

# CURRICULUM IDEAS

## Green Industry: How Ford Motor Company's Rouge Factory Demonstrates Responsible Manufacturing - continued from page 9

Using data gathered from the water quality tests, create charts and graphs to compare and contrast the water from school and the Rouge site. Explain your data in light of your original hypothesis.

- Develop an essay that addresses the challenges and consequences of balancing industry and nature. In light of the fact that industry AND the environment are two seemingly conflicted enterprises, how has the Rouge complex created a positive balance? Do you think that this can be repeated in other urban or industrial settings? Why or why not?
- Ask: What are some signs of a positive ecological impact that the Dearborn Truck Plant has implemented that you can see? Why are these considered positive signs? Explain your answer. What did you place in your journal that substantiates your claims?
- Complete your digital scrapbook and make a PowerPoint or iMovie that shows your experience.

Can't make it to Dearborn? In addition to this themed itinerary, you can find more online resources for you and your students to use in the classroom or at the Ford Rouge Factory Tour at <http://www.thehenryford.org/rouge/teachers.aspx>. Curriculum connectors, PowerPoint slide shows and History Hunter Scavenger Hunts are free tools you can download and copy to discover and reflect on the past, present and future of the Rouge complex.

Last year, The Henry Ford was awarded the USGBC 2009 Excellence in Green Building Education Incentive Grant. Additional online teaching and learning tools such as online unit plans, hands-on activities, teacher workshop materials and scout programs are being developed this year that will further enhance the study and appreciation of environmental issues and green sustainability. Check The Henry Ford website at [www.thehenryford.org/education](http://www.thehenryford.org/education) in fall 2010 to access and use these new environmental educational resources.

### Elementary Level Curriculum Idea

## High Touch High Tech: A Fun Field Trip That Comes to You!

By Kristen Jones, Ojibwa Elementary School

High Touch High Tech is a company that I worked with back in the fall. They will exceed your expectations, as they did mine, by providing your students with hands-on, age appropriate, real, significant science and nature experiences. Their programs are aligned with our Grade Level Content Expectations and excite students about science. This company's hands-on science experiments were brought to our classroom and allowed my students to make observations and work with all kinds of materials and equipment. If you are interested in bringing this company into your classroom, here is the website to visit: <http://www.sciencemadefun.net/resources.php>.

I wanted to enhance our 4th grade science curriculum at Ojibwa Elementary by providing our students a fun,

interactive, and hands-on learning experience. Students were encouraged to explore science through discovery and inquiry - based learning. In this activity, students explored the amazing world of electricity. Students had the opportunity to discover "hands-on" what static electricity is by interacting with balloons and also with an electroscope. Students were also able to construct their own "electroscope" by using a plastic cup, a wire, aluminum foil, balloons, and play-doh. They took this activity home with them. Lastly, students had the opportunity to build series and parallel circuits and learn the path of electricity around a circuit. After students completed each activity, the presenter reviewed and summarized with the students, allowing them to ask appropriate questions. The presenter then discussed the importance of these concepts to the real world. Approximately 125 fourth graders from Ojibwa Elementary were the direct beneficiaries of this science program that was implemented. Please take some consideration into implementing this program into your science curriculum next fall. It was such a great learning experience for my fourth graders, and I would love to see your students benefit from the programs too!

### Elementary Level Curriculum Idea

## Detroit Zoological Society's "City Critters Outreach Program"

By Irum Ansari, Oakland University

Oakland University is one of those universities in Michigan that has an extensive and efficient education programs. Being an education student at the university, I am thoroughly benefitting from the elementary education undergraduate program that I am enrolled in.

*continued on page 11*



The screenshot shows the Detroit Zoo website. At the top, it says "DETROIT ZOO" in large white letters on a dark blue background. Below that is a navigation bar with links: HOME, EVENTS - NEWS, DETROIT ZOO TODAY, MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS, and VOLUN. The main content area is titled "CITY CRITTERS" in white. Underneath, there are links for BERMAN ACADEMY, ABOUT, OUTREACH INITIATIVES, TEACHER INITIATIVES, and ONSITE INITIATIVES. To the right of these links, there is a paragraph of text: "City Critters enables children to develop an neighborhoods. Learning about these creatu appreciate them. Children are encouraged This program teaches strategies to peacefu types of wildlife."