



Empowering Educators, Inspiring Youth!

Project Learning Tree 2013 Annual Report

Florida PLT Provides Additional STEM Extensions for Popular PLT Activities

Florida PLT curriculum is correlated to Common Core and STEM Standards which provides students with a hands-on and interactive learning environment that fosters student creativity, inquisitiveness and problem-solving skills. PLT has developed several additional STEM extensions for popular activities, and correlated these activities to the new Next Generation Science Standards. An online survey of educators found strong agreement that:

- The extensions would be used
- Students would be engaged
- STEM Skills would be improved
- Scores on standardized tests would be improved



Technology: Using self-made binoculars to learn about the nature



Science: Hiding from predators using camouflage (Birds & Worms)



Engineering: Building boats from natural materials

- ⇒ Over 44,400 youth and adults participated in the Florida PLT Program this year!
- ⇒ Teachers trained in 2013 reported they will teach PLT to over 250,000 students!

A PLT Workshop for Everybody!

PLT conducted **54 training workshops for 1088 teachers in all 7 regions of Florida** this year in:

- ◆ Early Childhood Experiences
- ◆ Early Childhood Experiences/ Growing Up Wild
- ◆ Prek-8
- ◆ Prek-8 Sustainable Forestry
- ◆ Prek-12/WET/Aquatic WET/Flying Wild-STEM Outdoors
- ◆ Forests of the World
- ◆ Places We Live
- ◆ Advanced Professional Development-STEM



New Sustainable Forestry Workshops are a Success!

Forestry is an important Florida industry, but few Floridians know about the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) certification program used to ensure sustainable practices are used in the production of wood products. To counter this situation, PLT Sustainable Forestry Educator Workshops were developed and funding secured to conduct 12 teacher workshops and train 328 educators. The workshops focused on SFI standards and highlighted PLT activities relating to these standards. Workshop evaluation survey results found only 1/3 of the educators knew about SFI before the workshop but after the workshop 76% will look for the SFI logo when making future consumer choices.



www.sfrc.ufl.edu/plt



Congratulations to our 2013 Florida PLT Award Recipients!

We would like to recognize **Robert Raze**, Florida Facilitator of the Year, **Antoinette Robinson**, Florida Educator of the Year and **Rock Tenn**, Florida Business Partners of the Year. In addition, **Charlie Marcus** and **Bill Kleinhans** were awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Support and Commitment to PLT. Recipients were awarded at the PLT banquet in Palatka, FL. To learn more about these award winners visit sfrc.ufl.edu/plt/supporting_PLT/fl_plt_awards.shtml



Robert Raze



Antoinette Robinson



Rock Tenn



Charlie Marcus



Bill Kleinhans



Welcome new PLT EE Centers!

- Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center Coordinator, Eileen Tramontana
- John D. MacArthur Beach State Park Coordinator, Janice Kerber

Florida PLT Greenschools! In Action

- This year **74 participants** in the National PLT Greenschools! program

10,000 Hours Donated in 2013 THANK YOU PLT Volunteers!

Steering Committee: Robin Will, Mark Miller, Cheryl George, Shaun Stewart, Nancy Peterson, Bill Kleinhans, Susan Blake, Misty Alderman, Barbara Boler, John Brown, Ed Lewis, Steve Lowrimore, Crystal McCazzio, Brooke Mohr, Martha Pierce, Robert Raze, Vanessa Spero-Swingle, Daniel Stevens, Deb Wagner, Jackie Zimmerman, Mary Bahr, Nicole Barbieri, Donna Barton, Karina Becerra, Marcia Bisnett, Marcus Boston, Kirsten Brazier, Elise Cassie, Dr. Chuck Cichra, Arthur Clothier, Colan Coody, Chris Colburn, Vicki Crisp, Nichole Cucci-Lee, Gerald Cullen, Dolly Cummings, Angela Den Bleyker, Sydelle Dombrowsky, Nicole Early, Sharon Fitz-Coy, Karen Fraley, Veronica Frehm, Rachel Fry, Bryce Forester, Marguerite Forrest, Rachel Fry, Karen Gay, Kellie Gerbers, Tom Gilpin, Barb Gugliotti, Sam Hand, Cathy Hardin, Chris Hawthorne, Lori Haynes, Linda & Mark Hebb, Kirsten Hecht, Kay Henry, Sarah Hicks, Peggy Hill, Michelle Hunter, Dawn Hurley, Greg Ira, Craig Iverson, Tracy Jenner, Karen Johnson-Folsom, Alison Jones, Janice Kerber, Beth Kern, Marilyn Kershner, Meryl Klein, Carrie Kotal, Jean Knight, Diana Kyle, Joe MacKenzie, Beth Main, Chris Martin, Piper Martin, Michelle Mason, Eva Mathews, Lindsey McConnell, Carol Mikulka, Cindy Miller, Ellen Miller, Lara Miller, Martha Monroe, David Moody, Mark Mummaw, Elisa Murry, Milton Newberry, Lori Nicholson, Annie Oxarart, Julia Parker, Mona Phipps, Roxanne Reusch, Stephanie Reynolds, Tracey Ritchie, Antoinette Robinson, Stan Rosenthal, Jr., Betty Rossie, John Rosso, Chris Rusnak, Rachel Ryan, Katie Schlotterbeck, Samantha Schreiner, Rachel Seamen, Trixie Smith, Romina Sola, Mary Spence, Daniel Stevens Jr., Allan Stollberg, Martha Stollberg, Jane Storm, Betsy Sullivan, Amanda Tirocchi, Susan Toth, Deborah Tracy, Eileen Tramontana, Kelly Wagner, Yolanda Washington, Fred Wiechmann, Cassandra Weston, Rebecca Wolfson, Jackie Zimmerman.

THANK YOU PLT Sponsors!

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"PLT Saving the Environment One classroom at a Time"

by Tracy Velt, *Playground Magazine*, Fall 2013.

Our PLT School Walden Community School was featured in the Fall 2013 issue of *Playground Magazine*. The article, "PLT, Saving the Environment One Classroom at a Time" is featured on page 20 of the magazine. Read the article at <http://bit.ly/17S69pl>



Resources

PLT's Branch Newsletter, a national e-newsletter with up-to-date information. Get curriculum resources from Florida PLT at sfrc.ufl.edu/plt or the national PLT website at www.plt.org

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