grants can be used to support new or ongoing teaching projects or to match funds (up to \$500) of grants already received for innovative STEM projects. Successful applicants (individuals or teams) can receive up to \$500 per person and have the option of receiving help from the Center for Mathematics, Science and Technology (CeMaST) in writing their next external grant.

Link: [http://cemast.illinoisstate.edu/projects/teacher\\_innovation.shtml](http://cemast.illinoisstate.edu/projects/teacher_innovation.shtml)

## **Davidson Fellow Scholarship~Deadline: Rolling**

"The Davidson Fellows Scholarship awards **\$50,000**, **\$25,000** and **\$10,000** scholarships to extraordinary young people under the age of 18 who have completed a significant piece of work. Application categories are **Mathematics, Science, Literature, Music, Technology, Philosophy** and **Outside the Box**. Davidson Fellows are honored every year in Washington, D.C. with Congressional meetings and a special reception."

Link: <http://www.davidsongifted.org/fellows/>

## **Disney's Planet Challenge Kicks Off Year Two, Expands to Middle Schools~Deadline: December 17, 2010**

Disney's Planet Challenge, a free project-based environmental and science competition for classrooms nationwide. Formerly open to 4th through 6th grade classrooms, Disney's Planet Challenge is being expanded to include two tracks: one for elementary schools grades 3–5, and another for middle schools grades 6–8. The middle school curriculum will offer an increased focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education. Developed in collaboration with NSTA and the K–12 Alliance, the Challenge offers students the chance to use their imagination and creativity to help the planet while giving educators a fresh new way to motivate students with the help of an educationally sound curriculum that meets national and state guideline requirements. The national grand prize-winning elementary school class will enjoy a celebration at Disneyland® Resort while middle school national winners will earn a \$20,000 grant for their school. Both grand prize-winning classrooms will be illustrated and appear within a Marvel comic book. Winning teachers will receive a one year NSTA membership. The grand-prize winning educators will also receive an expense-paid trip to the national 2012 NSTA conference where they will be recognized at the NSTA awards banquet.

Link: [www.Disney.com/planetchallenge](http://www.Disney.com/planetchallenge).

## **Vernier/NSTA Technology Awards~Deadline: November 30, 2010**

The Vernier/NSTA Technology Awards promote the innovative use of data-collection technology using a computer, graphing calculator, or other handheld in the science classroom. We encourage you to apply for one of seven \$3,000 awards.

Link: <http://www.vernier.com/grants/nsta.html>

## **Shade Structure Program~Applications Available October 18, 2010**

The American Academy of Dermatology's Shade Structure Program awards grants in the amount of \$8,000 each for the purchase of permanent shade structures designed to provide shade and ultraviolet (UV) ray protection for outdoor areas.

Link: <http://www.aad.org/public/sun/grants.html>

## **National Weather Association Grants~Deadline: June 1, 2011**

Sol Hirsch Education Fund Grants are awarded annually to teachers/educators of grades K-12 to help improve the education of their students, school and/or community in the science of meteorology. The Grant is intended to allow teachers to:

- Purchase scientific materials and / or equipment for the classroom, school or community.
- Begin new school and / or community science outreach and education programs.
- Enhance and / or expand existing meteorology / science education programs.
- Attend accredited courses, workshops and /or conferences related to meteorology that will significantly enhance their teaching activities.

Link: <http://www.nwas.org/grants/solhirsch.php>

## **IT'S ALL ABOUT THE FRUIT ~Deadline: November 29, 2010**

20 recipients will receive fruit trees valued at \$500 and the Jamba Juice It's All About the Fruit Youth Garden Guide. Trees will be selected based on recommended varieties for each area.

Link: <http://www.kidsgardening.org/grants/jamba.asp>

### **The Fender Music Foundation — Grant Overview~Deadline: Rolling**

The Fender Music Foundation makes the gift of music available to people across the country by providing funding and resources for music programs. Our grants are awarded to music academies, schools, local music programs and national music programs across America. As of January 2008, we awarded grants to 38 music academies and local music programs, 6 national music programs and 21 school music programs. We have reached state specific programs in 24 states. And have directly given at least 17,000 people the opportunity to make music within one year of receiving a grant. The following 5 programs represent the spectrum of programs selected by The Fender Music Foundation, which were awarded instruments and equipment:

Link: <http://www.fendermusicfoundation.org/grants/index.cfm?sec=overview>

### **Muhammad Ali Center Peace Garden Grant~Deadline: January 5, 2011**

The Muhammad Ali Center Peace Garden Grant will provide 50 youth programs with the basic tools and supplies needed to begin a vegetable garden. Recipients will use the gardens to teach youth about respect for diverse cultures and nutrition. Sponsored by Yum! Brands Foundation, the initiative is part of its World Hunger Relief effort, to help children in underprivileged areas learn to grow their own food with plants from different countries.

Link: <http://www.kidsgardening.com/Dig/digdetail.taf?Type=Art&id=2336>

### **Welch's Harvest Grants Program~Deadline: February 11, 2011**

Now in our second year partnership with Scholastic and the National Gardening Association, Welch's will support school garden programs through Welch's Harvest Grants. We are pleased to invite you to submit an application for your opportunity to win a valuable garden for your school. Entries will be judged by experts at the National Gardening Association and two schools in every state will be selected to receive a Welch's Harvest Grant. Winning schools will receive a customized indoor or outdoor garden package filled with a variety of tools, seeds, educational materials, and more. Five (5) \$1,000 gardens and ninety-five (95) \$500 gardens will be awarded.

