



# City of Eugene Teaching Resources

The City of Eugene offers a wide range of resources that school teachers can use to add interest and local content to their lesson plans. Here are some examples of these great opportunities for students.



## Public Works Day (K-8<sup>th</sup> grade)

On May 14, 2015, the Public Works Department will once again open its yard at 1820 Roosevelt Boulevard for an open house geared specifically for elementary- and middle school-age children. Public Works Day gives students and teachers a behind-the-scenes look at the many ways public works serves our community through parks and natural areas, the airport, wastewater treatment, engineering, and maintenance. Guided tours offered. Attendees get to climb aboard and explore large pieces of equipment, have fun with hands-on activities, and learn as staff demonstrate the use of specialized equipment.

**More information:** [www.eugene-or.gov/pwday](http://www.eugene-or.gov/pwday)

**Contact:** City of Eugene Public Works Maintenance  
[pwmaintenance@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:pwmaintenance@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-4800

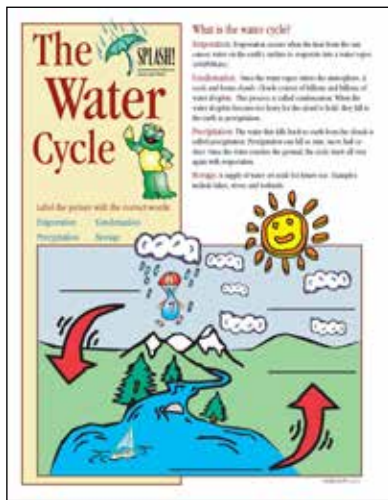
## Snow Plow Art (K-6<sup>th</sup> grade)

Once a year, the Public Works Department works with the Bethel and 4J school districts to pick one elementary school from each district to participate in a snowplow art event. In mid-April, Public Works drops off an 11-foot-wide plow blade at a location determined by the school or the district. Students at the school then paint the blade, using paint and brushes supplied by Public Works. When the blade has been painted, Public Works brings it to the Public Works Yard. The painted blades are displayed at Public Works Day in May. Public Works also publicizes the artwork in the City Council newsletter and through community news and press releases. The painted blades are used for normal public works operations, including snow removal. Each year the artwork is “recycled” to provide a fresh canvas for the next art project.



**More Information:** [www.eugene-or.gov/SnowPlowArt](http://www.eugene-or.gov/SnowPlowArt)

**Contact:** Eric Johnson, City of Eugene Public Works Maintenance  
[eric.p.johnson@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:eric.p.johnson@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-4904



## Water Quality and the Environment Curriculum

SPLASH! (K-8<sup>th</sup> grade)

Salmon and the Ecosystem (5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Learn more about curriculum materials that offer grade-specific lessons to help students understand local water systems and the sources and effects of pollution on the environment. Activities incorporate science, reading, math and art components. These are also available for review and downloading online.

For information about SPLASH! grants contact your school principal.

**More information:** [www.happyrivers.org](http://www.happyrivers.org) > Classroom Materials

**Contact:** Jeffrey Jane Flowers, City of Eugene Public Works Administration  
[jeffrey.j.flowers@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:jeffrey.j.flowers@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-8482

## Outdoor Field Trips in Eugene

### Skinner Butte Summit Trail (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade)

A new path has been created leading to the summit of Skinner Butte in the heart of Eugene. Kids are invited to learn along the way about native plants and trees, the early history and namesake of Skinner Butte and the wildlife that call the area home. The short walk starts at RiverPlay Playground and winds its way up to a rewarding view of Eugene. Bus parking is available at the west end of Skinner Butte near the I-105 Bridge.

