

Greater San Diego Academy Homeschool

Where every moment is a learning opportunity!

Our vision is to help every child develop the knowledge, talents and abilities to become a successful, contributing member of society by supporting families through personalized learning.



**October
2010**

In this issue:

Civil War Adventure

Deadline Oct 11

Sea World

Deadline Oct. 27

Ruben H. Fleet Science Museum & IMAX

Deadline Nov 8

Parent Connect

Meetings

Lego League

Class Schedules

Counselor's Corner

**Red Ribbon
Week**

Oct 25-29

Take the pledge!



Smile!

It's GSDA Picture Day!

Tuesday, October 12, 2010

All Sites

Arrive anytime between 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Photo sitting (for yearbook photo and student ID) is free of charge! Picture packages will also be available on these days.



Students who have their picture taken will receive a school photo I.D. card.

Questions? Please contact your GSDA Resource Center.

Do you need a short answer for those folks who don't understand the benefits of homeschooling? Try this:

My son (daughter) is learning to be responsible for his (her) own learning. He can interact positively with all kinds and all ages of people and he (she) really loves learning because we focus on what is important and we work at his (her) learning level instead of trying to fit him (her) into a pre-determined curriculum. The personal attention I can give him (her) helps me know where to focus my teaching for the best results and we can take advantage of "teachable moments" that keep him (her) motivated and on target. I have great support from our school, including a coach who helps me plan and deliver excellent instruction, resources and extra activities that get my son (daughter) involved in the community and give us lots of opportunity for socialization and for real-life learning experiences. With the one-on-one attention and the great support of our school, we get the flexibility of homeschooling while still being accountable to an approved public school.

Legoland Field Trip, Oct. 8th– There is one either student or adult ticket available for sale. Please contact your site admin for details.



Sea World!

Description:

Celebrate the wonders of the sea at SeaWorld San Diego. Experience Shamu's show Believe, and thrilling rides like Journey To Atlantis, Shipwreck Rapids and Wild Arctic. Join Elmo and his friends at the Sesame Street Bay of Play featuring family-friendly rides. Don't miss the Pets Rule! show and the hilarious antics of Clyde and Seamore's sea lion and otter show. Feed and touch dolphins and bat rays, and get up-close to beluga whales, polar bears, sharks and penguins. Enjoy fascinating aquariums, sea turtles, manatees, and exotic birds from around the world, Create memories to last a lifetime at SeaWorld San Diego.

When: Wednesday, November 3, 2010

Check in at 9:30 a.m. at the Education Gate (East of the Main Entrance)

We MUST check-in and enter as a group!

Field Trip begins at 10:00 and takes approximately 2 1/2 hours

Where: [Sea World](#)

Who: This field trip is appropriate for all students.

Cost: \$6.00 per person attending. Children 3 and under are free. Passes may be used.

Parking is free in the educational trip parking lot with the parking permit that you can pick up from your site admin.

For questions, contact Beci Patin 858-536-7930

Attending Consultant: Kim Tiffany

***Send your field trip request form with payment to your resource center by
October 27, 2010***

Why should you join GSDA's MeetUp Group?

- The members are friendly and helpful
- GSDA posts activities and events for families to attend
- You can post events that you want other people to attend
- You might find a group to join for cooperative learning
- The more people we have involved, the more opportunities there are for interaction



Go to: <http://www.meetup.com/GSDAHomeschoolers/> to request membership and start Meeting Up today!



The Civil War Adventure at Riley's Farm

Description: Experience a sojourn into America's past, exploring the great conflict that divided state from state and brother from brother. The vast fields and orchards of Riley's Farm, in concert with Riley's Farm skilled staff of Civil War living historians, help students and families imagine the contours of Civil War life in a way that motivates ongoing study.

The day will start with a rousing town meeting in which our group will debate the war and decide whether to succeed, join the union or stay neutral. All sides will get a chance to argue their point and then spend time with Confederate and Union soldiers as they teach about their home states and the issues they face. Students will end the day by participating in a large mock battle!