Link: <http://www.scholastic.com/harvest/>

### **Toyota Tapestry Grants~Deadline: February 23, 2011**

Fifty \$10,000 grants totaling \$500,000 will be awarded this year. Applicants must either be an elementary teacher who teaches science in the classroom or a middle or high school science teacher, with a minimum of two years teaching experience. Individual science teachers or a team of up to five teachers can submit proposals.

Link: <http://www.nsta.org/pd/tapestry/>

### **Grant Application Now Being Accepted for Spring 2011.**

Apply for a \$3,500 grant to bring a professional development conference to your district, sponsored by eInstruction.

Link: <http://www.einstruction.com/edtech/host.html>

### **Intel School of Distinction~Deadline: February 17, 2011**

Intel honors schools as Intel Schools of Distinction for their extraordinary commitment to instituting 21st century teaching and learning environments and for exemplary instruction in math and science. The 2010 winning schools from six states were announced at a gala celebration in Washington, D.C. Sept. 14. - you can learn more about them here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7w0cvPw2FPU>

Link: <http://www.intel.com/about/corporateresponsibility/education/soda/application.htm?iid=CAG1005>



### **Jack Kent Cooke Foundation~Deadline: Rolling**

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation partners with educational organizations and institutions that share our commitment to enabling exceptionally promising lower-income students to reach their full potential. Through strategically targeted grants, the Foundation works to expand educational opportunities for thousands of remarkable students whose families, schools, and communities need additional resources to help these students fulfill their promise.

Link: <http://www.jkcf.org/grants>

### **Bank of America~Deadline: Rolling**

We are building strong, healthy neighborhoods where all of us can live, work and dream by investing in innovative programs designed to serve local community needs. Working in partnership with community leaders, Bank of America's local market leadership directs the majority of our giving through local grants that address pressing social, economic, and cultural needs of communities across our global footprint. In addition, we partner with national organizations such as the United Way of America and Habitat for Humanity International to direct resources to local communities. Through our signature philanthropic program, the Neighborhood Excellence Initiative®, we enhance nonprofits' ability to serve more individuals and families in need and develop nonprofit visionaries, local heroes, and students as our community leaders of today and tomorrow.

Link: <http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation/>

### **AIAA Grant~Deadline: November 30, 2010**

This is a competitive grant program to educate students about math, science, technology, and engineering. Funds will be considered for the following materials needed to promote the teaching of science, mathematics, and technology:

- Classroom math or science demonstration kits
- Classroom science supplies
- Math and science software for K-12 use
- Math manipulatives
- Supplies for making flying objects
- Supplies for robotic programs

Link: <http://www.aiaa.org/content.cfm?pageid=244>

### **Fuel Up to Play 60 In-School Wellness Program~Deadline: December 1, 2010**

This grant provides money to help schools jumpstart and sustain healthy nutrition and physical activity improvements. Eligible schools can apply for up to \$3,000 to help them increase awareness of and access to nutrient-rich foods and physical activity opportunities for students. The funds can be used for a variety of activities and tools, such as food service materials and equipment, nutrition and physical education materials, student and staff incentives, staff development and overall Fuel Up to Play 60 program implementation.

Link: <http://www.fueluptoplay60.com/>

### **American Honda Foundaton ~ Deadlines: November 1, February 1, May 1, August 1**

The American Honda Foundation supports youth education programs with a specific focus on the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects in addition to the environment. Grants range from \$20,000 to \$60,000.

Link: <http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>

### **iLoveSchools Donations~**

iLoveSchools.com is a nonprofit online donation center that connects new, used and in-kind resources with our nation's schools all year long.

Link: <http://www.iloveschools.com/>

### **Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom Challenge Grants Program~Deadline: January 18, 2011**

To help ensure the existence in the United States of a qualified workforce to serve the food and agricultural sciences system.

Link: <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/fo/educationchallengesecondaryhep.cfm>

### **Funagain Games Grants~Deadline: Rolling**

Funagain will pick one recipient for each of the grants on the first business day of the month and grant recipients will be listed on the Funagain website. Grants are good for up to \$100 worth of items offered by Funagain Games. Shipping to the 50 US states is not deducted from the grant amount, and will be provided for free.

Link: <http://www.funagain.com/control/rc?p=grants>

### **Heinemann Microgrant~Deadline: Rolling**

Applications for this microgrant should present project ideas to use technology in the classroom to engage students in learning activities or increase collaboration between educators.

Link: <http://www.heinemann.com/grants/>

### **NASA Kids in Micro-g Design~Deadline: December 8, 2010**

The "[Kids in Micro-g](#)" student experiment design challenge for grades 5-8, is aimed at giving students a hands-on opportunity to design an experiment or simple demonstration that could be performed both in the classroom and by astronauts aboard the International Space Station.