**Contact:** Kelly Darnell, City of Eugene Parks and Open Space  
[kelly.a.darnell@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:kelly.a.darnell@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-4901



### Delta Ponds Tour (K-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Students are invited to visit and learn more about the 150-acre Delta Ponds Natural Area right in the heart of Eugene. Once an abandoned 1950s gravel mine, the site has been turned into a thriving habitat for diverse fish and wildlife and serves as a large-scale reuse example. Learn more about the animals that live there,



what it took to create the area, and why it was important to connect the ponds with the Willamette River in order to provide vital habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon, American beaver, western pond turtle, river otter, and neo-tropical migratory birds. Tours can be customized for K-12 grade levels and class focus, and complement the City of Eugene Stormwater Program Delta Ponds grades 1, 2 and 5 classroom activities. The site includes accessible walking trails and convenient car and bus parking along Goodpasture Island Road.

**Contact:** Kelly Darnell, City of Eugene Parks and Open Space  
[kelly.a.darnell@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:kelly.a.darnell@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-4901

### RiverPlay/Discovery Village Field Trip and Lesson Plan (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade)

RiverPlay Discovery Village's natural and historical features make it the perfect place for a fun, dynamic field trip. Children are likely going to get wet and sandy, but there are many lessons to be learned about pioneers, natural features, and ancient history. Bus parking is available at the west end of Skinner Butte Park near the I-105 Bridge.

**More information:** download the RiverPlay lesson plan at [www.eugene-or.gov/DocumentCenter/View/13523](http://www.eugene-or.gov/DocumentCenter/View/13523).

**Contact:** Carrie Peterson, City of Eugene Parks and Open Space  
[carrie.a.peterson@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:carrie.a.peterson@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-4814



## WREN Field Trips (K-12th grade)

In partnership with the City of Eugene Parks and Open Space Division, the Willamette Resource and Education Network (WREN) provides custom field trips and classroom programs about the 3,000 acre West Eugene Wetlands. Programs address Oregon State Content Standards and include the following:

- What is a Wetland
- Scales & Tails
- Flowers to Food – A Pollinator’s Journey
- Wings Over the Wetlands
- Ethnobotany
- Soils of the Wetlands
- Reptiles and Amphibians
- Scat, Tracks and Bones
- Birds of the West Eugene Wetlands

**More information:** [www.wewetlands.org](http://www.wewetlands.org)

**Contact:** ShyAnne Woods, WREN Volunteer Coordinator  
[volunteer@wewetlands.org](mailto:volunteer@wewetlands.org) | 541-338-7046.



## Transportation Options Programs (K-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Eugene Sunday Streets

SmartTrips: Eugene

Breakfast at the Bike Bridges

The City of Eugene Transportation Options Programs provide many resources to help your students and their families learn about walking, biking, taking the bus and carpooling more. Our Eugene Sunday Streets events also provide opportunities for students to get volunteer hours and for student groups to participate in activities and interact with the community.

**More information:** [www.eugene-or.gov/transportation](http://www.eugene-or.gov/transportation)

**Contact:** Lindsay Selser, City of Eugene Public Works Engineering  
[lindsay.r.selser@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:lindsay.r.selser@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-5094

## Homework Help and Teacher Resources (K-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Eugene Public Library can help K-12 students with assignments, projects, and research. The online Homework Center for Kids and Homework Center for Teens organize print and professional online resources by grade levels, subjects, and assignments including Biomes, Black History & Civil Rights, Culture, Endangered Animals, Environment, History & Politics, Math, Native Americans, Pioneers, and more.

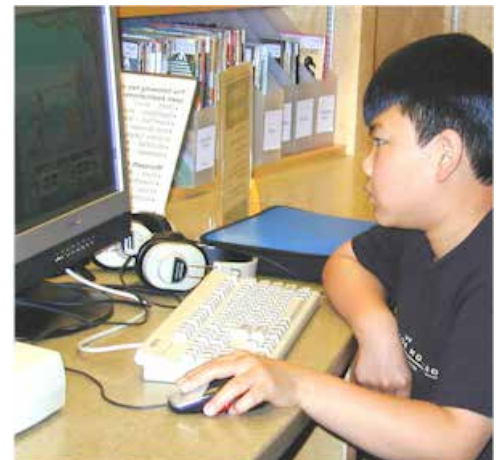
Online resources are available on the Library’s website using a library card or can be used FREE at all library locations—Downtown, Bethel, and Sheldon:

