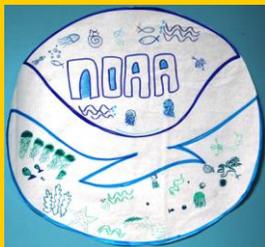




Truro Central School PUMA PAGE

May 2014

Welcome Spring! April showers bring May flowers—and NOAA scientists, a resident farmer and a bike-a-thon!



NOAA Ocean Day at TCS

TCS welcomed National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Outreach and Education on Protected Species marine educators and scientists from the NOAA Northeast Fisheries Science Center in Woods Hole for NOAA Ocean Day on April 15, 2014. These “Scientists Teaching Science” from the NEFSC Protected Species Branch spent the day teaching 140, K-6 students about bioacoustics, marine mammals, sea turtles, and ocean surface current drifters.

Grace Simpkins, coordinator of the NOAA Outreach and Education on Protected Species (NOEPS) taught students about the importance of sound to marine mammals as well as marine mammals in our back yard.

NOAA NEFSC Biologist, Heather Haas shared information about her work with loggerhead sea turtles. Students tried to identify five species of sea turtles based on data they collected by measuring carapaces and counting scutes. Later, based on Heather's recent substantial blood work with the turtles, she taught them some simple concepts about blood and plasma using mock “blood”.

NOAA NEFSC, Oceanographer Jim Manning and Abby Smith shared information about their work with ocean surface current drifters along the eastern coast of the United States. Jim generously donated a drifter to Truro Central School, along with the sails that the students helped measure, cut, and decorate.

This school/scientist collaboration resulted when teachers Stacey Klimkosky and Megan O’Leary attended a regional NOAA Teacher at Sea alumni workshop in May 2012. They were NOAA Teachers at Sea in 2009 and 2007. We hope to make it an annual day of science!

Farmer in the School

There's a farmer in the school and her name is Stephanie Rein. Classes have been meeting with Stephanie to plant and harvest sugar snap pea shoots in the past couple of weeks. In addition to the basics of soil prep, planting, maintenance (weeding/feeding/mulching) and harvesting- there are numerous activities our farmer is looking forward to teaching students at TCS.

Stephanie is looking forward to tying her gardening work with the students into the classroom curriculum whenever possible. She can connect to math, science, writing, and art through projects addressing:



- weather
- soil composition and geology
- biology and organisms
- botany- plant structures, pollination etc
- ethnobotany- plant use and history
- journaling
- mapping projects (involving measuring/compass, etc)
- measuring

Ultimately, our partnership with our school farmer will result in school-grown vegetables that will be incorporated into our farm-to-school lunch program.

Pamet Puma Challenge May 3 - 10:30am

CC Rail Trail @ So'fleet General Store

A fundraiser to benefit the 5th & 6th grade
class trips to Boston & Washington DC



To join us in the Wellfleet to Orleans & back ride
or to sponsor a rider contact Megan O'Leary at olearym@truromass.org