



Roots & Shoots

Four Corners Seasonal Newsletter

Spring 2010

Hope for Animals and Their World:

How Endangered Species Are Being Rescued from the Brink



Dr. Jane Goodall's work continues to inspire young people and adults across the globe. Her latest book *Hope for Animals and Their World: How Endangered Species Are Being Rescued From The Brink* is a blueprint for how we can each have a positive impact in our communities and among our circle of family and friends.

Each person can make a significant difference and the additive impact of all of our efforts is huge.

In the chapter entitled *Healing Earth's Scars: It's Never Too Late*, Dr. Jane states "So how, people ask, can I have hope for the future? Indeed, I am often accused of being unrealistically optimistic. What is the point of saving endangered life-forms, people ask, if there is nowhere for them to live except in zoos? So let me share why it is that, against all odds, I have hope for the animals and their world. Why it is I believe that human know-how and the resilience of nature, combined with the energy and commitment of dedicated individuals, can restore damaged environments so that, once again, they can become home to many of our endangered species."

If you would like to learn more and if you share Dr. Jane's passion for healing and restoring the health our lands and communities please join us!

You can receive additional information by contacting our office at fcrootsshoots@janegoodall.org or by going on line to our website www.rootsandshoots.org.

We look forward to working with you to make positive change happen!

Ray Powell, DVM
Regional Director
Four Corners States Region
the Jane Goodall Institute For Wildlife Research Education and Conservation
Roots & Shoots Service Learning Program

Kids Against Hunger



The mission of Kids Against Hunger, a humanitarian food-aid organization, is to significantly reduce the number of hungry children in the United States and throughout the world. The organization's approach to achieving its goal includes the packaging of a highly nutritious, vitamin-fortified soy-rice casserole by volunteers at numerous locations within the United States and Canada, and the distribution of those meals to starving children and their families in over 60 countries through partnerships with humanitarian organizations worldwide.

I began my work with Kids Against Hunger when I was at Holy Ghost Catholic School, and we had decided to start a school-wide service learning project. As a school we raised enough money to package 100,000 meals and we decided

that those meals would stay here in New Mexico, going to several different food banks. When I moved on to St. Pius High School, Holy Ghost continued the project for another year but they needed more volunteers for the packaging day. I talked to the community service director at St. Pius and we were able to get a group of 30 kids to go to Holy Ghost and help package. My sophomore year at St. Pius, Holy Ghost took a break from the project, but I took the idea to our administration and asked if we could have Kids Against Hunger at St. Pius. They loved the idea! We formed the Kids Against Hunger Committee, which I became the president of, and we began raising money and educating the school on the project. We made Kids Against Hunger a Lenten project for the school to work on together, and we raised \$12,000 to package 132,000 meals. The Kids Against Hunger Committee concluded that sixty percent of the meals would stay in New Mexico and forty percent would go Oklahoma where there was a great need.

This year at St. Pius we set our goal at \$15,000 to package 150,000 meals. We wanted more people to get involved with the project and become more aware of the issue of hunger. The Kids Against Hunger Committee presented the project to all the principles in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, New Mexico and they wanted to get their schools involved. We also heard from a catholic high school in Tucson, Arizona that wanted to learn more about Kids Against Hunger. We called Kids Against Hunger

and said "You know, we may end up having more people than we thought and we will be packing more meals!" Right at the same time, the earthquake in Haiti hit and all we heard on the news was that Haiti needed support and resources, especially food. Haiti already needed our help with fighting hunger, and now with the earthquake destroying everything around them, they needed our help even more. We were talking to Kids Against Hunger headquarters, they suggested that we try to package a whole shipping container full of meals that would be shipped directly to Haiti. This would mean raising \$43,000 to package 285,000 meals! When March 31st came around we had over 2,000 volunteers filling the St. Pius gyms and the smell of chicken filled the school! The St. Pius students were joined by New Mexico schools, Holy Ghost, St. Mary's, Our Lady of Annunciation, Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Assumption, St. Therese, San Felipe de Neri, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Michael's High School, Santo Nino, Oasis of Peace, Grants Catholic High School, Salpointe Catholic High School from Tucson, AZ and other Roots & Shoots members. We were able to package 285,636 meals by the end of the day! Two hundred and fifty thousand went to Haiti and 35,000 remained in New Mexico. It was a life changing experience!