Link: [http://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/station/research/nlab/experimentchallenge.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/research/nlab/experimentchallenge.html)



## ELEMENTARY LEVEL (4-5)

Wednesday, August 25, 2010  
9:26 AM

### **Annie's Grants for Gardens~Deadline: Rolling**

"We offer a limited number of small grants to community gardens, school gardens and other educational programs that connect children directly to gardening. These funds can be used to buy gardening tools, seeds or other needed supplies."

Link: [http://www.annies.com/grants\\_for\\_gardens](http://www.annies.com/grants_for_gardens)

### **Kid's Science Challenge~Deadline: February 28, 2011**

Welcome to the 3rd annual *Kids' Science Challenge*, which is now open for entries! The KSC is a free nationwide science competition for students in grades 3 to 6.

#### **Year 3 Kids' Science Challenge Science Topics**

##### **Can You Create Super Stuff for Sports?**

Have you ever wondered what makes one kind of golf ball better than another one? Or why a football helmet is made differently than a bicycle helmet? Ask a materials scientist. They study what things are made of and develop new materials that work better. And when it comes to sports material scientists are improving equipment by leaps and bounds! Now its your turn. Can you come up with a new idea idea for a material to help make your favorite sport safer or more fun?



##### **Can You Invent a New Musical Instrument?**

Bang on a drum. Strum a guitar. Blow into a flute. The sounds you make are caused by vibrations. Why does a piano sound different than a violin? Because every instrument creates its own special vibrations in the air. Now we want to hear your good vibrations! Can you invent your own new musical instrument with a brand new sound?

##### **Can You Find Magic in Microbes?**

Did you know you have trillions of tiny creatures living inside you? They're called microbes, and they're everywhere. Bacteria, germs, and viruses are all microbes. They can do all kinds of useful things, like make electricity, biodegradable plastic, and bread. Can you think of a brand new way that microbes can help us?

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Link: <http://www.kidsciencechallenge.com/#/home>

## MIDDLE LEVEL (6-8)

Wednesday, August 25, 2010  
9:27 AM

### Christopher Columbus Awards-Innovation Generation~Deadline: February 7, 2011

"Today's middle school students are the Innovation Generation — everyday kids with untapped potential who are creative problem-solvers. Unlocking that potential is the mission of the Christopher Columbus Awards program, a cutting-edge national competition that combines science and technology with community problem-solving in a real-world setting."

Link: <http://www.christophercolumbusawards.com/coaches.php>

### Future City Competition~Deadline: Rolling

The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students that combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a "hands-on" application to present their vision of a city of the future.

#### What Your Students Will Do

Students work in teams with a teacher/coach and a mentor who contributes real-world STEM knowledge.

Students will:

1. **Design** a city 150 years in the future using SimCity 4 Deluxe™ software.
2. **Research** an engineering problem.
3. **Write** an essay on their solution.
4. **Build** a tabletop scale model using recycled materials.
5. **Present** their model and ideas to engineers at the regional competition in January. The regional winners receive a trip to the National Finals in Washington, D.C., in February.

Registration is now open

PDF Brochure: [http://www.futurecity.org/docs/2011\\_Brochure\\_Final.pdf](http://www.futurecity.org/docs/2011_Brochure_Final.pdf)

Link: <http://www.futurecity.org/>

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# West Point Virtual Bridge Design Contest

Welcome to the 2011 West Point Bridge Design Contest

**HOW TO ENTER**

- 1 [Download](#) and install the West Point Bridge Designer 2011 software.
- 2 Use the software to design and test a virtual bridge.
- 3 [Register](#) your team.
- 4 [Log in](#) and submit as many designs as you like.

*It's absolutely FREE!*



**Who:** U.S. students age 13 through grade 12 are eligible for prizes. Anyone else may enter our Open Competition. More about [eligibility](#)...

**When:** The 2011 contest will begin on January 10, 2011, and the Qualifying Round will end on February 25. More about the [contest schedule](#)...

**Prizes:** Each member of the first-place team earns a \$10,000 scholarship. Each finalist wins a notebook computer. More about [prizes](#)...

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Link: <http://bridgecontest.usma.edu/>

## **Toshiba America Foundation~Deadline: (See bold below)**

Wanted: Classroom Innovators! Toshiba America Foundation is currently accepting applications from teachers who are passionate about making science and mathematics more engaging for their students. Do you teach 6-12 science or math? Do you have a wish list of instructional equipment that will make learning more exciting for your students? If the answer is yes to these questions, Toshiba America Foundation would like to hear from you. "

**Grade 6-12 applications for \$5,000 or less are accepted on a rolling basis, throughout the calendar year.**

**Grant requests of more than \$5,000 are reviewed twice a year. Applications for grants of more than \$5,000 are due February 1st and August 1st each year.**

Link: <http://www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp>

## **Bob Costas Grants ~Deadline: November 19, 2010**

Each year the College Board recognizes exceptional teachers of grades 6 through 12 for the innovative methods they use to develop their students' writing skills. Grants of \$3,000 each will be awarded to teachers who are doing an inspiring job of teaching their students to write and who will benefit most from a grant to enhance a successful project.

