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EVENT PREPARATION

KIDS OCEAN DAY ADOPT-A-BEACH CLEAN-UP

THURSDAY JUNE 4, 2009

Thank you for your contribution in arranging this field trip for your students. Without your hard work this event is not possible. We have prepared this package to guide you through the day.

1. Please confirm your bus arrangements with the bus company. The last page of this manual has bus contact information. Please get the bus dispatcher telephone number. This keeps you in direct contact with the bus company.
2. EVERY TEACHER attending the June 4th Beach Clean-Up must attend the Event Walk-Through Meeting, Saturday May 16th at 10:00 am at Dockweiler State Beach, located at 8255 Vista Del Mar in Playa Del Rey to receive your supplies in Parking lot # 2.
3. Please direct children to be very careful near the bike path.
4. Have EVERYONE bring their own lunch in their backpack. You will not be able to return to the bus once you start your beach clean-up.
5. Remind children that the small pieces of trash are very deadly for the birds and very important to pick up. Look at this clean-up as an outdoor classroom opportunity to be a trash detective at the beach.
6. Please remind the children about the great ADOPT-A-BEACH assembly that they saw. Please don't let them forget to RECYCLE what they can and to bring home any trash they may generate from their lunches.
7. Have the children make signs with their school name to be placed on the front bus window for easy identification. Please have the children wear dark colors for the AERIAL ART.
8. Have the children cut the top off of a one-gallon plastic milk jug. This can be a more manageable carrier for picking up trash. It can be emptied into a plastic trash bag. This will cut down on partially filled trash bags. Please carry one milk jug yourself to be a safety bucket for sharp objects.

A field trip to the seashore can be an exciting experience as well as a valuable educational tool. Along the coast of North America we are fortunate to have such a variety and abundance of tidelands and marine life. This is a valuable natural resource and it is just as important to conserve seashore life as it is to conserve forests and other wildlife. The attitudes and practices that you, the teacher, display are important. What our students learn about conservation is better "caught" than taught. Please take nothing from the beach. Please leave all life undisturbed especially the dune grass. Dune grasses keep the beach from eroding and are extremely delicate. The saying "**take only pictures and leave only footprints**" is a good one to share with your students.

ENCLOSED YOU WILL FIND:

1. What to do before the clean-up.
2. Parent Permission Letter / English & Spanish.
3. Run-down for the day.
4. How to do a beach clean-up.
5. Guide to data collection.
6. Sample data card.
7. Press flyer.
8. Directions for the bus driver.
9. Evaluation of Kids Ocean Day.

WHAT TO DO BEFORE THE CLEAN-UP

1. Send home letter to parents.
2. Instruct children on how to use the data cards.
3. Instruct children on how to do a beach clean up.
4. Conduct lessons in the classroom.
5. Plan a lesson for the beach.
6. In order to dress appropriately, check weather conditions before leaving school. Practice with your students the phrase, "**Never turn your back to the ocean**". Warn students to look for extra large "**sneaker waves**". Have buddies look out for each other.
7. Emphasize the checklist in the parent letter. Dress warmly and wear sturdy closed-toed shoes. Jackets are a must. It is usually a lot cooler at the beach, even on a sunny day. **Dressing in layers works well.**

Dear Parents,

Your child is participating in the **KIDS OCEAN DAY ADOPT-A-BEACH CLEAN-UP AT DOCKWEILER STATE BEACH**. The trip will take place during the school day _____. Please make sure they are on time, or they will miss the bus to the beach.

Volunteers will meet the bus at the beach. These team leader volunteers will guide the children throughout the clean-up. Because this is an organized school trip, teachers will supervise the children during the day. You are welcome to attend the trip. Please contact your child's school if you are interested.

Please help prepare them for the trip. Here is a checklist:

- ❑ **Long pants**
- ❑ **Sweater**
- ❑ **Shorts / T-shirt (for hot weather)**
- ❑ **Closed toed shoes (i.e. tennis shoes)**
- ❑ **Windbreaker/nylon wind shell or jacket**
- ❑ **Sunscreen**
- ❑ **Sunglasses**
- ❑ **Hat**
- ❑ **Water bottles**
- ❑ **Backpack with lunch**

Thank you very much for your help. Please try and attend the event with your child.

Lifeguards will be on duty.

Estimados Padres:

Su niño va a participar en un programa, el **KIDS OCEAN DAY ADOPT-A-BEACH CLEAN-UP AT DOCKWEILER STATE BEACH**. Todos los niños van a ir en una excursión _____.

Ese día los estudiantes irán a la playa de Dockweiler para limpiarla. Es muy importante que su niño llegue a tiempo a la escuela ese día por el autobús. Habrá voluntarios en la playa para ayudar a los niños todo el día. Si usted está interesado en ayudar, avise al maestro de su niño/niña.

