The mission of the Environmental Nature Center is to provide quality education through hands-on experience with nature.

Founded in 1972, the ENC is a fascinating combination of 15 California native plant communities, wildlife habitat, walking trails, and a sustainably designed LEED Platinum building certified by the U.S. Green Building Council. 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.

ENC MEMBERSHIP
The ENC is a non-profit 501(c)-3 public benefit corporation, serving as our community’s foremost authority on ecological responsibility, sustainable practices and environmental education. Ongoing educational programs are supported by memberships, gifts, and grants. We encourage you to become a member – all members receive membership benefits and donations are tax-deductible. Join online at encenter.org.

The ENC is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8AM to 5PM and weekends from 8AM to 4PM. Take a leisurely stroll along the trails, explore the Nature Museum, and check out the Gift Shop, Nature’s Gifts. There is always something new and exciting to see and do at the ENC!

Environmental Nature Center
1601 East 16th Street, Newport Beach, California 92663
949-645-8489
encenter.org

The ENC makes the natural world come alive for visitors of all ages!
Inspiring all generations to protect the natural world by serving as our community’s foremost authority on ecological responsibility, sustainable practices and environmental education.

Printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks.
SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS
Students visit throughout the school year for science themed field trips. From Pre-K to high school, our grade level specific programs align with the Next Generation Science Standards and California Social Science Standards while increasing students’ understanding and appreciation of the natural world.

TRAVELING NATURALIST
Sometimes it’s easier to bring nature and science to the classroom – that’s where the ENC’s Traveling Naturalist program comes in. Whether your class would benefit from a morning of science or an afternoon of social science, the ENC will provide the Naturalist, the materials, and the hands-on learning!

NATURE CAMPS
A great way to keep children engaged and learning during their time off is by getting them involved in the ENC’s Nature Camps. Each day, campers are divided by age and spend time with our fabulous camp teachers as they learn and participate in exciting, age-appropriate, hands-on activities.

SCOUT PROGRAMS
Bring your scouts closer to nature! The ENC offers several Scout Programs that meet the badge requirements of the Boy Scout and Girl Scout Councils. Mix up the way your boys and girls learn about responsibility in nature – schedule a scout program at the ENC.

BUTTERFLY HOUSE
Each Spring and Summer butterflies emerge from their chrysalises to enjoy the locally native host and nectar plants inside the ENC’s Butterfly House. The Butterfly House is the only one of its kind in Orange County. Come check out our amazing butterflies in all of their beauty from 10AM to 3PM daily.

FACILITY RENTALS
When considering where to host your next green event, think of the ENC. Whether it is a business meeting, party, reunion, or wedding, the ENC’s beautiful facility and spectacular landscape will wow your guests. Our meeting rooms are equipped with wireless Internet and projection capabilities. Rental fees help support our environmental education programs.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
What better way to give back than to volunteer with the ENC! Adults help us maintain the grounds, educate visitors about butterflies, or staff the front desk. Teens can assist with our young campers, and service-learning interns assist in the office, on the grounds, or in our store.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & EVENTS
There are many ways for individuals and families to enjoy the ENC every month. We offer activities for families as well as adults that inform and educate through hands-on experience with nature. Every new month brings new opportunities, so check out the ENC’s website to see what is on the calendar.

BEARTHDAY PARTIES
Celebrate your child’s birthday with an awesome beARTHday party at the ENC. We have celebrations for Little Naturalists turning 3 to 5, and traditional parties for children turning 6 and up. All parties include educational interactions with our teaching animals.

ENC NATURE PRESCHOOL
The ENC Nature Preschool teaches the building blocks of a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) education by providing young children with the opportunity to become familiar with the natural world by playing – and learning – while surrounded by nature. Info at encnaturepreschool.org.