Link: <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/k-12/awards/costas>

### **Team American Rocketry Challenge~Deadline: May 2011**

Approximately 7,000 students from across the nation compete in TARC each year. Teams design, build and fly a model rocket that reaches a specific altitude and duration determined by a set of rules developed each year. The contest is designed to encourage students to study math and science and pursue careers in aerospace. The top 100 teams, based on local qualification flights, are invited to Washington, DC in May for the national finals. Prizes include \$60,000 in cash and scholarships split between the top 10 finishers. NASA invites top teams to participate in their Student Launch Initiative, an advanced rocketry program. AIA member companies, such as Lockheed Martin and Raytheon have sponsored additional prizes such as scholarship money and a trip to an international air show.

Link: <http://www.rocketcontest.org/index.cfm>

### **NSTA Shell Science Lab Challenge~Deadline: February 2, 2011**

NSTA and Shell announce the NSTA's Shell Science Lab Challenge—an innovative new competition for middle and high school teachers that will bring much-needed laboratory resources to school districts nationwide. Schools will compete for up to \$93,000 in prizes, including a grand prize school science lab makeover valued at \$20,000.

Link: <http://www.nsta.org/shellsciencelab/>

### **NASA's Spaced Out Sports Design Challenge~Deadline: February 1, 2011**

U.S. Students in grades 5-8 are invited to participate in **Spaced Out Sports**, a national design challenge that applies Newton's Laws of Motion by designing a game for the International Space Station astronauts to play in space. The goal is for students to learn the "science behind the game" on Earth and in microgravity. Students will submit game demonstrations via a playbook and video.

Link: <http://education.ssc.nasa.gov/spacedoutsports.asp>

### **ARMY STEM Contest~Deadline: December 17, 2010**

eCYBERMISSION is a free, web-based science, technology, engineering and math competition for students in grades six through nine. Guided by an adult Team Advisor, students form teams of three to four and identify a problem in their community they are interested in studying. eCYBERMISSION offers several resources for students and Team Advisors throughout the competition year, including Mission Folder tips, supplemental worksheets, interactive webinars, CyberGuide chats, and an active social media network. Students on winning teams can get up to \$8,000 in U.S. EE Savings Bonds.

Link: <https://www.ecybermission.com/public/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fDefault.aspx>

### **Dupont Challenge Science Essay~Deadline: January 31, 2011**

The 2011 DuPont Challenge invites students in grades 7-12 to write a 700 to 1,000-word essay discussing a scientific discovery, theory, event, or technological application that has captured their interest. Prize include \$5,000-\$2,000 U.S. Savings Bonds and a trip to Disney World and the Kennedy Space Center.

Link: <http://thechallenge.dupont.com/>

## Chicago Public Schools (CPS-ONLY)

Wednesday, August 25, 2010  
9:43 AM

### Fund for Teachers

"Fund for Teachers is the national donor supported organization that awards fellowships for self-designed professional growth to teachers who recognize the value of inquiry, the power of knowledge and their ability to make a difference. FFT provides fellowship grants directly to teachers, with more than three years of experience, to support their professional learning during the summer. Their experiences come in many forms, but share the purpose of better teaching. Ultimately, FFT believes that by experiencing the potential of their personal and professional learning, teachers in turn inspire potential in their students."

**Application information available: October 2010**

Link: <http://www.fundforteachers.org/apply/il.html>

### Chicago Foundation for Education Small Grant Program

"Chicago Foundation for Education awards **\$500 Small Grants** to CPS elementary school teachers with innovative, creative classroom ideas that will enhance student learning. Grants provide teachers the resources needed to develop an effective curricular project that engages students, improves learning and aligns with the standards. Individuals or teams of teachers may apply for a Small Grant to develop and implement new project ideas in their classrooms. All Chicago public elementary school educators (PreK through 8th Grade) are eligible to apply."

Link: [http://www.cfelessonplans.org/pages/teacher\\_login/195.php](http://www.cfelessonplans.org/pages/teacher_login/195.php)

## AWARDS & COMPETITIONS

Friday, September 03, 2010  
8:46 AM

### Teacher of the Month-WGNTV

"If you are currently a student age 13 or older in the Chicagoland viewing area or NW Indiana, nominate a teacher whom you feel makes a difference at your school or in your community.

One Teacher will be selected each month from **September 2010 through June 2011** with a total of ten (10) Teachers of the Month chosen. b. The school's principal will be contacted to verify the eligibility and the qualifications of the teacher. The principal must agree to let WGN-TV tape in the school during the teacher's ceremony. c. Each Teacher of the Month will receive a Certificate of Recognition, and the school, which employs the teacher, will receive \$1,000 worth of school supplies donated by National-Louis University. The donation to the winner's school will be delivered to the winner's school at a mutual time to be determined between the winner's school and Sponsors. Sponsors are not responsible for the safe arrival of a certificate or donation. d. Each Teacher of the Month will be notified via telephone or email. The Teacher of the Month also will be featured on WGN-TV News.

Link: <http://www.wgntv.com/news/teacherofthemoth/wgntv-teacherofthemoth-official-rules-story,0,1897584.story>

### Golden Apple Foundation

"Nominees must be full-time classroom teachers at a public or non-public school in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake or Will counties in Illinois. Nominees must be committed to continue teaching in Illinois for at least two years after completing the sabbatical.

