

Stanislaus County Office of Education September 2008 Math and Science Newsletter

Making Every Math Minute Count – Grades K-5

Consultant **Kim Sutton** from Creative Mathematics will be here on Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 8:30 – 3:00. Kim will present **“Strategies for Algebraic Connections in Number Sense and Measurement”** that you can take back to the classroom and implement tomorrow. Teachers will experience games, songs, books, and puzzles that utilize every minute of the math period to engage every student. Throughout this interactive workshop, participants will gain knowledge about mathematical content, math teaching strategies, and how children gain **algebraic foundation**. Every game and activity in this workshop has three levels for use with all children in the classroom. **Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for teachers in grades K-5.** The cost of the workshop is only \$ 75 dollars, and includes a continental breakfast, lunch, and activity bag provided by Creative Mathematics. For online registration please go to: <http://www.stan-co.k12.ca.us/SCOE/workshops/welcome.html>

***All participants are eligible to obtain 6 hours of mathematics professional development credit that can be combined with hours of attendance from any other math workshops, including SB 472. You also may be eligible to use the 6 hours of attendance toward your SB 472 Passport.** Ask your district for further details.

California Science Teachers Association Annual Conference

Mark your calendar for the 2008 CSTA science conference **October 30-November 2, 2008** at the San Jose Convention Center. Keynote speakers will include Mae Jemison, former astronaut, educator and scientist who made history as the first woman of color to go into space aboard Endeavor, as well as Rodger Bybee, who will speak on the topic “Why Include Scientific Inquiry”, with his response on why we should include scientific inquiry in our classrooms. There will be an administrator day and strand on Saturday, November 1st available to school and district staff. **If you are a member of CSTA, the early bird registration cost is only \$ 123 dollars if you register by October 10.** For information or to register, go to www.cascience.org

Promising Curriculum and Technology Practices Conference

On Saturday, October 4, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. here at the Stanislaus County Office of Education. Cost is only \$ 30 dollars (\$25 if you are a CUE member) and features curriculum based integration of free and low cost technology in K-12 classrooms. Register online at www.cccue.com
You can contact CCUE at 209-238-1454.

Stock Market Game

Student teams, in grades 4-12, receive a virtual \$ 100,000 to invest in stocks and mutual funds. Student trades take place in real time just like the actual stock market. **The Stock Market Game curriculum has been correlated to CA state standards and endorsed by Superintendent Jack O Connell.** How much does it cost to participate? It is **absolutely FREE and includes free teacher training online throughout the year.** The Stock Market Game teaches teachers about the U.S. economic system while reinforcing basic concepts in economics, math, business, language arts, personal finance, and more. To find out more about how your students can participate, or how the game operates, or who is eligible, go to www.stockmarketgame.org or contact the Western Region Director, Maria Suggett, by email at muggett@sifma.org The web site has data from NAEP to indicate how students who participate in the Stock Market Game have higher scores as a result of engaging in this real life simulation online.

Saturday Math workshop

The Stanislaus Math Council and the Stanislaus County Office of Education are hosting the 38th Annual Mathematics Conference on **Saturday, October 25th, 2008 from 8:30 – 3:00 p.m.** The conference theme is “**Marvelous Magic of Mathematics**” and the featured speaker will be **Dr. Arthur Benjamin**, who is hailed as a “**Mathemagician**” for his amazing abilities to calculate numbers in his head. In addition to the keynote speaker, there will be many breakout sessions for all grade levels K-12, free prize drawings, and include a continental breakfast and lunch. The event will be held at the Stanislaus County Office of Education. **The cost will be only \$ 75 dollars and all proceeds from the conference will help support the Stanislaus Math Council activities.** You won't want to miss this one day conference. Registration will begin in August and is available on the county website <http://www.stan-co.k12.ca.us/SCOE/workshops/welcome.html> **Please make all payments to Stanislaus Math Council.**

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MAPS news (Modesto Area Partners in Science)

Mark your calendar for Friday, September 26th, 2008 for an evening with Dr. Chris McCarthy. “**Discovering Extra-Solar Planets**” is the topic as in the past decade astronomers have discovered many new planets outside our solar system. Chris McCarthy has been a part of this great adventure and will bring the audience up to date with planetary discoveries. Immediately after the presentation, the Great Valley Museum will have an astronomy open house with telescopic viewing of the moon. This event is suggested for ages 8 and over. This is part of the **free lecture series** sponsored by the Modesto Area Partners in Science. The evening begins at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in the MJC Auditorium on the Modesto Junior College East campus. For more information, visit their web site at <http://virtual.yosemite.cc.ca.us/MAPS/>

What is Mad Science?

Mad Science is the world's leading fun science provider. They spark the imagination and curiosity of children ages 3-12 by providing them with educational and entertaining activities that instill a clear understanding of what science is really about and how it affects the world around them. Mad Science does this through in class workshops, after school programs, **school assemblies, science nights**, special events, summer programs, as well as birthday parties. Are you just a bit more curious about Mad Science? For further information, call at 209-544-2687 or check out the web site at www.madscience.org/locations/stanislaus

DNA Lab Kits from MJC Ag Science Center

Looking for a **FREE** and easy activity for your students to teach them about DNA? Teachers in grades K-12 are able to check out the self contained kit which allows students to perform a lab procedure in which they extract DNA from strawberries. Interested in bringing this to your classroom? Contact Dave Menshew at Enochs High School for more information at Menshew.d@monet.k12.ca.us or call the Ag Science Center at MJC at 209-521-2902 and ask for Michelle Laverty.

Earth Science Week Toolkit:

Earth Science Week is **October 12-18** and Earth Science Week. Toolkits will be released starting this month. The Toolkit includes a 'Journey to Center of Earth 3D' Educator Guide, posters, activity calendar, 3D postcard, Earth Observations CD from NASA, field notebook, and much more. <http://www.earthsciweek.org/materials/index.html>