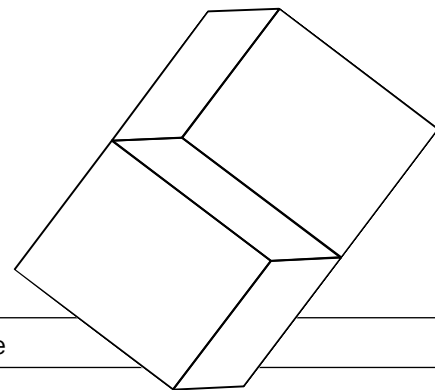


Cornerstones of Science

connecting children and adults to science & technology



Spring 2006

Curtis Memorial Library

Brunswick, Maine

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Technology in a Room with a View — April 27 at 7

Treehouse Chronicles: One Man's Dream of Life Aloft

Join award-winning author & photographer S. Peter Lewis and illustrator T.B.R. Walsh for the recounting of their three-year adventure building a treehouse in western Maine. Using recycled and found materials, and an innovative sling system designed to assure the continued health of the tree, Lewis and Walsh created an enchanting place whose story touches the child-like imagination within all of us. Lewis chronicled his journey with his camera and in a series of journals that later formed the heart of his award-winning book. During this evening presentation his vivid images will captivate you, and perhaps inspire the creation of your own special connection to the natural world. Lewis and Walsh will lead you through a multi-media tour of this delightful tree house, discuss the technology involved, and be available afterward to answer questions and autograph books.



Praise for *Treehouse Chronicles*

“One of the nastiest tricks of our culture is to insist that we “grow up,” replacing a playful relationship with the world around us with a businesslike and sober (and environmentally destructive) attitude. The authors, happily, have not succumbed to this virus; instead, they have produced something childlike, in all the finest senses of that word, as beguiling a house as there could be.”

Bill McKibben, author, *Wandering Home & The End of Nature*

Cornerstones Garners Highsmith Library Innovation Award

The Public Library Association's Highsmith Library Innovation Award is given annually in recognition of a public library's innovative and creative service program to the community. Six library professionals from across the nation serve as jurors of this highly competitive national award. Jocelyn Hubbell, Cornerstones of Science Coordinator, applied for the award on behalf of the library in November and was notified that the jurors selected Cornerstones as the winner in January, 2006. A formal presentation will take place in New Orleans in June at the American Library Association's annual conference. The President of the Highsmith, Inc. will present a plaque and the \$2,000 honorarium to Curtis Memorial Library in support of continued Cornerstones of Science innovation.



**Cornerstones programs expand to reach ages 7-adult.
All the March–June events are listed in this issue.**

Cornerstones of Science Program Index – Spring 2006

Look for details of these programs throughout this issue of the newsletter. All ages are welcome unless a specific age is listed. Details are also listed on the Cornerstones website, www.cornerstonesofscience.org

March, 2006

Community Read, *The Secret Life of Lobsters* by Trevor Corson. For up-to-the-minute program information for all locations, please check the Community Read website: www.midcoastreads.org

- 3/2 Science-In-Action Club for teens
- 3/2 Lobsters & Lobster Conservation - Dr. Diane Cowan, Founder, The Lobster Conservancy
- 3/3 Kinder Science: A Rainbow of Colors for 5 and 6 year-olds & parent
- 3/7 Kinder Science: A Rainbow of Colors for 5 and 6 year-olds & parent
- 3/14 Lobster Science for all ages, children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult
- 3/16 Science Sleuths: *Inventing the Future: A Photobiography of Thomas Alva Edison* by Marfé Ferguson Delano for 7 to 12 year-olds & parent
- 3/18 Saturday Science: Electricity & Light for 7 to 12 year-olds

April, 2006

- 4/4 Kinder Science: Astronaut Adventure for 5 and 6 year-olds & parent
- 4/4 Women & Science: *Silent Thunder: In the Presence of Elephants* by Katy Payne for teen girls & parent
- 4/6 Science-In-Action Club for teens
- 4/7 Kinder Science: Astronaut Adventure for 5 and 6 year-olds & parent
- 4/8 Dawin's Big Idea intended for teens age 15-18; however all are welcome
- 4/13 Science Sleuths: *International Space Station* by Franklyn M. Branley for 7 to 12 year-olds & parent
- 4/15 Saturday Science: Astronaut Adaptations for 7 to 12 year-olds