Por favor prepare a su niño/niña ese día con lo siguiente:

- ❑ **Pantalones**
- ❑ **Un suéter**
- ❑ **Shorts / playera (si hay calor)**
- ❑ **Tenis**
- ❑ **Una chamarra**
- ❑ **Bronceador**
- ❑ **Gafas de sol**
- ❑ **Gorra / sombrero**
- ❑ **Botes de agua**
- ❑ **Mochila con almuerzo**

Gracias por ayudar. Por favor traté de asistir con su niño/niña.

***Habrá guardavidas.**

RUN-DOWN OF KIDS OCEAN DAY ADOPT-A-BEACH CLEAN-UP

- 9:00 a.m. Load your bus and hand directions to each bus driver. Seat lead teacher of each bus at the front.
- 10:00 a.m.
1. At the entrance to Dockweiler State Beach your bus will be waved through to the 2nd large parking lot down the beach access road. The bus will be guided to a parking spot in the lot.
 2. A team of volunteers will get on the bus and place a number in the front window.
 3. **Make sure the children get off the buses with their lunches in their backpacks.** You will distribute the supplies and give instructions to the kids on the clean-up according to the enclosed directions on "How to do an Adopt-A-Beach Clean-Up."
- 10:00 a.m. Lead your students directly towards the beach for your clean-up.
- 11:00 a.m. Have lunch where you want.
- 11:30 a.m. Head to aerial art area and sit around the frame of the design.
- 12 Noon Enter the aerial art.
- 12:30 Fly-by begins for about 30 min.
- 1:00 Head for buses.

HOW TO DO A BEACH CLEAN-UP

1. **Divide children up into teams of four. Have adequate adult supervision. One adult for every 2 teams is a good ratio.**
2. **Assign students to a buddy system before leaving your classroom. This provides the students with a working partner.**
3. **No students in the water or on the rocks! Climbing on rocks, playing on pipes or near the water, wading and wave chasing where currents exist are all potentially dangerous activities and are prohibited.**
4. Bring a first-aid kit with you.
5. Pass out one large plastic trash bag per team of 4 children. Pass out one bag for recyclables for each team.
6. Pass out one glove per child.
7. Data cards are to be filled out by the children. They are a teaching tool for the children to keep track of the trash. Pass out one data card and one pencil per team.
8. **Instruct children to avoid sharp objects, glass, dead animals, seaweed and to never pick up hypodermic needles. Get the team leader, who will flag the item and contact the appropriate officials.**
9. Carry the bucket for sharp objects
10. When finished, tie the trash bags in a knot and bring them to the lunch area and restrooms.
11. Please send evaluation forms enclosed in aerial art photo to 1471 S. Bedford Street # 3 Los Angeles, CA 90035.

DATA COLLECTION GUIDE AND CHECKLIST.

Please record the kinds and amounts of trash you find. This information can be taken back to the classroom as a teaching tool.

HELPFUL TIPS FOR DATA COLLECTORS

- Count items in groups of five and record the total.
- Do not write the words "Lots" or "Many". Only numbers of items can be put into the computer.
- Please list animals you find stranded or dead on the beach and, if possible, any entangling debris items.
- Please list foreign items found, country and any debris with identifiable markings, such as a company name.
- Please leave natural items on the beach like driftwood and seaweed. Avoid stepping on dune grass and plants. These things hold the sand and prevent erosion.
- Work with a few people, have one person record the numbers while others collect and bag the trash.
- Instruct children to avoid sharp objects, glass, dead animals, seaweed and to never pick up hypodermic needles.**
- THANK YOU** for keeping the coast and ocean safe for all of us and for marine wildlife!

SAFETY TIPS

1. Do not go near any large drums or barrels.
2. Do not pick up any sharp objects.
3. Do not pick up any medical waste.
4. Only pick up items with gloved hand.
5. Do not lift anything too heavy.
6. Do not turn your back on the ocean.
7. Watch the bike path.

CHECKLIST OF ITEMS COLLECTED

Plastics

Bags: _____

Bottles: _____

Caps, Lids, Cups: _____

Forks, Spoons, Straws: _____

6-pack holders: _____

Other _____

Glass: _____

Metal: _____

Rubber: _____

Paper: _____

Wood: _____

Cloth: _____

Cigarette Butts: _____

Styrofoam: _____

16th ANNUAL



ADOPT-A-BEACH CLEAN-UP
Thousands of kids will clean-up
Dockweiler State Beach
THURSDAY JUNE 4, 2009

8255 Vista Del Mar, Playa del Rey @ Imperial Hwy.
Near LAX between Playa del Rey and Manhattan Beach.
West on 105 to Imperial Hwy to the end.

Schedule

5:00 a.m.	Arrival of event organizers
7:30 a.m.	Arrival of volunteers
10:00 - 10:30 a.m.	Arrival of children
10:00 - Noon	Beach Clean-Up & Lunch
Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Aerial Art

Press Opportunities

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Organizers and children available on beach for interviews
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Helicopter fly-by of aerial art

Dear Bus Driver,

Thank you for safely driving these children to the beach and home again, so they can do their part in cleaning up our community.