When: Monday, October 18 from 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

We will check-in and enter as a group at 9:30 a.m.

Where: [Riley's Farm](#)

12261 S. Oak Glen Road
Oak Glen, California 92399
909-797-7534

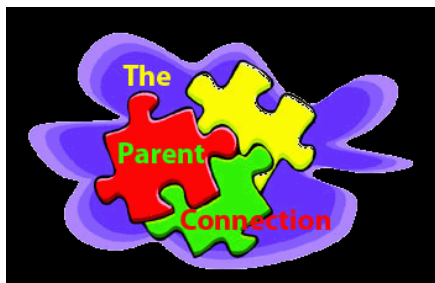
Who: This field trip is appropriate for all students.

Cost: \$14 per person attending (3 & under free)

For questions, contact Marnie Girard at 760-752-7100

Attending Consultant: Dave Nuoffer

***Send your field trip request form with payment to your resource center by
October 11, 2010***



WE NEED YOU!

Parent Connect Meetings are:

An opportunity for you to meet other parents. A time to brainstorm new ideas to make GSDA a better place. A time to learn secrets from other parents and consultants to make your job easier. A place to share your ideas. A place to discover other wonderful homeschooling families! Let us know what you would like to see on the next agenda!

East County: Thursday, Oct. 28 9:00-10:00

South County: Wednesday, Oct. 20 12:30-1:30

Central County: Thursday, Oct 28 9:30-10:30

North County: Wednesday, Oct. 27 12:15-1:15



RUBEN H. FLEET SCIENCE MUSEUM & IMAX

Description:

EXHIBITS: Enjoy seven exhibit galleries that are centers of scientific phenomena where "hands-on" and "do touch" interactive exhibits provide a unique self-guided learning experience for all ages. This includes the new exhibit, "[Earth Exposed!](#)". Come face-to-face with erupting geysers, crumbling mountains and wind driven waves at this exhibition dedicated to the science of the natural world! Nature is a work in progress and this collection of more than 30 exhibits will place you up-close and hands-on with many of the fundamental forces that continually shape and re-shape the planet.

IMAX: FORCES OF NATURE. Showcasing the awesome spectacle of earthquakes, volcanoes and severe storms, this film follows scientists as they go on ground-breaking quests to understand how these natural disasters are triggered. This film complements the "Earth Exposed" exhibition. Recommended for Grades 4-12; however all are welcome to attend based on parental discretion. The trailer can be found at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lq_rjG9WVmM.

When: Friday, December 10, 2010

Meet at the south side of the Ruben H Fleet Main Entrance (on the parking lot side) at the Education/Group Sales Check-in at **9:45** and enjoy the museum from 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. before the IMAX show that begins at 10:45 and ends at 11:35. You will be able to visit more exhibits after the show.

We must enter as a group – late arrivals will not be admitted.

Where: Ruben H. Fleet Science Museum
1875 El Prado (Balboa Park)
San Diego, CA 92101 (619) 238-1233
<http://www.rhfleet.org>

Who: This field trip is appropriate for all students.

Cost: \$7 per person attending (2 & under free)

For questions, contact Marnie Girard at 760-752-7100

Attending Consultant: Kim Gibson

***Send your field trip request form with payment to your resource center by
November 8, 2010***

Do You Lego???

Parents of GSDA are organizing a group to participate in the First Lego League. Please see the information below about this league and visit this website to complete a short survey about your interest in joining.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PXDYDP9>

Junior First Lego League (ages 6-9/K-gr3):

WHAT IS JUNIOR FLL?

from <http://juniorfirstlegoleague.org/what-is-jrfl.html>

Focused on building an interest in science and engineering in children ages 6-9, Junior FIRST LEGO League (Jr.FLL) is a hands-on program designed to capture young children's inherent curiosity and direct it toward discovering the possibilities of improving the world around them. Just like FIRST LEGO League (FLL), this program features a real-world challenge, to be solved by research, critical thinking and imagination. Guided by adult coaches, students work with LEGO elements and moving parts to build ideas and concepts and present them for review.