April School Vacation Week programs:

- 4/19 Press Room Science: Times Record Tour for 7 to 12 year-olds, parent optional
- 4/20 Eco-friendly Art & Science for teens

Programs in honor of Earth Day:

- 4/20 What Comes After Globalization? Local Economies and Human Well Being - Bill McKibben
- 4/21 The Environment as a Moral Issue: How Big Should People Be? - Bill McKibben
- 4/25 Humans and the Environment: What Legacy Will We Leave? - facilitated by Matthew Klinge
- 4/27 *Treehouse Chronicles: One Man's Dream of Life Aloft* with author S. Peter Lewis and illustrator T.B.R. Walsh

May, 2006

- 5/2 Kinder Science: Worms at Work for 5 and 6 year-olds & parent
- 5/2 Women & Science: *An Alchemy of the Mind, The Marvel and Mystery of the Brain* by Diane Ackerman for teen girls & parent
- 5/4 Science-In-Action Club for teens
- 5/5 Kinder Science: Worms at Work for 5 and 6 year-olds & parent
- 5/18 Science Sleuths: *DIRT* by Steve "The Dirtmaster" Tomecek for 7 to 12 year-olds & parent
- 5/20 Saturday Science: Soil Science for 7 to 12 year-olds
- 5/21 Children's Garden Work Day

June, 2006

- 6/1 Science-In-Action Club for teens
- 6/2 Kinder Science: Monarch Magic for 5 and 6 year-olds & parent
- 6/6 Kinder Science: Monarch Magic for 5 and 6 year-olds & parent
- 6/6 Women & Science: Explore the life and work of Jane Goodall for teen girls & parent
- 6/15 Science Sleuths: *Monarchs* by Kathryn Lasky for 7 to 12 year-olds & parent
- 6/17 Saturday Science: Monarch Migrations for 7 to 12 year-olds

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of Sciences, Retired

Three Discussions to Consider Global Warming, the Environment & the Future – for Earth Day

Bill McKibben to Speak April 20 & 21

Bill McKibben is the author of nine books on the environment and other topics. He comes to Brunswick April 20-21 for two talks on global warming and the environment at Bowdoin College. The Dept. of Environmental Studies and Cornerstones co-sponsor of this Earth Day series having McKibben for two presentations and concluding with a follow up discussion led by Matthew Klingle of Bowdoin on April 25 at Curtis Library.

McKibben's first book, the *End of Nature*, was also the first book for a general audience on global warming; it's now available in 20 foreign languages. A former staff writer for the *New Yorker*, his work appears in *Harpers*, the *Atlantic*, the *New York Review of Books*, and a variety of other national publications. A scholar in residence at Middlebury College, he is the recipient of Guggenheim and Lyndhurst fellowships and the Lannan Prize in Nonfiction Writing. His most recent book is *Wandering Home: A Long Walk Across America's Most Hopeful Region, Vermont's Champlain Valley and New York's Adirondacks*.



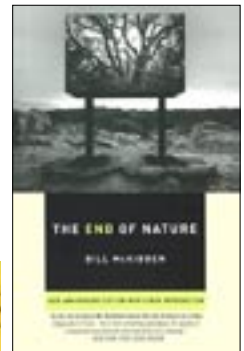
What Comes After Globalization?

Local Economies and Human Well Being

Thursday, April 20, 2006 7:30-8:30 pm

Druckenmiller Hall, Room 16, Bowdoin College

Join Bill McKibben for a discussion of one version of what might come next, as we attempt to deal with global warming, peak oil, and the curious fact that economic growth is no longer boosting human happiness.



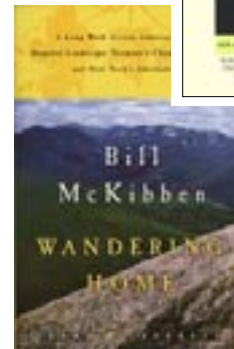
The Environment as a Moral Issue

How Big Should People Be?