*NOTE: Golden Apple Awards rotate through grade levels on an annual basis:*

2010 - 2012 -  
High pre-  
School K-3rd  
Grade

2011 - 2013 -  
4th-8th High  
Grade School

The Golden Apple Award offers its recipients (known as *Fellows*), the platform to create or contribute to programmatic responses to the needs of schoolchildren throughout Illinois.

In addition to the honor and public recognition, Golden Apple Award winners enjoy these additional rewards:

- A paid semester sabbatical at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. Winners may take as many courses as they wish in any subjects they choose. As part of the sabbatical, the winners, as a group, design a seminar series to which they invite individuals who are making significant contributions in the field of education.
- A cash award of \$3,000
- Induction into the Golden Apple Academy of Educators"

Link: [http://www.goldenapple.org/pages/awards\\_and\\_recognition/2.php](http://www.goldenapple.org/pages/awards_and_recognition/2.php)

### National Geographic International Photography Contest for Kids

"Grab your camera! Take a photograph of something in your world that fits one or more of these four categories: humor, animals, scenery, or people. Read the full rules below."

**The United States and Canadian International Photo Contest For Kids begins August 2, 2010, and ends November 1, 2010 (the "Entry Period").**

Link: <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/contests/photo-contest-rules/>

## Schoolyard Bird Challenge

"The Schoolyard Birding Challenge (SBC) is a monthly bird watching contest open to students in all public, private, and home schools in North America. Student participants in the SBC will work together to observe, identify, and record various bird species found on their school grounds." Link:

<http://www.fledgingbirders.org/challenge.html>



## Engineering Education Service Center (EESC) Fall 2010 Poster Contest!

"Civil Engineering is the theme for the EESC's Fall 2010 poster contest. This year's winning entry can be found in a display of inspiration, excitement, wonder and curiosity. Posters should be fun, motivational and inspire students to pursue a degree in engineering, technology, math and/or science. Contest Rules: If under 18, a parent or guardian must submit your poster on your behalf. Contest is primarily for high school and college students although middle school students can also enter."

Link: <http://www.engineeringedu.com/postercontest.html>

## Poster, Poetry and Prose Contest

"Dear Fifth/Sixth Grade Educators,

We invite your students to participate in the annual Environmental Pathways statewide poster and poetry/prose exhibit. The theme of the 2010 event will be "Conserving and Protecting the Land of Lincoln!" focusing on the importance of conserving and protecting our land resources."

Link: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/kids/teachers/contest/index.html>

## National Geographic Hands-on Explorer Challenge~Deadline: December 1, 2010

"Are you curious about the world around you? Do you like to explore? If you do, read the rules and find out how you could win a trip to the Cayman Islands! To enter, write an original personal essay, in English, of no more than 300 words. Think about how water is essential to life everywhere—from the dew on a leaf to the sea that surrounds the Cayman Islands."

Link: <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/contests/explorer-trip-2011>

## VOLVO ADVENTURE - START PAGE

### The Volvo Adventure Competition

[LOGIN](#) - [GALLERY](#) - [WINNERS](#) - [REGISTER](#) - [UNEP](#)

#### WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

The Volvo Adventure - in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme - is an educational programme that rewards environmental activities and the decision-makers of the future. To enter, you form a team of 2 to 5 members aged 13 to 16 (at competition opening - July 1st 2009). Perform an environmental project in your local community & submit the project via our online submission tool before the competition deadline, January 31st 2011.

Projects are judged and the best projects are selected for an all expenses paid trip to Göteborg, Sweden where they can win: 1st place = 10,000 USD, 2nd = 6,000 USD and 3rd = 4,000 USD. See the registration details and guidelines for more information.

#### WHAT'S NEW?

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#### Volvo Adventure Contest

Link: <http://www.volvoadventure.org/home.aspx>

### Bob the Bunny's Cartoon Competition

[LOGIN](#) - [JOURNEY](#) - [BRIEFING](#) - [REGISTER](#) - [TUNZA](#)

#### WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

Too young to enter the Volvo Adventure? Bob the Bunny's competition is aimed at younger adventurers aged between 10 to 12 years old (at the competition opening - July 1st 2009). To enter, you form a team of 1 to 3 members, identify a local environmental issue and create an A4 cartoon strip illustrating the issue and actions that you might take to solve it. The submissions should be sent to us before the competition deadline, February 28th 2011.

This year's winning team will be sent to the 2011 Volvo Adventure final. See the registration details below for more information.



