

Blackfoot Challenge Fall 2009 COCEEC Update

Nancy Schwalm, Education Coordinator at 406-362-3077 email: nancy@blackfootchallenge.org or visit www.blackfootchallenge.org

Pre-K Days

- Held monthly – second Monday at rotating location (Lincoln, Helmville, Potomac and Seeley Lake – see calendar for details). Different theme each month. Sing songs, play games, read stories, snack and “saunter time”. We have been averaging 11 preschoolers per month.

4-6th Youth Field Day

- Ninth annual event held on September 23rd at Harper’s Lake Fishing Access Site near Seeley Lake. Our theme this year was: Transportation through the Ages. We had 133 students gathered to engage in five stations (seed dispersal, navigation, mule packing, water transport and nature journaling). Theme for next year TBD.

7-8th Adopt-A-Swan Program

- Our School Release Day was held on May 6th at Blackfoot WPA near Helmville. We had 155 students attend and release eight swans.
- We developed a six-lesson curriculum developed for 4-8th grades with extensions for older and younger age groups. (see website)
- Two trumpeter swan trunks for loan (books, eggs, track replica, activities, movie, wings, neck and leg bands).
- New! Trumpeter Swan website link. Visit www.blackfootchallenge.org or email swan@blackfootchallenge.org

Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp (MNRYS)

- Week long natural resource camp for high school students held at Lubrecht Experimental Forest. Scholarships are available to defray the costs (\$170 for a week). Please visit www.mnryc.net for more info.
- 2010 schedule July 12th – 17th.

Community Education

- Have held two Native Plant Workshops, one Small Acreage Weed Workshop, Blackfoot Community Conservation Area wolf tour. These adult education programs have been very popular!
- Upcoming programs for fall/winter: Geology Watershed Series (3 workshops), Presentation of the history of the Blackfoot Valley History and Research Projects in the Blackfoot and an Outdoor Photography Workshop. Please view website calendar for more details.