

Praxis Newsletter

JANUARY 2008

Going Green

With everything in the news and well really everywhere today about global warming and needing to reduce our carbon footprints there are lots of websites out there, but where do you start. To help you out here are a couple of sites that may be helpful and get you started.



Help keep the world green like we know it.

www.greenlearning.ca
This site is an “innovative education project of the Pembina Foundation. It is a premier online learning community inspired and designed by teachers to meet their curriculum needs”

www.re-energy.ca
This website has downloadable teaching materials for

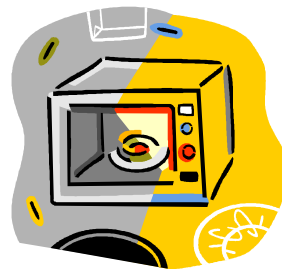
teachers about renewable energy and sustainable transportation education.

www.hatsmart.ca
Take a look at what the City of Medicine Hat is doing for the environment. Including the Solar energy project at the Public Library and the Xeriscape Demonstration Garden at the Medicine Hat College.

2007/2008 Solar Oven Challenge

A great hands on challenge for your students: make your own solar oven. Run through the Pembina Institute the challenge is open to grades 7–12 classes in Alberta. Check out www.green-street.ca and go to the book a program link. You have until May 2 to register and until May 31 to complete the challenge.

Information and materials lists for the challenge will be emailed out once you register.



Use the sun to cook!

Welcome Back!

I just want to welcome everyone back, hopefully you are all rested up and ready to go again. I know the holidays were a welcome break to recharge my batteries, as I am sure they were for you, and now it is time to get back into the swing of things. We have some great stuff coming up in 2008 so keep checking the newsletter for information.

FREE Science Fair Know How Workshop

Praxis will be offering a FREE Science Fair Know How Workshop for any one who would like help with their science fair project or just want some more information on the science fair and what to expect.

Open to any one in grades 4 to 12 and educators.

It will be held on
Wednesday January 16 7:00 to 9:00p.m. at the Medicine Hat College in the Courtyard (just inside the Main doors).

You need to pre-register with Praxis at 527-5365, hurry as space is limited. (All students attending must have a parent present.)

Valuable information and handouts will be given out!

Learning Resource Available

We have 5 Electricity learning resource packages to give away. The packages include CD's and posters full of helpful information and activities for your class, fits in with Grade 5 topics A and B. The first 5 teachers or principals to call Erin at Praxis (527-5365) will get these great packages from Inside Education.



Heavy Heavy Heavy

Materials:

- Newspaper
- Ruler (at least 30 cm long)
- Table

Procedure:

Place the ruler on the edge of the table with half of it off the end. Put the paper on top of the ruler. Slap the ruler and try to make the paper fly in the air.

The paper should have stayed where it was. Why?

Explanation

Air has weight. The paper has a large surface area to it and the air rests on this. The air pushes down on the paper with such a force that it is hard (if not impossible) to move the paper with the ruler. This pressure is known as air pressure.

Up in the Air

Materials:

- A sheet of paper
- Yourself

Procedure:

Hold the paper up to your mouth, just under your lower lip. Blow hard. What happens to the paper? It should be moving up. Try blowing harder or lighter, what happens now?

Explanation:

As we showed in the experiment above air has pressure, well when you blow over the paper you are changing the air pressure around the paper. The fast moving air blowing over the paper creates less pressure on top of the paper and the greater pressure under the paper pushes the paper upwards using lift. Lift is what keeps birds and airplanes up

In the air when they are flying. And we just demonstrated Bernoulli's principle.

When you blow either harder or lighter over the paper you should see a difference in how much the paper moves up.

FOR ALL OF YOUR SCIENCE
NEEDS CONTACT PRAXIS

Fluttering Paper

Materials:

- Strip of paper (about 3cm wide and 10 cm long)
- Tape
- Bottle
- Table

Procedure

Tape one end of the piece of paper to the table. Put a clean bottle on the table about 10 cm in front of the paper.

Blow on the bottle as hard as you can. Watch what happens to the paper.

Explanation:

The moving air separates and moves around the bottle. On the other side of the bottle the air comes back together and then makes the paper flap and flutter about in the air.

Founding Member of:



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Don't forget you can always get a copy of our newsletter off of our website.