

# ***NATURE CONNECTIONS*** invites you to attend:

## **YOUNG INVESTIGATORS: *Connecting Children with Nature through Project Work***

**Cohort III, Year 2:**

### **Deepening Your Skills in Project Work**

Location: Iowa Lakeside Laboratory and Regent's Resource Center  
1838 Iowa Highway 86, Milford, IA

**Save the Dates!**

**Sept. 16  
and Oct. 14,  
2015**

**Trainer: Dr. Judy Harris Helm**, author of Becoming Young Thinkers: Deep Project Work in the Classroom

#### **Cohort III, Year 2 Teams:**

Algona  
Alta-Aurelia  
Clarion/Goldfield/Dows  
Gilmore City/Bradgate  
North Union  
Laurens Marathon  
Okoboji Head Start  
Sheldon  
Spencer



#### **Team Expectations:**

- Attend two days of training on September 16, and October 14, 2015
- Complete two nature-based projects
- Administrator attendance on September 16, 2015
- *Professional development credit will require attendance and preparation/display of documentation panels on April 20, 2016, at the Project Sharing Afternoon*

#### **GOALS OF THE SESSIONS:**

Session One: *Participants will learn:*

- the neuroscience implications of deep project work
- how to define and recognize deep project work
- how to recognize topics with most potential for mind/brain capacity growth and nature connection
- how to get, analyze and extend children's questions in project work and the out-of-doors
- how to ask questions as a teacher
- how to recognize and use variables in science and nature
- how to create provocations

Session Two: *Participants will learn:*

- how to help children create awesome representations
- how to analyze a project for authenticity
- John Dewey's vision of project work
- "Teaching on the Fly"
- how to integrate required curriculum & standards (increasing math and literacy).

**Professional development credit will be offered.**

#### **Nature Connections of Northwest Iowa Partners:**

UDMO Head Start/Early Head Start, Iowa Lakeside Laboratory and Regent's Resource Center, Regent's Center for Early Developmental Education, Prairie Lakes AEA 8, Early Childhood Iowa: Lakes Region, Creative Ventures, Northwest AEA, Friends of Lakeside Lab, Patrice and Rita Leary Foundation, Area Naturalists & Educators, and the Iowa DNR

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