Each yearly Challenge has two parts, the LEGO Model and the Show Me Poster.

Working in teams of two to six children and guided by at least one adult coach, teams work to complete the Challenge.

Team size: 2 - 6 children

Jr. FLL Important **registration information:**

<https://my.usfirst.org/jr.fll/tims/html/ImportantRegistrationInformationPage.htm?session=JFLL:C77D6405168fa22A0BoXX2F61BBA>

FIRST Lego League (ages 9-14/gr4-8) :

from FIRST Lego League @ <http://firstlegoleague.org/media/twocol.aspx?id=247>

Through the 2010 Body Forward™ Challenge, FLL teams will explore the cutting edge world of Biomedical Engineering to discover innovative ways to repair injuries, overcome genetic predispositions, and maximize the body's potential, with the intended purpose of leading happier and healthier lives.

Each FLL Challenge has two parts – the Robot Game and the Project. Teams need to attempt both in order to be eligible for **awards** at **official tournaments**.

Meet the **Challenge Advisory Team (CAT)** that helped develop the Body Forward Challenge and take a look at these **cool biomedical engineering links!**

Teams can also customize the **official poster** for the Body Forward Challenge and use it to promote upcoming meetings, fundraisers, and any **unofficial local events** they organize.

Robot Game : Teams build and program an autonomous robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS technology to score points in 2.5-minute matches on a themed playing field.

Project : Teams explore an actual problem that today's scientists and engineers are trying to solve, develop an innovative solution to that problem (either by creating something that doesn't exist or building upon something that does), and share their findings.

Team size: 3 - 10 children

FLL important **registration information:**

https://gofll.usfirst.org/pages/important_registration_information



East County Fall 2010 Semester Enrichment Class Schedule

Classes begin 9/13/10 through 12/10/10 and are subject to change. Class parties will be 12/15 & 12/16

Day	Time	Grade	Class Name	Instructor	Fee
Wednesday	8:00-10:00	7-12	Math Tutoring	Ms.Kelly	Free
Wednesday	9:00-11:00	4-6	Math & Writing	Ms. Ann	Free
Wednesday	9:00-11:00	7-12	Research/Tech/Yearbook	Ms. Michelle	Free
Wednesday	10:00-11:00	6-8	Science Lab	Katie Johnson	Free
Wednesday	11:00-12:15	4-6	Public Speaking	Robin Kanzius	\$5/month
Wednesday	11:00-12:15	7-12	Art	Deanna DuBord	\$5/month
Wednesday	12:15-12:30		Lunch		Bring your lunch
Wednesday	12:30-1:30	4-6	Art	Deanna DuBord	\$5/month
Wednesday	12:30-1:30	7-12	Sculpture	Susan Kaufman	\$45/month
Wednesday	1:30-3:00	7-12	Study Skills (two 5 week sessions to be on October 6 and November 10)	Each Session taught by one consultant.	Free
Thursday	9:00-10:00	K-3	Mad Science	Mad Science	\$69.95/6 weeks starting 9/16
Thursday	10:00-11:00	K-1	Literacy	Ms. Catherine	Free
Thursday	10:00-11:00	2-3	Wellness	Ms. Grace	Free
Thursday	11:00-12:00	K-1	Wellness	Ms. Grace	Free
Thursday	11:00-12:00	2-3	Literacy	Ms. Catherine	Free
Thursday	12:00-12:15		Lunch		Bring your lunch
Thursday	12:15-1:15	K-1	Cultures around the World	Kara Morrell	Free
			Fun with Animals (alternate weeks)	Kelli Helms	
Thursday	12:15-1:30	2-3	Public Speaking	Robin Kanzius	\$5/month
Thursday	1:15-2:15	K-1	*Sing & Speak Spanish	S & S Spanish	\$174/semester \$43.50/mo
Thursday	1:30-3:00	2-3	Co-op Book Club	Robin Kanzius	Free

Parent Connect Meetings are on 10/28,1/27,2/24,3/24,4/28 and 5/26 from 9:00-10:00.

