



# Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots

Four Corners Regional Newsletter



Spring 2011 Edition

## Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots at the Santa Fe Children's Museum

**"It gives me great pleasure that the Jane Goodall Institute and Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots program is entering into an exciting new collaboration with the Santa Fe Children's Museum, ... [alongside whom we hope to nurture] new generations of committed, active citizens dedicated to creating a better world."**

**-Dr. Jane Goodall**

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), and the [Santa Fe Children's Museum](#) are dedicated to offering young people opportunities for experiential learning and growth and have joined forces to offer community based programming. With this newly-formed collaboration, using environmental service learning through Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots, the Museum and [JGI](#) will be able to provide new, interactive ways to teach New Mexico's youth creative inquiry about the natural world.

This new programming includes workshops and seasonal projects that will focus on inspiring conversations about improving the environment and helping people and animals. Workshops are open to youth, 3 – 10 years of age, and are being held at the Museum on the third Sunday of every month from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. The workshops are offered at no extra charge with general admission and will each explore four key subjects – Water Conservation, Treescapes, Living Creatures and Natural HiStories.

JGI and the Santa Fe Children's Museum will also lead a week long Roots & Shoots summer camp from Monday, June 27– Friday July 1, 2011. Through this camp, youth ages 6-8 will engage in service learning projects and hands-on educational activities. For more information, please contact the [Santa Fe Children's Museum](#).

Finally, this collaboration will also establish the Roots & Shoots Children's Museum Youth Board which meet at the museum on a monthly basis to assist in workshops, lead service projects and act as ambassadors for Roots & Shoots and the Santa Fe Children's Museum. The Youth Board is open to youth ages 10-15 years. For those interested in joining the youth board please contact Emily Dietrich-Millstein at [eDietrichMillstein@janegoodall.org](mailto:eDietrichMillstein@janegoodall.org) for more information.

[Click here](#) to see Dr. Jane Goodall's personal message regarding this exciting collaboration.



# Roots & Shoots Albuquerque

## Recycle Festival

**R**educe, Reuse, Recycle! The message behind these three words is especially important for the age in which we live, where everything comes in plastic, paper or excess packaging. The message is simple but can be carried out in a number of creative and new ways. The [Albuquerque Academy](#) and [The Jane Goodall Institute](#) have collaborated to educate students through Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots about some of the many forms that recycling can take, during their third Annual Recycle Festival made possible by the generosity of the [National Hispanic Cultural Center](#).

learned how to make recycled aluminum ornaments in the Punch that Aluminum! workshop. The workshops inspired members to do their own recycling projects and gave students a hands-on understanding of the great need for using renewable resources. At the end of the day, students and teachers also received recycled gift bags with activities and more recycling ideas.

Johnathan T. from [Rio Grande Roots & Shoots](#) shares his day at the Albuquerque Recycle Festival:

*Early, on a cool March morning, Rio Grande Roots & Shoots (RGRS) members gathered in the parking lot of the Albuquerque Hispanic Cultural Center reviewing their 2011 Albuquerque Recycle Festival schedule. The Festival increases awareness about recycling and environmentally-friendly projects in a fun, interactive, and informative way. The RGRS group started their morning outside at the [Bosque Environmental Monitoring Program](#) (BEMP) workshop in the nearby bosque. BEMP is a program that helps students learn about their local bosque which is the forest land around the Rio Grande River. BEMP volunteers and staff monitor the bosque area by collecting plant leaves*

*and debris that have fallen from trees, measuring the distance of the water table, and measuring rainfall. After lunch, RGRS found their way to a workshop about energy and how electricity and water are related. The workshop included a fun video and game about how to use water and electricity efficiently. The afternoon also consisted of the "What's in Our Lunch" workshop by the [New Mexico Natural History Museum](#) where we learned about peoples' carbon footprint through examples of "What's in Our Lunch" and became "energy ninjas" to illustrate how greenhouse gases affect the earth. To cap off the day, the group jammed, shook, and scratched out a harmonious orchestra on several worn PVC pipes, jelly jars and lids with the Recycle Music Man – a musician that recycles trash into musical instruments. The 2011 Recycle Festival held other workshops that RGRS had either participated in last year or will hope to participate in next year. The 2011 Recycle Festival was a fun-filled day of learning, racing, and jammin'!*

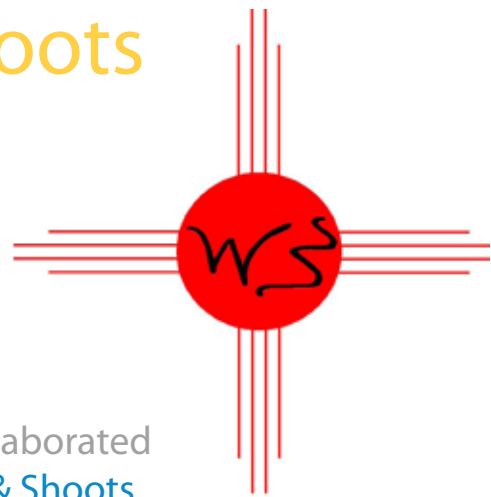
-By Olivia Robertson, Roots & Shoots  
Four Corners Office Assistant