- Live professional tutors available 1pm-10pm daily; skill building exercises available anytime in Brainfuse-HelpNow
- Math, reading, and writing lessons, and study help with LearningExpress’s School Center
- Britannica Encyclopedias for Children or Young Adults
- Opposing Viewpoints to get information on both sides of an issue
- Prep for ACT, SAT, AP Exams, and PSAT & NMSQT in LearningExpress’s College Prep Center

The online Teacher Resources (K-6) guide offers print, media, and electronic resources organized by subject and material type to assist in classroom teaching. Find out how to schedule a Library tour for your class, display your students’ art or contact your Librarians for assignment support.

**More information:** [www.eugene-or.gov/library](http://www.eugene-or.gov/library)

**Contact:** [LibraryYouthReference@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:LibraryYouthReference@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-8316





## Hunting for History Video Series (3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade)

In celebration of Eugene's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2012, the City of Eugene developed a series of short videos highlighting different aspects of the city's history. The "Hunting for History" series includes:

- "Skinner's Donation Land Claim"
- "Eugene's Historic Trees"
- "Eugene's Graveyard Stories"
- "Eugene's Historical Sculptures"
- "Kalapuya Talking Stones"

Each segment is three to four minutes long and was created with 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders in mind as the audience. Each video includes a subject matter expert and references a real, publicly accessible feature that children can see and touch. An accompanying Google map has been created to provide directions to each location.

**More information:** The videos, the Google map, and links to additional teaching resources can be found at

[www.eugene-or.gov/history](http://www.eugene-or.gov/history)

**Contact:** Eric Jones, Public Works Public Administration  
[eric.r.jones@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:eric.r.jones@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-5523

## Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

CERT training teaches both teens and adults about emergency readiness and response. Becoming a CERT member involves hands-on practice, which prepares you for the unexpected in your community. Non-CERT volunteers are always needed to play victims in our fall and spring training exercises. High school students are great volunteers for these events.

**Contact:** Lindsey Cullums, Community Outreach Coordinator, Oregon State Service Corps  
[lindsay.l.cullums@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:lindsay.l.cullums@ci.eugene.or.us)

## Outdoor Environmental Education and Activities (K-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Reconnect your students to nature! The River House Outdoor Program specializes in creating field trips that introduce students to wide range outdoor activities while teaching them about environmental concepts, stewardship, leadership skills, and how to be safe and fun in the outdoors. Programs can be adapted to meet specific classrooms needs and utilize nearby natural areas as the temporary classroom. Activities include, but are not limited to rafting, rock climbing, tree climbing, biking, hiking and the challenge course. Program uses environmental curriculum that is aligned with state teaching standards and covers subject areas such as Forest Ecology, Five Senses, Water Cycle, and Winter Survival.

**Contact:** Aimee Goglia, City of Eugene Recreation Services  
[aimee.n.goglia@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:aimee.n.goglia@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-6358



## Pedestrian (2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and Bicycle Safety Classes (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade)

Pedestrian Safety classes are geared toward 2nd grade classrooms in the 4J, Bethel, and Springfield districts and are funded through each districts' Safe Routes to Schools program. The course consists of one day in class using a mock road to teach safe pedestrian skills around traffic. The second day is a walk around the school practicing the skills learned.

Bike Safety classes are for 5th or 6th grade classes, generally during P.E. class. The 10 day curriculum includes instruction, safety equipment, and bikes and is funded through each districts' Safe Routes to Schools program. Students learn to be safe and aware when riding on streets. The course is taught through classroom lessons, on-campus drills, and off-campus rides.