- By Ali F., Member of the Four Corners Youth Leadership Council



Turtle Project



Several years ago we formed a project called Operation Rainbow. It was designed to raise money for endangered manatees. We made beaded jewelry, and tie-dyed t-shirts and socks. We sold our handmade items at flea markets in Albuquerque, New Mexico. We donated the raised funds to Homosassa Springs State Wildlife Park. The park is home to manatees that cannot be released back into the wild due to injuries, mostly from boats. Making and selling our crafts was fun, and helping manatees felt great!

We had such an awesome time making things, meeting people and feeling like we could make a difference, that when another opportunity arose to go to Florida, we decided to do another service project there. We wanted to do something more than just raise money. We also wanted to do something hands-on with animals.

After some research on-line, we decided to focus on loggerhead sea turtles. Loggerheads are most commonly found in Florida, and like all sea turtles, they are an endangered species. Pollution, lighted beaches, loss of habitat and drowning in shrimp nets and other fishing gear are great threats to the turtle.

Again, we decided on making jewelry because it sold so well. Instead of using beads, we are making our own turtle jewelry out of "fimo" clay, and we are sewing bags. The bags, or "Turtle Totes" as we call them, are to help cut the use of plastic and paper bags in the community here, because surprisingly, our daily actions have an impact as far away as Florida. So far, we have raised over \$400, and hope to make at least another \$400 over the next couple months selling at the flea market in Placitas, New Mexico, farmer's markets around Albuquerque, New Mexico and at various other places and events in New Mexico. In July and August, we will be volunteering for a not-for profit group we are raising money for, "Turtle Time Inc."



You can read about Turtle Time Inc. at www.turtletime.org. We will be patrolling beaches late at night in Florida, looking for nesting turtles and hatching eggs. If we are lucky, we'll even get to help the hatchlings to the ocean.

Turtles have been around for millions of years and we hope that our small effort will help keep them around for even longer. Please look for us on the weekends once the weather gets warm and when the markets start. We love to offer people free, sustainable seafood guides published by The Monterey Bay Aquarium, and encourage everyone to follow the three R's; reduce, re-use, and recycle. Those are simple things we all can do, and they have an amazing impact on conservation everywhere, not just loggerheads in Florida.

- By Kohl and Wren C., Members of Rio Grande Roots & Shoots Albuquerque, New Mexico



PacePals are international friends who write letters to create a connected web of compassionate young leaders practicing the art of peace in daily life. Their correspondence aims to create the next generation of leaders and peace builders through international friendships with an emphasis on service projects. The PeacePal network reaches across the world including: Afghanistan, Burundi, Canada, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Israel, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan, Palestine, Senegal, South Africa, Togo, Uganda and the United States.

Many Roots & Shoots members already participate in this amazing program and have made friends far and wide who share similar desires to help make the world a better place for all.

This year Roots & Shoots Four Corners, in collaboration with our Partnerships in Understanding program, have partnered with Project

PeacePal. Together we are developing a pilot project hoping to connect our local Roots & Shoots members with Roots & Shoots PeacePals internationally.

If your group would like to learn more about Project PeacePal please visit their website at:

www.peacepal.org.

Or if your groups would like to participate in this pilot project with international Roots & Shoots groups please contact Emily at eDietrichMillstein@janegoodall.org.

Recycle Runway

This March Roots & Shoots Four Corners partnered with the Albuquerque Academy to run the first annual Recycle Festival at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Three hundred and fifty 6th graders spent the day learning about recycling activities and practices. Roots & Shoots member Aline W. describes one of the workshops she attended.