### **Math Contest (Grades 2,3, 4 and 5)**

The goal of the competition is to encourage students' interest in math, to inspire students to excel in math, and to convey the message to young students: *It is COOL to be good at math!*  
We are beginning our 3rd year! More than 3,500 students representing 304 teams participated in our April 2010 contest. **Two math contests are scheduled in the coming school year: October 14, 2010 and April 14, 2011.** The contest is for students in grades 2, 3, 4 and 5. Any teacher from a public school or a private school is welcome to register their students.  
Link: <http://www.noetic-learning.com/mathcontest/>

### **World of Escher-Tessellations Contest~Deadline: December 31, 2010**

"Tessellation is a combination of mathematics and artistic ability.  
*Do you have what it takes?* Compete with entries from all over the world. See your work displayed on the Internet. Win prizes!"  
Link: <http://www.worldofescher.com/contest/>

### **Rubber Band Contest for Young Inventors (Grades 5,6,7 & 8)~ Deadline: Feb.16, 2011**

Are you ready to stretch your imagination? The Akron Global Polymer Academy of The University of Akron is hosting the third annual Rubber Band Contest for Young Inventors to encourage students in grades 5-8 to demonstrate their creativity and ingenuity by creating an invention that incorporates the use of rubber bands.  
Link: <http://rubberbandcontest.org/>



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### **ThinkQuest International Competition~Deadline: April 27, 2011**

"The ThinkQuest International Competition challenges students to solve a real-world problem by applying their critical thinking, communication, and technology skills. Prizes include laptop computers, a trip to [ThinkQuest Live](#) and monetary grants for the coach's school, or organization. In addition, teams that submit a completed entry will be eligible to receive a Certificate of Participation."  
Link: <http://www.thinkquest.org/competition/>

### **2011 Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Awards Program~Deadline: Jan. 15, 2011**

The Agriculture in the Classroom Program (AITC) of the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and the National Agriculture in the Classroom Consortium are pleased to announce the 2011 Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Awards Program. This competitive program will recognize a select group of teachers for their successful efforts in teaching agricultural concepts in their curriculum.  
Link: <http://www.agclassroom.org/teacher/award.htm>

### **President Obama's National STEM Video Game Challenge~Opens: October 12, 2010**

*The Youth Prize* engages middle school students (grades 5 through 8) in STEM learning by challenging them to design original video games. The Youth Prize design challenge will be open to middle school students from any U.S. school with a special emphasis on reaching students in underserved urban and rural communities.  
Link: <http://www.stemchallenge.org/youthprize/>

### **We Are Teachers**

Do you have a winning idea to build success in the classroom? Thousands of teachers have submitted creative initiatives for teaching projects, and hundreds have won cash and prizes for projects covering everything from the environment to the arts to digital learning and more. Get started now and share your ideas, find inspiration and make connections!  
Link: <http://www.weareteachers.com/ideas>

## **Sea World and Busch Gardens Environmental Award~Deadline: December 1, 2010**

The "SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards" provides school and community groups with a monetary award, national recognition and some well-deserved fun at one of our parks. Eight winning groups are selected each year to win \$10,000. One environmental educator/leader each year receives \$5,000.

Link: <http://seaworld.org/conservation-matters/eea/application-info.htm>

## **Einstein Fellowship Application Now Open!~Deadline: January 4, 2011**

The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship is a paid fellowship for K–12 science, math, engineering, and technology (STEM) teachers. Einstein Fellows spend a school year in Washington, DC, serving in a federal agency or on Capitol Hill. To be considered for an Einstein Fellowship for the 2011–2012 school year, apply online now and submit your application and three letters of recommendation no later than **January 4, 2011**.

To learn more about the program and apply, visit the [Triangle Coalition website](#). If you have questions about the program or application, contact Program Manager Kathryn Culbertson at [culbertsonk@triangle-coalition.org](mailto:culbertsonk@triangle-coalition.org).

Link: <http://www.trianglecoalition.org/fellows/einapp.htm>

## **Golden Carrot Awards**

PCRM is currently seeking nominations for its Golden Carrot Awards for outstanding school food service professionals. The grand prize winner will receive \$1,000 and a \$2,000 check made out to her or his school or school district. Up to four additional awards will be given, with \$500 going to the food service professional and \$500 to benefit the school food service program.

Link: <http://www.healthyschoollunches.org/carrot/index.cfm>

## **The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching~Deadline: May 2, 2011**

The Awards recognize outstanding K-12 teachers for their contributions in the classroom and to their profession. The 2011 Awards will honor math and science teachers working in **grades 7-12**.

Link: <http://www.paemst.org/controllers/home.cfc?method=view>

## **Angela Award Deadline: November 30, 2010**

This award honors one female student in grades 5–8, who is involved in or has a strong connection to science. The award has been established in honor of Gerry Wheeler, Executive Director Emeritus, and his outstanding dedication to NSTA and lifelong commitment to science education.

Link: <http://www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx#angela>

## **AGI-2011 Award for Excellence in Earth Science Teaching~Deadline: January 5, 2011**

Does someone you know teach Earth science to students between kindergarten and eighth grade? Do they excel in their teaching through leadership and innovation, bringing new ideas and approaches to teaching about our planet? If so, they may be eligible for the Edward C. Roy Award for Excellence in K–8 Earth Science Teaching. Given annually by the American Geological Institute (AGI), this award recognizes one classroom teacher nationwide for their leadership and innovation in earth science education.

The winner will receive a prize of \$2,500 and an additional grant of \$1,000 to enable the recipient to attend the 2011 NSTA National Conference in San Francisco, California, March 10–13.

Link: <http://www.agiweb.org/education/awards/ed-roy/>

## **2011 PBS Teachers Innovation Awards~**

PBS invites teachers whose fresh thinking and inventive lessons continuously engage and inspire students to new levels of creativity and achievement to enter the 2011 PBS Teachers Innovation Awards. Learn more about the contest at <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/innovators/rules/> and start preparing your entry. Submissions will be accepted beginning January 11, 2011. Learn more at

<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/innovators/>.