Friday, April 21, 2006 12:30-1:30 pm

Kresge Auditorium, Kresge Visual Arts Center, Bowdoin College

Mr. McKibben will lead a discussion of global warming and other large-scale environmental dilemmas, with a particular attempt to understand not only the scientific data but what that data says about the societies we have built.



Brown Bag Lunch Discussion with Bowdoin's Matthew Klingle

Humans and the Environment: What Legacy Will We Leave?

Tuesday, April 25, 12 noon-1:00 pm, Brown Bag Lunch
Morrell Meeting Room, Curtis Memorial Library

Join guest facilitator, Matthew Klingle, Assistant Professor of History & Environmental Studies, Bowdoin College, to continue the discussion that Bill McKibben started through his lectures at Bowdoin College. This brown bag lunch session will start with a recap of the lectures before opening to facilitated discussion.

Cornerstones of Science MISSION

To connect children and adults to science & technology through superb books, programs and opportunities for community involvement in current scientific issues.

Cornerstones programs for teens encourage reading, thinking

Science-In-Action Club

First Thursday of every month, 4:00 to 5:00 pm,
Seminar Room

Meet Maine scientists and get hands-on experience with scientific research. Projects include water quality and vernal pool studies, invasive species control, monarch butterfly monitoring, and searching for stardust. Our first meeting, **March 2nd**, will be a planning session to pick and schedule our projects. Field projects (one per month) will be scheduled for afterschool hours and some Saturdays. Limited to 12 teens. Sign up at the Youth Services desk or call 725-5242 ext. 225 to register. If you are interested in the club but the meeting time is not convenient, please call Jocelyn at 725-5242 ext. 238

Darwin's Big Idea

Saturday, April 8, 1:00 to 3:00 pm,
Morrell Meeting Room

Evolution by natural selection, told through Charles Darwin's voyage around the globe and the dramatic story of the publication of his landmark text, "The Origin of Species," will be presented as a facilitated discussion by Barry Logan, Associate Professor of Biology, Bowdoin College. This program is intended for teens age 15-18; however, all are welcome. Copies of "The Origin of Species" are available at Curtis Memorial Library and through interlibrary loan.



Students at Maine Vocational Region Ten School work building the Barany chair for April's Saturday Science program, "Astronaut Adaptations" (see listings on page 5)

April Vacation Week programs

Wednesday, April 19, 3:00 to 4:15 pm

Press Room Science: Times Record Tour

for 7 to 12 year-olds, parent or caregiver optional
Watch the presses in action, see the giant rolls of paper, learn about the fascinating 4-color process and plate making, and get a chance to talk with the pressmen, reporters, and managers of the Times Record. Limited to 15 youth. Pre-registration required: call 725-5242 ext. 225, or stop by the Youth Services desk to register. We will meet at the Times Record.

Thursday, April 20, 10:30 to 12 noon; for teens

Eco-Friendly Art & Science

Make two wonderful eco-friendly art projects: a metal candle lantern and a mosaic mirror. You'll also learn how to survey your family's current "footprint" and creative ways to lessen your daily impact on the Earth.

Women & Science

A parent-teen reading group for teen girls

First Tuesday of every month, 6:30 to 7:30 pm, Morrell Room

Immerse yourself in the fascinating lives and work of women scientists and science writers through reading and discussion. We will also invite Maine women scientists and science writers to come speak to our group. Titles are listed for the first three sessions. Your suggestions are welcome for future reads. Books are available at Curtis Memorial Library and through interlibrary loan. Limited to 25 teens. Sign up at the Youth Services desk or call 725-5242 ext. 225 to register. NOTE: July 4 session re-scheduled to July 11.

Tuesday, April 4, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Silent Thunder: In the Presence of Elephants by Katy Payne
Younger readers may choose *Elephant Woman: Cynthia Moss Explores the World of Elephants* by Laurence Pringle

Tuesday, May 2, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

An Alchemy of Mind: The Marvel and Mystery of the Brain by Diane Ackerman. This book will be available at the Youth Services desk.