Nancy Judd started Recycle Runway to help raise awareness about all the trash that goes to the landfill. Many tons of reusable materials are thrown in the trash. Her wearable art is exhibited in airports around the country including Atlanta and Portland. She had a workshop at the Recycle Festival where she showed us some pictures of dresses, hats and shoes that she made from repurposed fabric or thrift store clothes and decorated with various materials. One gown had glass shards from the Albuquerque recycling center, another one was made with of folded junk mail and another was decorated with circles cut from plastic detergent bottles. It was interesting learning about her art because she used materials most people would throw away to make something that was beautiful. She has received commissions from many companies like Target and Coca-Cola. We did an art project using magazine paper to cover different containers that would normally be thrown away, such as bottles, plastic fruit containers and plastic yogurt containers. We also contributed to a new art project she is creating. She asked everyone who came to write a pledge to take a small personal action to help the environment on a strip of paper and she is going to use them on a new dress that has pledges from kids all across America.



Prairie Dog Day

Colorado Roots & Shoots groups celebrated Ground Hog's Day this year with Punxsutawney Phil's distant cousin the prairie dog for a local twist on the holiday, Prairie Dog Day. Roots & Shoots groups celebrated Prairie Dog Day along with over 1000 people at an event led by the Denver Zoo in partnership with the Prairie Dog Coalition and Wild Earth Guardians. Groups participated in workshops where they learned how prairie dogs make their home, the prairie dog's role in the local ecosystem, heard prairie dog stories and learned about the elaborate languages by which prairie dogs communicate along with many other activities.



Groups were also invited to submit artwork in the Prairie Dog Day Art Contest where they received free admission and a behind the scenes tour. The competition was won by Roots & Shoots members Lerato O., Eliza A. and Lola D. from Uni Hills Roots & Shoots. Congratulations!



Stay tuned to find out how your group can participate in Prairie Dog Day next year.

Project Linus

Project Linus is an organization dedicated to providing blankets for children who are hospitalized. The group has been going for 12 years - since late 1998. It has 378 chapters nationwide. So far, the organization has delivered approximately 3,011,944 blankets to children in the United States.

On December 2, 2009 the Rio Grande Roots & Shoots home school group made no-sew blankets to donate to Project Linus. The group made about 30 to 40 blankets total. The Rio Grande Roots & Shoots group had a lot of fun making blankets and seeing friends. To learn more about Project Linus and how you can help go to www.projectlinus.org.



- By Jonathan T., Member of Rio Grande Roots & Shoots Albuquerque, New Mexico



Bird Feeding

Bird feeders are a great way to see and feed different birds. Our Rio Grande Roots & Shoots Service Group made biodegradable bird feeders on February 10, 2010 to get ready for the Great Backyard Bird Count conducted by Cornell University. The feeders were made using different seeds, bagels, fruit, peanut butter and pinecones. Our group hung the feeders on tree branches at Albuquerque Open Space Visitors Center and at our homes. Many families in our group enjoy watching birds and counting them. Some of the families have seen birds at home include house sparrows, house finches, mourning doves, hummingbirds, juncos, bushtits, robins and mountain chickadees.

- By Matthew T., Member of Rio Grande Roots & Shoots Albuquerque, New Mexico

Roots & Shoots Curriculum Update

During the first week in January, Roots & Shoots officially made all of the Roots & Shoots for Young Children, Lessons for Hope, EcoTeam and Taproots curriculum and the Foster Care Handbook FREE! Visit the Resource Center and choose Activity Guides from the drop-down menu to find the following materials for your Roots & Shoots group to use:

• EcoTeam

Originally designed by Roots & Shoots and Warren Wilson College, EcoTeam is an environmental education program designed for upper elementary school students.

Ages: 8-11

• Foster Care Handbook

Guides professionals working with youth in out-of-home care through planning and implementing a community service project and other skill-building activities.