*Sing & Speak Spanish is intended to be a year long class(24 classes). Sing & Speak Spanish will hold an additional class on December 16.

Team up with Amazon.com to Support Our School



While our school is strong financially and our student enrollment is equal to last year, the state is spending less money each year for education. Your support will allow us to provide some of the 'extras' that make our program so vibrant.



Our school will receive a rebate of 4%-10% for every grocery item, book, game, electronic device or any other product you purchase through the [Amazon School Rewards](#) program, without costing you another penny. You can access the link through the GSDA website (click on *Support Our School*) or visit this [My School Rewards Store](#) link.

Central County Fall 2010 Semester Enrichment Class Schedule

Classes begin 9/13/10 through 12/10/10 (unless otherwise noted) and are subject to change.

Day	Time	Grades	Class Name	Instructor	Fee
Wednesday	9:00-10:30	9-12	*Biology Lab	Ms. Becca	Free
Wednesday	9:30-10:30	6-12	Knitting	Ms. Bunton	Free
Wednesday	10:30-11:30	6-12	French	Ms. Bunton	Free
Wednesday	10:30-11:30	8-12	Math Tutoring	Ms. Robin	Free
Wednesday	11:00-12:30	9-12	*Chemistry Lab	Ms. Becca	Free
Wednesday	11:30-12:30	6-12	Writing	Ms. Robin	Free
Wednesday	11:30-12:30	9-12	Study Skills (begins in October)	Staff	Free
Wednesday	1:00-2:00	9-12	Teen Talk	Ms. Kim	Free
Wednesday	1:00-2:00	6-8	Earth Science Lab	Ms. Juliette	Free
Thursday	9:00-10:30	K-5	Lego Engineering	Playwell Teknologies	**\$16/class
Thursday	10:30-11:30	K-5	Mad Science	Mad Science	\$69.95/6 weeks begins 9/16
Thursday	11:30-12:30	K-5	French	Ms. Bunton	Free
Thursday	12:30-1:00	K-5	Lunch		Bring your lunch!
Thursday	1:00-2:00	3-5	Art History	Ms. Ciniello	Free
Thursday	1:00-1:30	K-2	Fun with Friends: Recycled Art	Ms. Kim	Free
Thursday	1:30-2:00	K-2	Fun with Friends: Backyard Bugs	Ms. Kim	Free
Thursday	2:00-3:00	3-5	Computers	Ms. Robin	Free

Parent Connect Meetings are on 11/17, 2/23, and 5/25 from 9:00-10:00 and on 10/28, 1/27, and 3/24 from 9:30-10:30.

*See schedule for class dates.

** Lego Engineering will be held on the following Thursdays 9:00-10:30. 9/23,10/28,11/18 and 12/16, 2010.



Turn your shopping trip into easy cash for GSDA, and encourage friends to do the same! Just look for the Box Tops logo on hundreds of products like Cheerios[®], Hamburger Helper[®] and Kleenex[®], in almost every aisle of the store. All you need to do is clip and bring them to your site. Each one is worth 10¢ for GSDA to go toward books and other school supplies.



Kids Free Days, sponsored by
Sempra Energy Foundation

October 1–31 Children ages 11 and younger receive free admission to the Zoo and the Wild Animal park during October.

[http://www.sandiegozoo.org/calendar/
calendar_highlights.html](http://www.sandiegozoo.org/calendar/calendar_highlights.html)

North County Fall 2010 Semester Enrichment ⁸Class Schedule (Classes begin 9/13/10-12/10/10)