Tuesday, June 6, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Explore the life and work of Jane Goodall
Read any book by or about Jane Goodall and be prepared to share the most fascinating thing you learned about her life or work. Suggested titles by Jane Goodall: *Africa in My Blood: An Autobiography in Letters: The Early Years*, *Beyond Innocence: An Autobiography in Letters: The Later Years*, *Reason for Hope: A Spiritual Journey*, *Through a Window: My Thirty Years with the Chimpanzees of Gombe*; and for younger readers: *The Chimpanzees I Love: Saving Their World and Ours*.

Children's Garden Work Day

Sunday, May 21, 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Calling on all gardeners and green thumbs. We need your help to begin the conversion of the under-used Children's Garden into a Butterfly Garden. Tasks include improving the soil and removing and relocating plants during this first work session. Please bring your own gloves, shovels and trowels. Refreshments will be provided. Please e-mail or call Jocelyn to alert her of your participation: jhubbell@curtislibrary.com or 725-5242 ext. 238.

COS, Curtis, GPS & Geocache

Did you know that there are many Geocaches throughout the Brunswick/Harpswell area, including one at the library? You can now check out a handheld Global Positioning System unit from Curtis Memorial Library's circulation desk. Use your library card and driver's license to check out the GPS unit for three days. For more information about geocaches and geocaching log on to, www.geocaching.com, the official global GPS cache hunt site.

Real Science for 7 to 12 year-olds - two options every month

Science Sleuths

Parent-child book discussions for 7 to 12 year-olds and parent or caregiver

Third Thursday of every month, Morrell Meeting Room

Thursday, March 16, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Inventing the Future: A Photobiography of Thomas Alva Edison by Marfé Ferguson Delano

Thursday, April 13, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

(NOTE: this is the 2nd Thursday of the month)

Read one or both, we will discuss information from both books.

International Space Station by Franklyn M. Branley or *On the Shuttle: Eight Days in Space* by Barbara Bondar (for the older reader)

Thursday, May 18, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Read one or all of these selections, we will discuss information from each book. *DIRT* by Steve "The Dirtmeister" Tomecek (bright, picture-book style) or *Earthworms, Dirt, and Rotten Leaves* by Molly McLaughlin or *Earthworms: Underground Farmers* by Patricia Lauber (for the older reader)

Thursday, June 15, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Monarchs by Kathryn Lasky

Register for Saturday Science and Science Sleuths in pairs or individually at the Youth Services desk, Call 725-5242 ext. 225. Limited to 15 children.

Saturday Science

for 7 to 12 year-olds

Third Saturday of every month, Morrell Meeting Room

Saturday, March 18, 2 to 3:30 pm

Electricity & Light

Build your own simple lamp then experiment to learn amazing facts about light.

Saturday, April 15, 2 to 3:30 pm

Astronaut Adaptations

Experience vision shift goggles and the Barany chair, a training device used to teach pilots and astronauts about their vestibular system (inner ear), to find out if you could adapt to the life of an astronaut.

Saturday, May 20, 2 to 3:30 pm

Soil Science

Learn how soil is formed, classified, and enriched or depleted by animals and humans. We will make a simple composting container and get hands-on with earthworms.

Saturday, June 17, 2 to 3:30 pm

Monarch Migrations

Learn how scientists study and protect monarch butterflies and how you can help through the library's involvement with Monarch Watch. We will practice a few of the study techniques in class, learn how to make a butterfly garden and feeding station, then play the monarch migration game.

Kinder-Science for 5 & 6 year-olds and parents

First Tuesday and Friday of every month, Morrell Meeting Room, please register 725-5242 ext. 225, choose Tues. or Fri. Limited to 15 children.

Friday, March 3, 9:30 to 11 am or Tuesday, March 7, 4 to 5:30 pm

A Rainbow of Colors

We will read *Mouse Paint* by Ellen Stoll Walsh, make a color spinner to teach us about light and color, then play several games to show how color effects our brains.

Tuesday, April 4, 4 to 5:30 pm or Friday, April 7, 9:30 to 11 am

Astronaut Adventure

We will read *Floating in Space* by Franklin M. Branley then play several games to test our ability to adapt to changing conditions and learn what it would be like to live and work in space.

Tuesday, May 2, 4 to 5:30 or Friday, May 5, 9:30 to 11 am

Worms at Work

We will read *Wiggling Worms at Work* by Wendy Pfeffer, meet a worm up close, learn how worms improve the soil, make a simple composting container, and play the soil cycle game.