Nearly 300 students buzzed from one recycling workshop to the next on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011. A total of 14 different workshops were offered; including presentations from expert recyclers like the Recycled Music Man Kevin Kane, who taught kids how to play music with objects that other people might consider trash, to student-run presentations by Albuquerque Academy students, who taught participants how to make recycled paper, recycled books and about the intricacies of worm composting. Other workshops included one by [Solar New Mexico](#), where students drove a bicycle to generate electricity, and another by [Albuquerque Open Space Visitors Center](#) where participants



# Wind River Ranch Roots & Shoots Essay Contest



The [Wind River Ranch](#) is a non-profit ecological restoration organization, whose great commitment to the environment reaches into the community for help. Once again looking towards their community, Wind River Ranch collaborated with [The Jane Goodall Institute through Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots](#) for the first annual 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Ecological Essay Contest. The essay contest was open to students in Las Vegas, New Mexico focusing on enhancing knowledge and stewardship of natural systems.

Honorable mentions were awarded to Alisson H., Sarah G. and Jonathan T. AJ L. was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place and was awarded a \$300 Scholarship with his well-crafted essay "Humans in the Ecological Web."

Finally, Omar C., of [West Las Vegas Middle School](#), was selected as the winner of a \$500 Scholarship with his essay, "Our Local Ecology-Web." Congratulations Omar!



*Humans overall play a very important role in our local ecology-web. Our human community has the capability to keep everything in our local ecology-web well balanced. First of all we can majorly affect the population and diversity of animals in our local ecology-web. Second of all, we can affect the way plants grow and how healthy they live. Thirdly we can pollute and can also help how good the water is in rivers, streams, ponds, and lakes. Fourthly we can also affect the nutrients in the soil that plants need to grow healthy. For each thing that we change positively or negatively will have its appropriate consequence good or bad.*

*First of all, Human's role in an ecology-web can also affect animals positively or negatively. Humans can affect animals in a positive way for example by not over killing a certain species of animals. Over killing a type of animal doesn't have to be killing only one type of animal. For example, if you kill all the rats, the snakes will be affected because rats are a major food source for the snakes so therefore the rats and snakes population will drop. Another way we may affect animals in a positive way is by not damaging their habitats. If the humans would destroy the animal's habitats they would have to migrate to an unknown habitat or become extinct. These are just some ways that we positively and negatively affect animals.*

*Second of all, our human community's role can also affect plants in many ways such as introducing livestock, such as cows, to areas non-native to that species. Introducing nonnative livestock to nonnative areas can affect the animals to affect the abundance of certain native species of plants. Another way we can majorly affect native plants and grasses is when nonnative trees, shrubs and plants travel to areas of grasslands such as Wind River Ranch. As a result the quantity of native grasses has decreased. This will also negatively affect the water table. This is an example of how everything in an ecology-web is connected and that one thing affects everything else in the ecology-web.*

*Third of all, our role can affect water in many forms such as wasting water. Wasting water is not a good idea especially here locally where water resources are very low. We should manage our natural environments water more efficiently by being less careless about how much water we waste. Without water nothing would exist. All life on planet earth depends on water. When considering how we affect water we must also consider soil. Native grasses "drink" less water compared to nonnative grasses that drink more water. Crop rotation would also affect the soil in a positive way. Rotating the crops would help the soil's structure and fertility. Another way we can affect water is by pollution. If water is polluted it can harm animals, plant and humans by making them ill.*

*In conclusion, our human communities' role is very important in our local ecology-web. Our role is keeping all things in our local ecology web balanced. Our human community's role can affect the population of native animals, the diversity and abundance of our native plants, and water in many ways. Affecting one thing in our local ecology-web will later become a bigger problem. Because of our role in our local ecology-web we should try to affect animals, plants, water and soil in more positive ways.*

-By Omar C.

# Meet Mountain Pack Roots & Shoots

Meet the Frye-Mason family! Dedicated to the mission of [Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots](#), Jeanne and her family have dedicated themselves to a life of peaceful observation. As the Frye-Mason family began to look towards Jane Goodall's message, they developed her "mission as a way of life," and started their very own Roots & Shoots Group called [Mountain Pack Roots & Shoots](#).



So what does it look like to uphold the Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots mission to help people, animals and the environment? Well the Mountain Pack Roots & Shoots group has committed to this mission in a number of ways beginning with diet and household choices and branching out to more community projects.

Mountain Pack Roots & Shoots members are involved in multiple forms of service including volunteering at the [New Mexico Museum of Natural History](#), where they share their knowledge and enthusiasm for snakes, turtles and other animals local to New Mexico. They have also been involved with animal rescue, and take part in the annual [Great Backyard Bird Count](#).

