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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROJECT LEARNING TREE RESOURCES TO BE FEATURED AT ENC'S TEACHER'S DAY OUT WORKSHOP

Educators will learn how to implement environmental education and apply for PLT's Greenworks! Grants

Newport Beach, Calif., March 2, 2017-The Environmental Nature Center (ENC) will feature a Project Learning Tree workshop at its next Teachers Night Out event, which will taking place April 1 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PLT is an environmental education program that offers workshops, resources and networking opportunities to teachers, parents and community leaders to encourage outdoor learning, everyday application of STEM skills, and community involvement. According to the PLT website, 20,000 educators attend PLT workshops around the nation each year. The PLT values and goals are closely aligned with those of the ENC.

According to the PLT website, through outdoor learning, "students learn that they can make a difference in the world and that they are part of the solution for creating a sustainable society."

At the Teachers Night Out event, Laura Councilor, a field naturalist with over 15 years of experience working with K-12 youth, will introduce teachers to PLT's Greenworks! Grants and demonstrate how to integrate PLT activities into their lesson plans. Teachers will receive PLT's ***PreK-8 Environmental Education Activity Guide***, which features 96 different activities, more than half which take students outdoors.

Councilor will provide tips on how to make learning activities community-oriented, green or beneficial for local wildlife. ENC Naturalist Fiorella Gardella will share how citizen science can take students' and teachers' knowledge into the real world.

All PLT certified teachers who attend this training will be eligible to apply to GreenSchools grant programs. Since the last application period, 5,000 students from 16 states benefitted from Greenworks! Grants, giving them the funds to "plant trees, restore native habitats, create school gardens and outdoor classrooms, conserve rainwater and mitigate storm water," according to the PLT website.

Supplies are limited for this event. Interested parties are encouraged to register only if they know they can attend. Admission is free.

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About the ENC

Founded in 1972, the ENC is a fascinating combination of 15 California native plant communities, wildlife habitat, walking trails, and sustainably designed, LEED Platinum certified learning center. For 40 years, the ENC has been shaped and caressed into a 3.5 acre landscape for learning, a sanctuary from life's pressures and a place of preservation and instruction. Serving over 21,000 students and thousands of visitors annually, the ENC is recognized as a leader in science and social science education providing opportunities for increasing our community's knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the natural world.

The ENC recently purchased property to develop a nature play area, and construct our community's first nature based preschool. With a mission of providing quality education through hands-on experience with nature, the ENC inspires all generations to protect the natural world by serving as our community's foremost authority on ecological responsibility, sustainable practices and environmental education. The ENC is a non-profit 501(c)-3 public benefit corporation. For more information call 949-645-8489, or visit www.ENCcenter.org. The ENC is located at 1601 16th Street in Newport Beach.

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