You can make this busy day run smoothly by following these simple instructions:

- Volunteers will be on the road and direct you to parking.
- Volunteers will board the bus, place a number in the window and take the kids off.
- Please **DO NOT MOVE THE BUS** until directed.
- Be on your bus and ready to leave no later than **NOON**.
- You will be directed towards the exit.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation.
Thank you very much.

**Evaluation of
KIDS OCEAN DAY
ADOPT-A-BEACH CLEAN-UP
AT DOCKWEILER STATE BEACH**

Thank you very much for your participation. We look forward to your comments and suggestions in order to make next year a more effective and powerful event.

Name _____ School _____

Please circle the number that best describes your response.

The experience was:

Excellent 5 4 3 2 1 Poor

Student involvement was:

High 5 4 3 2 1 Lacking

My overall expectations of the trip were:

Totally met 5 4 3 2 1 Totally not

I recommend this experience to others:

Wholeheartedly 5 4 3 2 1 No way

**Would you take your school to the next
KIDS OCEAN DAY ADOPT-A-BEACH CLEAN-UP.**
yes no

Remarks/Comments/Suggestions:

Please mail to: 1471 S. Bedford Street # 3 Los Angeles, CA

THE BEACH SWEEP

Concept

Our beaches are littered with enduring plastic debris that harms fish and wildlife. The plastic debris comes from various sources; i.e., city neighborhoods, fishing boats, picnickers, ocean freighters, etc.

Materials

Large garbage bag to collect debris.

Procedure

1. Divide the class into groups of two to three. Give each group a garbage bag.
2. Choose a stretch of beach to clean. You may wish to use a measured distance so students can compute the amount of trash per mile.
3. Have students collect trash from the beach. Return to the group after a selected time and sort the trash into possible source piles:
 - City residents, picnickers and boaters** - cigarette butts, soft drink containers, plastic bags, styrofoam food containers from fast food restaurants, plastic utensils, etc.
 - Fishing vessels** - plastic netting, rope.
 - Freighters** - strapping bands, foreign cargo.
 - Industry** - nurdles (tiny plastic pellets).
4. Back in the classroom, weigh the garbage collected to estimate the amount of trash collected. If you measured the distance, you can now compute the weight of trash per mile.
You may wish to conduct your collection every month and to keep a record of amount and types of litter that are collected.

A CLOSER LOOK

Increase your awareness of the coastal environment. Go on a visit to the ocean and try:

- Getting down on your hands and knees. Get your face close enough to the sand to see what colors you can find.
- Digging your hands down deep into the sand. Is it warm or cold?
- Seeing how many different shapes of shells you can find.
- Sniffing the air. What does it smell like?
- Sitting down, closing your eyes and listening to the sounds: waves, people, seagulls, wind, etc.
- Investigating the seaweed. Do you see any signs of life?
- Touching some seaweed. How does it feel?

Now sit down together and draw a picture illustrating your experiences. Discuss with your students why the ocean and its inhabitants are so important. Discuss with your students what you can do to help protect this special and fragile environment.

GETTING OUT OF A BIND

OBJECTIVE

To teach empathy for wildlife by simulating an animal's entanglement in plastic litter.

TIME

15 minutes

MATERIALS

One or two large rubber bands to pass around and collect at the end of the lesson.

BACKGROUND

Humans are special. We have hands and fingers - and the ability to use them to get out of a simple bind. If we were entangled in fishing line, we could probably free ourselves. How? (Cut line; untie it.)

But what about a seal, dolphin or duck? Let's see what might happen.

PROCEDURE

Use a volunteer to demonstrate. Put a rubber band around the back of his or her hand, catching the thumb and little finger. Have the child try to remove the rubber band without using the other hand or teeth or rubbing it against something.

Hand out rubber bands for everyone to try. Tell each child to pretend his or her hand and arm is a goose entangled in plastic. For example, the hand is its head, the fingers its beak and the forearm its neck. Cup elbow with free hand. Place rubber band around "beak" or "neck." Allow children only 30 seconds to free themselves. No helpers!

Is everyone successful in untangling themselves? Many animals don't get free and can starve, strangle or suffocate.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

- What plastics or other materials could the rubber band represent in a natural setting? (Fishing line, plastic six-pack rings, plastic bags, packing straps.)
- How could an animal get into a situation in which fishing line, plastic bags, strapping bands, six-pack rings or net would entangle it? (By swimming into plastic accidentally; by trying to eat a plastic bag or the food inside it. A bird might eat bait on fishing line, then become entangled or take the line back to a nestful of vulnerable babies.)

**If your bus has not
arrived on your
scheduled date and time,**

please call Robin Smith

@

310-858-7272 x 117

Pager

310-572-5990