

Water Education Assemblies



SOQUEL CREEK
WATER DISTRICT

Youth/School Education - Assemblies

Since the early 1980s, Soquel Creek Water District (District) has provided water education programming to schools within its service area, with consistent annual water assemblies for over 20 years.

These programs have focused on key local water issues, including groundwater, seawater intrusion, water conservation, and more recently, recycled water.

ZunZun

- **The Water Beat Show**
- ZunZun is a dynamic husband-and-wife duo— Stephen Snyder and Gwynne Snyder Cropsey—who have been performing together since 1992. Their mission is to celebrate the environments and cultures of the Americas through music.
- They incorporate over 30 traditional instruments into their performances, creating vibrant, bilingual (Spanish/English) shows that engage audiences of all ages. ZunZun has performed in 14 countries and reaches over 100,000 people annually. Their programs often focus on environmental themes, such as water conservation and watershed education, and are popular in schools, libraries, and festivals throughout the Bay Area.



Earthcapades

- **The H2O Show**
- EarthCapades is an environmental education performance group co-founded by Hearty and Lissin Lev Chaya. Combining circus arts, storytelling, music, juggling, and comedy, their shows aim to teach audiences about environmental awareness, water science, and conservation. Programs like "The H2O Show" take audiences on a journey through the water cycle, emphasizing the importance of protecting our natural resources. EarthCapades has over 25 years of experience presenting educational assemblies that align with state science standards, making learning fun and engaging for students across the Bay Area.



Banana Slug String Band

- **We All Live Downstream**
- Formed in 1985 in Santa Cruz, the Banana Slug String Band is a group of educators and musicians—Doug "Dirt" Greenfield, "Airy" Larry Graff, "Solar" Steve Van Zandt, and "Marine" Mark Nolan—who use music to teach children about environmental topics. Their performances blend folk, rock, reggae, and rap to create catchy, educational songs on subjects like the food chain, water cycles, and ocean conservation. With over 12 albums and performances in 40 states and 5 countries, they've reached more than 2 million people. Their engaging shows often feature characters like Mr. Dirt and Peter the Penguin, making science and environmental education accessible and fun for young audiences.



Rock Steady Juggling

- **Go With the Flow**
- Rock Steady Juggling, led by Doug Nolan, is a Bay Area-based performance group that combines juggling, comedy, and environmental education. Their shows, such as "Go With the Flow," use humor and circus skills to teach audiences about topics like water conservation, recycling, and sustainability. Performances are tailored for schools, libraries, and community events, aiming to inspire both children and adults to take positive environmental actions. With interactive elements and a focus on audience participation, Rock Steady Juggling makes learning about the environment an entertaining experience.



Proposed Expansion and Solicitation of Performers

- To increase the reach of this initiative, the District is collaborating with the City of Santa Cruz to expand the program to include eligible schools across Santa Cruz and Live Oak area.
- This joint effort builds on both agencies' shared mission of fostering environmental stewardship and engaging youth in the principles of sustainable water use and the "One Water" Concept.
- As part of the proposed expansion of the youth outreach programming, a release for proposal (RFP) will be issued in June seeking up to four qualified organizations to deliver interactive, educational, on-campus water assemblies for elementary school students.

Schools to be Served

Bay View Elementary, Santa Cruz

DeLaveaga Elementary , Santa Cruz

Del Mar Elementary, Aptos

Gateway School, Santa Cruz

Gault Elementary, Santa Cruz

Green Acres Elementary, Live Oak

Holy Cross Elementary, Santa Cruz

Live Oak Elementary, Live Oak

Main Street Elementary, Soquel

Mar Vista Elementary, Aptos

Mountain Elementary School, Soquel

Opal Cliffs Schools (TK), La Selva Beach

Orchard School, Soquel

Rio Del Mar Elementary, Aptos

Santa Cruz Children's School, Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz Gardens Elementary, Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz Montessori School, Aptos

Spring Hill School, Santa Cruz

Soquel Elementary, Soquel

St. Abraham's Classical Christian Academy,
Aptos

Tara Redwood School, Soquel

Tierra Pacifica, Live Oak

Twin Lakes Christian School, Aptos

Valencia Elementary, Aptos

Westlake Elementary, Santa Cruz