### **Healthy Playground Makeover Sweepstakes~Deadline: December 1, 2010**

\$10,000 to redo a playground, \$25,000 in merchandise from Sports Authority, and more for 1 winning school

Link: <http://www.energybalance101.com/contest/>

### **The Maitland P. Simmons Memorial Award for New Teachers~Deadline: November 30, 2010**

The award provides selected K–12 teachers (up to 25) in their first five years of teaching with funds to attend the annual National Conference on Science Education. Award recipients will be mentored, tracked, and provided with continuing opportunities for meaningful involvement with NSTA and its activities.

Link: <http://www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx#simmons>

### **My Food-Safe Holiday~Deadline: November 29, 2010**

Create a video that is 2 minutes or less\*about how your family prepares a safe, fun, easy, tasty Holiday meal! Do you have a favorite holiday tradition? A recipe passed on from generation to generation? A community potluck event? Entertain us with a short story of your food traditions, your safe food handling and the magic you put into your holiday!

Link: <http://www.fightbac.org/component/content/article/2-general/292-my-food-safe-holiday-video-contest>

### **Classic Toys Video Contest (Slinky vs. Etch A Sketch)~Deadline: ?**

Everyone from individuals to families to fund-raising groups to school clubs or teams can enter videos in the Slinky vs. Etch A Sketch Film Festival. Each video should use creativity to celebrate either the Slinky spring toy (marking its 65th anniversary this year) or the Etch A Sketch drawing toy (marking its 50th anniversary) and explain why the filmmaker loves this toy best. The top video for each classic toy will win \$5000. Judging criteria include creativity and originality, consumer appeal, and how well the video matches the assignment to pay homage to these iconic toys.

Link: <http://www.emipowered.net/slinkyvsetch/homepage/>

### **Essay Contest: How to Protect the Planet?~Deadline: December 30, 2010**

The [Carnegie Council](#) announces its second Annual Student Essay Competition. **This year, the competition is open to teachers as well as students.** Prize: \$250 – \$75 Amazon Gift Certificate

Link: <http://teachers.egfi-k12.org/contest-how-to-protect-the-planet/>

### **Tech Challenge~Deadline: April 30, 2011**

The Tech Challenge is an annual engineering design event for teams of 2-6 students in grades 5 through 12. A signature program of [The Tech Museum](#), this project-based learning program teaches the engineering design process by letting students design and build their own solution to a real-world problem. The Tech Challenge 2011 marks our 24th annual event. Open to everyone in grades 5 through 12, The Tech Challenge inspires the innovator in everyone. [This Year's Challenge is Trash Island: The Great Pacific Gyre](#)

Link: <http://techchallenge.thetech.org/>

### **Energy and Water Efficiency~Deadline: March 4, 2011**

[Igniting Creative Energy](#) (ICE) is a national student challenge to motivate learning, ignite the imagination, and fuel the creative potential in youth.

All educators K-12 in the United States and parts of Canada\* are invited to participate. This educational competition is designed to encourage students to learn more about energy and water conservation and the environment. Student entries must reflect the theme Energy Efficiency/Water Efficiency and demonstrate an understanding of what an individual, family or group can do to make a difference in their home or community. Students may express their ideas in the form of documented science projects, essays, stories, artwork, photographs, music or video or web site projects. They may also submit recent service projects, or results from the National Energy Foundation's own Energy Patrol activities.

Link: <http://www.ignitingcreativeenergy.org/index.html>



## FREEBIES

Friday, September 03, 2010  
8:48 AM

### Operation Green Plant

Free vegetable seeds, flower seeds and/or herb seeds!

Link: [http://www.america-the-beautiful.org/free\\_seeds/index.php](http://www.america-the-beautiful.org/free_seeds/index.php)

### PTO Today Free Family Night Planning Kits

"What's the best way to get more parents involved in your school? Host a School Family Night! Our School Family Nights program is a great way to bring more parents into your school and connect with your school's families. Once parents see what a great time they can have with their kids at your school events... they'll be ready to sign up for more."

Link: [http://www.ptotoday.com/sfn/SFN\\_homepage\\_leader.php](http://www.ptotoday.com/sfn/SFN_homepage_leader.php)

### STEM Research Opportunity ~Study begins October 27, 2010

If you are a grade 5 through 8 science, technology, or mathematics teacher, you are eligible to participate in a new STEM research study as a Control Teacher. Take an approved PBS Teacher Line course for FREE and complete two surveys, and then **receive a \$50 stipend!**

Link: [www.pbs.org/pd/crepstudy](http://www.pbs.org/pd/crepstudy).

### Classroom Resource Guide

*Edutopia* is thrilled to share with you our latest classroom resource guide highlighting new solutions for connecting home and school in order to improve student learning and success.

Link: <http://www.edutopia.org/home-to-school-connections-guide>

### Fermilab Science Presentations

Is your school within 90 minutes driving time of Fermilab? Why not invite a Fermilab scientist to your classroom! We put on exciting presentations on the following topics. To schedule a visit contact us no less than three weeks prior to your requested date. Send the name of presentation, a few dates, grade level and your contact information to [Nancy Lanning](mailto:Nancy.Lanning@fnal.gov) or call 630-840-5588.