Day	Time	Grades	Class Name	Instructor	Fee
Tuesday	9:00 - 10:00	3-5	Art of Spanish	Sonia Godinez	\$30/mo
Tuesday	9:00 - 10:00	K-12	Art With Linda	Linda Luisi	\$40/mo
Tuesday	9:00 - 10:00	6-8	Physical Science	Eric Shirley	Free
Tuesday	9:00 - 10:00	K-12	Math Tutoring	Carol Thompson	Free
Tuesday	10:00 - 11:00	6-8	Earth Science	Mayli Castanedo	Free
Tuesday	10:00 - 11:00	3-5	US & World Geography	Erin Burhans	\$15/mo
Tuesday	10:00 - 11:00	K-12	Writing Tutoring	Jan Marquez	Free
Tuesday	11:00 - 12:00	3-5	The Writers' Group	Erin Burhans	\$15/mo
Tuesday	11:00 - 12:00	6-8	Writing Made Easy	Jan Marquez	Free
Tuesday	12:00 - 12:15	3-8	Lunch with Friends	Staff	Bring your lunch!
Tuesday	12:15 - 1:15	3-8	Greek & Latin Roots	Evelyn Wittman	\$20/mo
Tuesday	12:15 - 1:15	5-8	Book Renaissance	Jane Nuoffer	\$20/mo
Tuesday	1:15 - 2:15	6-8	Junior Improvisation	Evelyn Wittman	\$20/mo
Tuesday	1:15 - 2:15	3-5	Math Fun	Sarah Damianos	Free
Tuesday	2:15 - 3:15	3-8	Art & Music	Ellen Albistiqui-Dubois	\$20/mo
Tuesday	2:15 - 3:15	4-8	Junior Yoga	Evelyn Wittman	\$30/mo
Wednesday	9:00 - 10:00	K-3	Imagine If	Evelyn Wittman	\$20/mo
Wednesday	9:00 - 10:00	K-3	Arts & Crafts	Jennifer Glatt	Free
Wednesday	10:00 - 11:00	K-3	Word Factory	Evelyn Wittman	\$20/mo
Wednesday	10:00 - 11:00	K-3	Math with Carol	Carol Thompson	Free
Wednesday	11:00 - 12:00	K-3	Let's Get Cooking	Jennifer Glatt	\$5/mo
Wednesday	11:00 - 12:00	K-3	Let's Play Yoga	Evelyn Wittman	\$30/mo
Wednesday	12:00 - 12:15	K-12	Lunch with Friends	Staff	Bring your lunch!
Wednesday	12:15 - 1:15	K-12	Inventors & Inventions	Ellen Albistiqui-Dubois	\$20/mo
Wednesday	1:15-2:15	4-12	Would You like to Be an Architect?	Anne Parizeau, Arch.	\$60 for 6 wk ses.
Wednesday	2:15 - 3:15	4-12	Draw What You See....	Anne Parizeau, Arch.	\$60 for 6 wk ses.
Thursday	8:30 - 9:30	9-12	Algebra Lab	Mayli Castanedo	Free
Thursday	9:30 - 11:00	9-12	Biology Lab	Mayli Castanedo	Free
Thursday	10:00 - 11:00	6-12	Film Club	Marian Mortensen	Free
Thursday	10:00 - 11:00	K-12	Quilting Club	Billé Newberry	\$45/mo
Thursday	11:00 - 12:00	K-12	Craft Club	Billé Newberry	\$30/mo
Thursday	11:00 - 12:00	K-12	Glee Club (Vocal Choir)	CCMA	\$15-20 #enrolled
Thursday	12:15 - 1:15	K-12	Chess Club	Billé Newberry	\$20/mo
Thursday	12:15 - 1:15	9-12	Current Events	Eric Shirley	Free
Thursday	1:15 - 2:45	9-12	Teen Improvisation	Evelyn Wittman	\$25/mo
Thursday	2:45 - 3:45	9-12	Teen Yoga	Evelyn Wittman	\$30/mo
Friday	9:00 - 11:00	K-12	Lego Engineering Club	Playwell Teknologies	*\$21/mo

Parent Connect Meeting is on 10/27th 12:15-1:15 * Lego Engineering Club offers a 20% discount for additional siblings.

South County Fall 2010 Semester Enrichment Class Schedule

Classes begin 9/13/10 through 12/10/10 and are subject to change.

