



CASEL

2012

"Hands On Minds On"

January 21, 2012

San Joaquin County Office of Education

About CASEL

Capitol Area Science Education Leaders (CASEL) was born in 1998 and launched with a one day conference at the Hilton Hotel in Sacramento on Science Standards. Other professional development events have followed that have targeted further standards implementation. CASEL targets any teachers, school, district or county in the northern California, greater Sacramento area.

CASEL is designed to provide information and professional development to forward science education Pre-K-14 in northern California. It is not a California Science Teachers Association affiliate, but serves to support the mission of CSTA and all science education professional development organizations such as the California Science Project, the K-12 Alliance for Math Science, and county offices of education and districts in the targeted area.

With all the current education initiatives currently going on, it seemed appropriate that northern California schools get the latest information and opportunities to improve science education. Many districts in northern California are small with no science curriculum specialists and few county offices in northern California have science curriculum support personnel whose major responsibility is science. CASEL helps fill that void by providing the most current information available in the field.

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Sponsored By:



Morning Breakout Sessions 9:45 - 11:00 AM

Geocaching With Kids (K-12) (Tech-N-Take)

Room: Harmony Grove

Geocaching is a real-world outdoor treasure hunting game. Players try to locate hidden containers, called geocaches, using GPS-enabled devices and then share their experiences online. Geocaching is a cross-curricular activity that educators, leaders and facilitators are incorporating into their programs with great success. Geocaching combines outdoor play with team-building, problem-solving and other valuable educational outcomes.

Bring your iPad or laptop to this session if you have one.

Presented by: Jeff ToJwest

World of Word Clouds (K-12) (Tech-N-Take)

Room: Chartwell 1

Help students visualize the most important terms in text by creating attractive word clouds using free online tools like **Wordle** and **Tagxedo**. Students are able to quickly see which words are used more frequently and make critical connections to the text they are reading. Take away many creative ways to use word clouds in your classroom that are sure to grab your students' interest!

Presented by: Paul Fern

Donors Choose (K-12) (Tech-N-Take)

Room: Greenwood 2

This presentation is about donorschoose.org, a website for teachers to write mini-grants for their classrooms. You will be given tips on how to write a successful proposal, how to search, and how to seek our partner funding.

Presented by: Holly Azarido

Mid-Day Breakout Sessions 11:15 - 12:30

Beyond StarLab - Astronomy Activities in the Classroom (3-5)

Hands-on Astronomy Activities

Room: Greenwood 5

StarLab is not the only thing in astronomy that goes beyond the textbook! This workshop will provide you with many hands-on activities that you can do with your students. Use a light bulb to demonstrate day and night, moon phases, and seasons. Make a sundial for the day and a star clock for the night. Show the relative sizes and distances for the solar system, and make a handy gravity machine. Astronomy is a three dimensional science, so use three dimensional activities to make it come alive!

Presented by: Mike Oaker

AG Bites! (3-5)

Teaching Standards through hands-on activities.

Room: Greenwood 3

Come experience AG Bites - mini lessons and hands-on activities that will help students understand agriculture, food and fiber, and how they relate to students' everyday lives. Learn new hands-on activities and ways to incorporate them into your curriculum while meeting California State Content Standards. Participants will do three activities, relating math, science, and nutrition to things students do every day, like eating. All the materials will be provided to the participants and they will be given more resources to take back to their schools. (Each participant will receive FREE RESOURCES!)

Presented by: Stephanie Eschberger

Mid-Day Breakout Sessions 11:15 - 12:30

Meet "The Greens" (3-5)

Environmental Science Activities to Encourage Green Living and Sustainability

Room: Greenwood 4

This interactive, environmental science workshop is an introduction to "The Greens", an exclusively online show, available for FREE on pbskids.org/ga. This environmentally focused show not only provides kids and adults alike an opportunity to view an entertaining, environmentally focused show online for free, but provides educators with a complete set of activities to accompany each episode that reinforce environmental consciousness and sustainability. Participants will leave each workshop with the resources necessary to implement "The Greens" video, games, and activities in their curricula.

Presented by: Andrea Chang

LEGO Robotics (6-12)

Room: Greenwood 7

LEGO Education produces total solutions for preschool, K-12, and after-school programs. Kits include teacher materials, curriculum, student worksheets, and more. We help teachers to use our kits as essential tools that engage students, challenging their creativity. We offer a variety of theme-based sets that enable a multidisciplinary approach to teaching. We are experts in the field of educational robotics. "WeDo" sets for early learning, middle-school students use MINDSTORMS[®], providing in-depth programming capabilities, and high-school students step-up to mental-building "TETRIX". By adding LEGO Education resources, inspiration, and fun, teachers are able to motivate students to play an active role in their own learning process and to experience a real sense of personal achievement.

Presented by: Dana Calkins

Mr. Potato Head Genetics (6-12)

Room: Kuzle

Looking for an active and engaging way to teach genetic inheritance? Check out this creative and budget friendly project that uses Mr. Potato Heads.

Presented by: Christina Oros

Using ArcGIS in the Classroom (K-12) (Tech-N-Take)

Room: Harmony Grove

In this session, participants will be introduced to ArcGIS Online - a free, online mapping service. Join us to learn more about easy online discovery, access, visualization, and dissemination of geospatial information. By the end of the session participants will create a map that can be viewed in a browser, desktop or mobile device. Share it on a blog, via email, or embed it in a website. Bring your iPad or laptop to this session if you have one.

Presented by: Jeff Tolhurst

Prezi-Palooza (K-12) (Tech-N-Take)

Room: Chartwell 1

Are your Power Point presentations growing a bit stale? Put a little pep in your presentations. Learn how to use the free online presentation creator Prezi.com to create dynamic non-linear multimedia presentations that will captivate your students. Use the zoomable canvases to make it fun to explore ideas and the connections between them.

Presented by: Paul Fern