Link: [http://ed.fnal.gov/trc\\_new/demos/index.html](http://ed.fnal.gov/trc_new/demos/index.html)

### IMAGIVERSE--U.S. ONLY POSTCARD EXCHANGE -

Deb Kruse, from Arizona, has graciously volunteered to coordinate this activity for Imagiverse. If you are interested in participating in a U.S. only postcard exchange, please contact the Activity Coordinator and select "Postcards Around the U.S.A. (Spring 2011)" as the subject. We will contact you with further details about the new format for the exchange. We highly recommend [Postcrossing.COM](http://Postcrossing.COM) for exchanging postcards with people around the world! Please contact the [Activity Coordinator](mailto:ActivityCoordinator@imagiverse.com) in response to anything in this email. We look forward to seeing you participate in future Imagiverse exchanges and activities. We hope you enjoy what we have to offer!

## **IMSA on Wheels ASSEMBLY SHOW**

IMSA on Wheels is a mobile science theater offered to elementary schools throughout the Chicagoland area. IMSA on Wheels is an assembly-style show for elementary students in grades three through five; it is designed to spark student interest in science and encourage learning.. The current program is called "Science is Shocking" and features demonstrations on electricity and magnetism. The program is sponsored by a grant from 3M and BP. Similar to other Kids Institute programs, IMSA on Wheels is developed and taught by IMSA students with supervision from IMSA faculty and staff.

Link: <http://www.imsa.edu/programs/kidsinstitute/wheels/>

## **Museum of Science and Industry**

Illinois school groups get free general admission for field trips.

Link: <http://www.msichicago.org/education/field-trips/reservations/field-trip-reservation/>

## **Fermi Lab Open House~Date: February 27, 2011 (1p.m. to 5p.m.)**

This is a party for children **who bring an adult with them** to learn about the world of physics. (There's plenty for the grown-ups, too.)

Events include:

- Watch Mr. Freeze's fabulous cryogenics show
- Explore physics concepts with hands-on activities
- Ask a scientist your physics questions.
- "Behind-the-scenes" tours of the Lab. (Tours will require free registration; specific sites have yet to be determined. Watch this page.)
- And more!

Link: [http://ed.fnal.gov/ffse\\_new/openhouse/](http://ed.fnal.gov/ffse_new/openhouse/)

# FUNDRAISERS

Thursday, September 16, 2010  
9:19 AM

## JAMBA JUICE

Together with the National Gardening Association, we've created "Sip to Support a Garden", an easy, feel good fundraiser for schools and communities that encourages nutrition, education and sustainability. Just register your school or public community garden\* group to join our swipe card program. Every time a supporter of your group uses the card at a participating Jamba Juice, your program gets 10% of the sales. Registered groups also become eligible to apply for one of twenty-five "It's All About the Fruit" \$500 fruit tree planting grants. And because we love to see fundraising (and gardens) grow, we'll give an additional 2% of every purchase made with a swipe card to fund additional grants.

Link: <http://www.jambajuice.com/gardens>

Link: <http://www.jambajuice.com/sign-up?m=NGA>

## Flower Power

NGA is proud to endorse Flower Power Fundraising. This program gives schools and nonprofits a "healthy" option for fundraising — selling bulbs that will bloom into stunning floral displays. Flower Power has carefully selected easy-to-plant, easy-to-grow bulbs from among its most popular and best-selling varieties, ensuring a successful, appealing fundraising campaign.

Link: <http://www.kidsgardening.com/fundraising.asp>

## Heifer International Service Learning and Fundraising

Link: <http://www.heifer.org/site/c.edJRKQNiFiG/b.6135227/>

We encourage you and your students to join these efforts and offer these ideas for all grade levels to get you started.

**Read To Feed** – Read to Feed® is a reading incentive fundraiser that will foster in your children a love for reading and a passion to help others while giving your children a way to raise funds for Heifer. Learn more about [Read to Feed®](#).

**Heifer Challenge** – Heifer Challenge is a fun, rewarding way to make a difference in the world. Participants, individually or as a group, select a challenge, like challenging their principal to dress in a cow suit all day, decide how much it is worth, find sponsors, complete the challenge and donate the funds for Heifer. Learn more about [Heifer Challenge](#).

**Chores for Change** - Chores for Change teaches students of any age about community service and how to make a difference by challenging them to volunteer in their community. Learn more about [Chores for Change](#).

**From Farm to Plate** – Students are challenged to discover the origins of their food and examine the pros and cons of consuming both locally grown foods and non-local foods, while exploring issues of environmental sustainability. Learn more about [From Farm to Plate](#).

**Art for a Cause** - Motivate your students to use the fine arts as a tool to educate others about issues related to sustainable development. Learn more about [Art for a Cause](#).

**More Ideas** – Here are a few more ideas to inspire your students to take action to raise awareness about hunger and poverty. View more [take action ideas](#).



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## **Lights for Learning**

An education-based outreach and fundraising program that promotes the sale and use of low-cost, energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). The Program helps children and schools raise needed funds while encouraging participants and their communities to become more energy conscious.

Link: <http://www.lights4learning.org/>