Friday, June 2, 9:30 to 11 am or Tuesday, June 6, 4 to 5:30 pm

Monarch Magic

We will read *From Egg to Butterfly* by Shannon Zemlicka, learn about the life cycle of monarch butterflies, play the metamorphosis & migration game, then learn how to become involved in the library's Monarch Watch project.

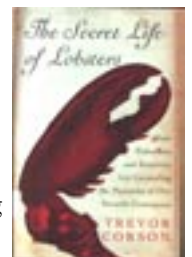
Community Read Cornerstones Event:

Lobster Science

Tuesday, March 14, 7-8:00 pm,
Morrell Meeting Room

for all ages, children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult

Meet a lobster up close and get hands on with the survey techniques scientists use to monitor juvenile lobsters along the coast of New England. One lucky audience member will be transformed into a lobster during the humorous and educational build-a-lobster game.



Cornerstones Nominees - The best new books of science and technology

Titles for Adults

American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of Robert J. Oppenheimer

by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin

The Ants

by Bert Hölldobler and Edward O. Wilson

The Discoveries: Great Breakthroughs in 20th Century Science, Including the Original Papers

by Alan Lightman

Great Waters: An Atlantic Passage

by Deborah Cramer

In the Beginning was the Worm: Finding the Secrets of Life in a Tiny Hermaphrodite

by Andrew Brown

Titles for Teens

The Cartoon Guide to Chemistry

by Larry Gonick and Craig Criddle

The Great Brain Book: An Inside Look at the Inside of Your Head

by HP Newquist

Invisible Enemies: Stories of Infectious Diseases

by Jeanette Farrell

Titles for Youth & Children

Boy, Were We Wrong About Dinosaurs!

By Kathleen V. Kudlinski

Prehistoric Actual Size

by Steve Jenkins

Spiders and Their Webs

by Darlyne A. Murawski

Check them out!

These titles are all available at Curtis Memorial Library

Read, Write & Win - 2006

COS Book Review Contest open to grades 3-12 in public school, private school, or home school, worldwide

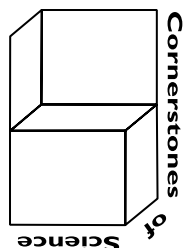
Returning for its third year, Read, Write & Win is back to engage students with great science reads and challenge them to write. New this year, students can also submit illustrations inspired by a Cornerstones nominated book.

To enter, students select a Cornerstones Nominee book, check the book review writing and illustration guidelines (the list of books and guidelines can be found at www.cornerstonesofscience.org), then write a review and/or draw an illustration.

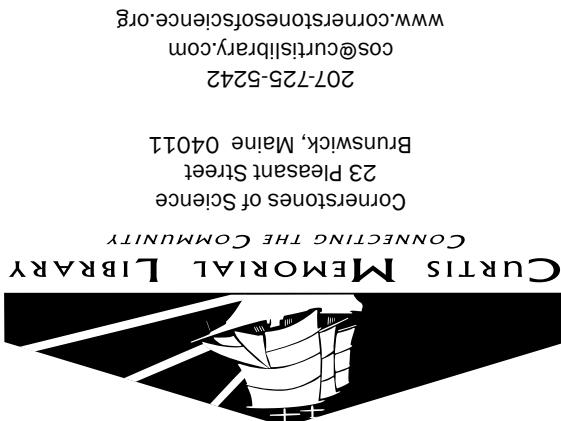
All entries must be in English. Book reviews and illustrations must be e-mailed or post marked by April 24, 2006. E-mail to jhubbell@curtislibrary.com OR mail to Jocelyn Hubbell, Cornerstones of Science, Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, ME 04011.

Gift certificates to Gulf of Maine books or your local bookstore will be given to writers of the top three reviews and artists of the top three illustrations in each grade. All entrants will receive a certificate of participation.

Winners will be announced by May 19, 2006.



Cornerstones of Science is an award-winning national science literacy initiative originating from Curtis Memorial Library.



www.cornerstonesofscience.org

cos@curtislibrary.com

207-725-5242

Brunswick, Maine 04011

23 Pleasant Street
Cornerstones of Science

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