**Contact:** Zane Wheeler, City of Eugene Recreation Services  
[zane.s.wheeler@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:zane.s.wheeler@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-6321

## Safety Town (pre-K)

Safety Town is an incredible two week comprehensive educational program that introduces pre-Kindergarten children to safety awareness. Children who will enter Kindergarten in the Fall are eligible to attend this summer camp (Sorry, no exceptions). Safety Town is an important experience to help children prepare for their transition to a formal school environment and to make safe decisions as they spend more and more time apart from their parents. This program covers topics such as pedestrian safety, traffic safety, bicycle safety, gun safety, water safety, fire safety, personal safety, poison prevention, water safety, school safety and much, much more! A certified school teacher provides most of the instruction and is supplemented by community experts and police department staff. Applications for campers are generally accepted beginning in early March. Applications for teen volunteers (ages 13-19) are also accepted at that time. Teen applicants undergo an interview process followed by background and reference checks. This is a popular camp that does fill-up. Applications are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Check out last year's camp video: <http://bit.ly/1pWnSRT>.

**More information:** [www.eugene-or.gov/safetytown](http://www.eugene-or.gov/safetytown)

## Classroom Visits by Animal Welfare Officers (K-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

City of Eugene animal welfare officers are available to talk to school kids about their work and provide basic safety tips for interacting with animals.

**More information:** [www.eugene-or.gov/index.aspx?nid=1919](http://www.eugene-or.gov/index.aspx?nid=1919)

**Contact:** City of Eugene Animal Services | 541-682-5748



## Touch-A-Truck (K-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

The City's Recreation Division puts on the Touch-A-Truck event at Petersen Barn each July. While this event is not during the standard school year, it is a fun way for children and their families to see trucks and other vehicles up close. Drivers and/or staff are available with their vehicle to answer questions, share information, and pose for pictures.

**Contact:** City of Eugene Recreation Services  
[recreation@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:recreation@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-5521



## Wastewater Plant Tours (6-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

What happens to water that goes down the sink and toilet? Bring your class to the regional wastewater treatment facility in Eugene to find out! In a 90-minute tour you will follow the water from the point it enters the treatment facility until it is cleaned and returned to the Willamette River. The tour is appropriate for middle and high school classes.

**More information:** [www.mwmcpartners.org/for\\_teachers.html](http://www.mwmcpartners.org/for_teachers.html)

**Contact:** Amber Fossen | 541-726-3695 or Loralyn Spiro | 541-726-2233



## Resource Conservation Partners in Education

The City of Eugene partners with local non-profits that promote resource conservation. Each of the organizations listed below receive city funding to provide educational services.

### Moving Towards Zero Waste in Schools (K-12th grade)

Is your school ready to start composting through Eugene's Commercial Compost Program? Learn about the resources available to schools to promote waste reduction and prevention in and out of the classroom.

**More information:** [www.eugene-or.gov/lovefood](http://www.eugene-or.gov/lovefood)

**Contact:** Stephanie Scafa, City of Eugene Planning & Development  
[stephanie.scafa@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:stephanie.scafa@ci.eugene.or.us) | 541-682-5652

### The School Garden Project (K-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Brings hands-on garden education and curricula to area schools, encouraging students to grow their own food and reduce food waste sent to the landfill.

**More information:** [www.schoolgardenproject.org](http://www.schoolgardenproject.org)

**Contact:** [info@schoolgardenproject.org](mailto:info@schoolgardenproject.org) | 541-284-1001



### 4J & Bethel School District: Energy and Water Education Program's Waste Prevention Curriculum (K-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

This curriculum provides educational materials, facilitated hands-on projects, incentives for participation, career exploration opportunities, goal setting activities, and a method for tracking progress in each building.

**For more information in 4J, contact:** Program Coordinator Tim Whitley [whitley@4j.lane.edu](mailto:whitley@4j.lane.edu)

**For more information in Bethel, contact:** Program Coordinator Cathy Bechen [cathy.bechen@bethel.k12.or.us](mailto:cathy.bechen@bethel.k12.or.us)

## More Connections

- Find more about the City of Eugene on the web ([www.eugene-or.gov](http://www.eugene-or.gov))
- Follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/CityofEugene/](https://www.facebook.com/CityofEugene/))
- Follow Eugene Public Works on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/EugenePW](https://www.twitter.com/EugenePW))