Day	Time	Grades	Class Name	Instructor	Fee
Tuesday	8:00-10:00	7-12	+ Math Tutoring	Ms. Kelly	Free
Tuesday	10:00-11:00	7-12	+ Writing Support	Ms. Rachael	Free
Tuesday	11:00-12:00	7-12	Technology	Ms. Diane	Free
Tuesday	12:00-12:30	7-12	Lunch with Friends	Staff	Bring your lunch!
Tuesday	12:30-2:00	7-12	Study Skills (5 week rotation of topics)	Staff	Free
Wednesday	9:00-10:00	K-2	Learning Through Literature	Ms. Diane	Free
Wednesday	9:00-10:00	3-6	Chess Club	Ms. Kim	Free
Wednesday	10:00-11:00	K-2	Little Einsteins	Ms. Kim	Free
Wednesday	10:00-11:00	3-6	Art	Mr. Bob	Free
Wednesday	11:00-11:30	K-6	Lunch with Friends	Staff	Bring your lunch!
Wednesday	11:30-12:30	K-2	Art	Mr. Bob	Free
Wednesday	11:30-12:30	3-6	* Computer Skills	Ms. Rachael	Free
Wednesday	12:30-1:30	K-6	Mad Science	Mad Science	\$69.95

Parent Connect Meetings are on 10/20, 12/1, 1/26, 2/23, 3/23, and 5/25 from 12:30 to 1:30.

+If your student plans to attend tutoring times, they ***must*** come prepared with the work they need help with. Students should bring their assignments and possibly even their textbooks with them. We will not be creating lessons for these times.

* **Computer Skills** class has a 16 student max. Please sign up with Mercy.



Got labels??? Clip Campbell, BIC, Swanson, Prego & more UPCs & V8 caps; bring them to your site and earn rewards for our school! www.labelsforeducation.com/



eScrip is a fundraising program in which participating business partners (Macy's, Vons, many [local restaurants](#) and [more](#)) contribute a percentage of your grocery loyalty cards, credit card, and debit/ATM card purchases to our school.

You may find out the details of the program and sign up by clicking on the icon. Enter either our name, Greater San Diego Academy, or our group ID 500023777. Click search and then click our name and continue your registration. Your purchases will be tracked and available to you online, allowing you to see just how much you are earning on your child's behalf!

Counselor's Corner

11th Grade Graduation and College Bound Planning Calendar

October

- Attend local college & career functions
- Read "Preparing for the ACT" @ www.actstudent.org and the "PSAT Bulletin" @ www.collegeboard.com
- Visit the following websites for practice tests for the ACT <http://www.actstudent.org> and PST www.collegeboard.com
- Complete your career plan activity and meet with your consultant to review results.



ATTENTION: 10th Grade Graduation and College Bound Planning Calendar

The PSAT will be offered this year on October 13th or 16th for 10th graders who would like to practice for the SAT. By taking the PSAT, students may also qualify for scholarship programs through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSQT). GSDA does not administer the PSAT, but students can sign up through their local high schools. For more information visit: <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html>

12th Grade Graduation and College Bound Planning Calendar

October

- Take SAT I or SAT II tests, if needed.
- Continue preparing and finalizing college interest list.
- Continue visiting colleges (if possible) and interviewing.
- Begin researching financial aid and scholarships. Visit www.fastweb.com and <http://www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/scholarships/sandiego.asp> for financial aid information scholarship ideas.
- Begin drafting college essays.
- October/November is the deadline for early applications for many colleges.
- Register for Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), if interested.
- Complete your career plan activity and meet with your consultant to review results.

GSDA LOCATIONS

web: www.gsdacademy.com

Central County – Miramar

9636 Tierra Grande St., Suite 101
San Diego, CA 92126
Phone: (858)536-7930
Fax: (858)536-7935

East County – Jamul

13881 Campo Road, Suite A5
Jamul, CA 91935
Phone: (619)669-3050
Fax: (619)669-3066

North County – San Marcos

1645 Capalina Road, Suite 600
San Marcos, CA 92069
Phone: (760)752-7100
Fax: (760)752-7110

South County – Chula Vista

2232 Verus Street, Suite I
San Diego, CA 92154
Phone: (619)424-4100
Fax: (619)424-4113