The group's most recent project is making monthly logs of the wildlife corridor near their home. They began logging the wildlife corridor in February, noting a record cold with temperatures below zero for several days. Their monthly log gives them the chance to learn about the environment in which they live. Regardless of the weather, the family runs through the wildlife corridor most mornings "enjoying the great beauty of the Milne Open Space in the East Mountains" comments Jeanne.

However, the beauty of the Open Space is only one of the perks of the group's new project. Mountain Pack Roots & Shoots also observes coyotes, rabbits, squirrels and many different types of birds. Logging the wildlife corridor is a project that will provide the Mountain Pack the opportunity to continue to learn from bountiful nature. Mountain Pack, as Jeanne puts it, are all "life-long learners and ... love to read and write ...maybe one day [they] will share their ideas through stories."

*-By Olivia Robertson, Roots & Shoots Four Corners Office Assistant*

## Service Learning Curriculum

Teachers all over the nation are using the Roots & Shoots Service Learning model to engage their students in meaningful service.

Roots & Shoots has received accolades from teachers, administrators and students for the resources, support, and leadership that the program provides as they work through a service learning campaign.

The process is easy. Using the [curriculum guide](#), students and teachers work together to identify a community need and develop a long-term campaign. Classrooms report back to the Roots & Shoots network and share their achievements.

Roots & Shoots groups weave service projects into their curriculum so the service they are providing reinforces the lessons they are learning and the lesson increases the quality of the service.

Invite Roots & Shoots into your classroom and you too can use education to empower!

- [Read about the definition of service learning](#)
- [Understand exactly how Roots & Shoots and service learning work together](#)
- [Find out about the benefits to students and communities through service learning](#)
- [Learn how you can bring the new Roots & Shoots service learning curriculum into classrooms](#)
- [Read what some service learning experts and public officials have said about Roots & Shoots and service-learning](#)



# Children's Bill of Rights

Generations of people growing up in this new technological age have begun to spend most of their time indoors. Through television, video games and the fast-paced culture created by the internet, children are relying less and less on their own back yards for their education and entertainment. With increases in childhood diabetes and obesity, it is crucial that we take action. Teresa Gray, Roots & Shoots Wind River Ranch Coordinator, recognized what is being lost from being indoors for such long periods of time and began a project to address this problem working closely with Roots & Shoots members Alyssa G., from Los [Ninos Elementary](#) and Omar C., from [West Las Vegas Middle School](#). "New Mexico gets almost 300 days of sunshine a year, so why not use it to our advantage?" they asked. With the [Leave No Child Inside Coalition](#), Teresa and her crew worked with children from Farmington, N.M. to Silver City, N.M. in order to draft a bill of rights for children and their access to nature. The bill they constructed was guided by children's real needs and desires to spend more time outside in their sunny state. The bill focuses on getting more and more teachers around New Mexico to extend



their classroom curriculum into hands-on outside experiences.

Feeling they might be able to freely explore trails, parks, nature centers and wildlife sanctuaries, the children who helped with the bill became excited at the possibility of increasing their opportunities to explore the natural world.

With the love and dedication of almost two hundred participants, the project resulted in the birth of the official [Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights](#). It was passed on Wednesday, February 23, 2011, giving New Mexico

youth more opportunities outdoor experiences. The bill does not require funding, but with additional outside activities, aims to minimize money spent as a result of the additional health benefits.

Ultimately, with Teresa's vision and dedication, more and more of today's youth will begin to dream about their next bonding experience with nature, of the animal they have been tracking for a week or perhaps even the next story night around the campfire. What better way to build fond memories of bonding with family and our most precious resource: Nature!

## Save the Date! Roots & Shoots Annual North America Training Summit

From October 20 - 23, 2011, the Jane Goodall Institute will host the second annual Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots North America Training Summit for community leaders and service learning professionals.

Through fun, interactive workshops and activities, the Summit provides participants with opportunities to:

- Learn the Roots & Shoots method of environmental service learning,
- Learn best practices for community centered conservation,
- Gain new skills and resources to start and mentor a Roots & Shoots group, and
- Interact with Dr. Jane Goodall, renowned primatologist and conservationist via Video Conference.

Networking with other leaders from across North America including Canada, the Caribbean, Mexico and the United States, participants will not only leave with new skills and tools, but also with relationships that will last a lifetime.

Registration will open in May. More information will be coming! Stay tuned!

# Meet Esha

## Esha Chiocchio

Roots & Shoots Four Corners Santa Fe Children's Museum Assistant



**E**sha Chiocchio is passionate about the inter connectedness of people, plants and animals. As a [Peace Corps](#) Volunteer in Mali, West Africa, she gained a deep appreciation for indigenous wisdom through gaining an understanding of how to live in harmony with the environment. Her work as a documentary photographer has taken her to numerous countries, including Guatemala, Argentina and Iceland. She has a B.A. in Anthropology and French from [UC Boulder](#) and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Sustainable Communities through [Goddard College](#). Esha is the mother of two nature-loving kids and lives in Santa Fe, NM with her husband, photographer Jamey Stillings.

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