

Dutchess **BOCES** ALTERNATIVE AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

NOTES FROM THE CURRICULUM ROOM

SALT POINT EDUCATIONAL CENTER

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IT'S YOUR CURRICULUM ROOM



Please come in and browse at your convenience. We have much in the way of reference materials, math manipulatives, social skills books, supplementary materials, science kits, and literature available at many reading levels. Don't hesitate to make a request or suggestion for our resource materials. While times are tough, we may be able to meet your needs through a variety of methods. With enough backing, we may be able to direct purchases where they are most needed.

EXPLORING THE OUTDOORS

The National Park Service website, www.nps.gov, offers teacher activities and tools through the "Parks as Classrooms" program. Follow the links from "Park Smart" to "The Learning Place" to "Curriculum-Based Education Programs" to find pre and post field trip ideas.

3 excellent supplements to NPS:

Project Learning Tree:
www.plt.org

National Wildlife Federation
<http://nwf.org>

Environmental Protection Agency
www.epa.gov

These all provide environmental education links to curricula, activities, kits, etc.

When you've returned from exploring a park, how about creating a schoolyard habitat? See www.kidsgardening.com or www.letsgetgrowing.com.

Zoo class plans? thewildones.org or www.fonz.org have several relevant links, which can all be found in the Teachers Resource Guide.

BY TEACHERS, FOR TEACHERS

<http://betterlesson.com>

This online community for sharing lesson plans applies social networking to education. You can find resources, share curricula, exchange feedback, and upload info.



National Geographic has some new toys:

<http://education.nationalgeographic.com>

The website includes teaching resources, an expanded library, activities, and mapping tools.

TEACHING CIVICS TO "GENERATION LOL"

There are many websites available as resources.

Some to consider are...

Offers free lesson plans and activities, all of which revolve around the power of people to bring about change:

www.aft.org/about/world/resources-opportunities/civicvoices.cfm

A teachers' guide for teaching the concept of democracy:

www.aft.org/pdfs/international/civicvoicesteachguide1109.pdf

Looks at elections in other countries:

www.democracyweb.org/new-map

A study guide is available at:

www.democracyweb.org/toc.php

Hold mock elections:

www.nationalmockelection.org

For current events online:

<http://edition.cnn.com/studentnews>

There are multiple resources in our library and curriculum room, for students and teachers, to enhance your lessons.

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