Ages: focused towards High School, but appropriate for Middle School as well

• Lessons for Hope

Navigates a high school educator through the 12 web-based lessons inspired by Dr. Jane Goodall's life. Students learn to recognize their personal values and then translate those values into service-learning activities.

Ages: 11-18

• Roots & Shoots Handbook

If you're new to Roots & Shoots, this handbook is a perfect starting point. Refer to it often for information, guidelines, tips and examples.

Ages: all

• Roots & Shoots for Children: Hey Little Ant

This guide leads children in fun, hands-on projects to encourage them to observe and show care and compassion for ants and other insects.

Ages: 3-8

• Roots & Shoots for Children: The Special Qualities of Water

Encourages children to explore the qualities of water, and to learn why and how they need to keep it clean for all living things.

Ages: 3-8

• Roots & Shoots for Young Children: Where We Live, Exploring our Community

Leads members as they learn about and share their home life, then move outward to observe and explore their community.

Ages: 3-8

• Roots & Shoots for Children: Where We Live, Understanding the Needs in our Community

Explores what the people, animals and plants in the child's community need to stay healthy. Science and humanitarian-based activities are included so that participants will have various opportunities to engage with their surroundings.

Ages: 3-8

• TapRoots: Elementary School

Combines age-appropriate, interdisciplinary lesson plans with outdoors hands-on activities to teach students about the importance of trees. Activities include a tree treasure hunt, exploring the uses of trees and creating shape poems.

Ages: 6-10

• TapRoots: Middle School

Combines age-appropriate, interdisciplinary lesson plans with outdoors hands-on activities to teach students about the importance of trees. Activities include measuring tree growth and writing history through the eye of a tree.

Ages: 11-13

• TapRoots: High School

Combines age-appropriate, interdisciplinary lesson plans with outdoors hands-on activities to teach students about the importance of trees. Activities include monitoring biodiversity in a local ecosystem and creating the roots of a story.

Ages: 14-18

Meet Katie Macaulay

Santa Fe Coordinator

Meet Chelsea O.

*Four Corners Youth Leadership Council
Albuquerque, New Mexico*



Chelsea was first introduced to Roots & Shoots in her Girl Scout troop and received a Certificate of Recognition signed by Dr. Jane Goodall. She is now a member of the Four Corners Youth Leadership Council.

Some of her passions include documentary film making, traveling and working with children. Chelsea has been inspired by her experiences overseas volunteering at a children's

orphanage in Hardiwar, India. She also volunteered in Juarez, Mexico helping families build an organic garden and visited a women's co-op there. Chelsea was deeply touched by the people she met and their cultures. She hopes to bring the lessons she learned back to her school and community. Welcome Chelsea!

Katie Macaulay hails from Canada and has lived in Santa Fe, New Mexico for 10 years. She is an educator, photographer, chocolateer and passionate outdoors-person. She is the founder of Mountain Kids, a program designed to get kids outside in



nature. She has also worked enthusiastically as an outdoor educator, classroom teacher, and has designed service-learning programs in Canada and in Guyana, South America over the years. She enjoys being outside on her mountain bike or playing with kids in nature. She lives in the forest in Santa Fe with her husband, two young children, and their cat, Coco.

Four Corners Staff

Ray Powell - Regional Director
Emily Dietrich Millstein - Regional Program Manager
Teresa Gray - Wind River Ranch Coordinator
Renée Gunther - Tucson Coordinator
Monica Ferreira - Westminster College Coordinator
Katie Macaulay - Santa Fe Coordinator
Melania Pumphrey - Northern New Mexico Coordinator
Lynda Rigoletti - Tucson Coordinator
Monique Schoustra - Santa Fe Coordinator
Kate Shearer - University of Denver Coordinator
Julie Velazquez - Albuquerque Youth Leadership Coordinator

Roots & Shoots Four Corners Office

216 Otero St.
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
Phone: 505-988-1670
fcrootsshoots@janegoodall.org
www.rootsandshoots.org