



Nature Connection Catalogue

Outdoor Learning
Programs



BLUE DOT EDUCATION

*Designing learning experiences for
hope, joy + wonder*

 www.bluedoteducation.org

 San Diego, CA 92109

 [bluedot_education](https://www.instagram.com/bluedot_education)





Blue Dot Education's Theory of Learning states that people can experience transformational moments of change through shared experiences of making and doing that center on belonging and valuing the group's lived experiences. We believe that learning experiences in nature, in reciprocity with ecosystems, bring the greatest benefit to the community and the land we occupy.

One of our missions at Blue Dot Education is to activate the next generation of environmental stewards. We believe the best way to start that process is by inspiring hope, joy, and wonder in the outdoor experiences of young people.

When someone experiences hope, joy, and wonder in a place they fall in love with it, and when someone loves a place they want to care for it.

"Our goal is and will be to offer immersive nature-based experiences. We understand that seeing a large, exotic animal such as a wolf or bear in captivity has its place in creating awe and wonder in a learning environment. Our work is to push ourselves and our community toward finding that same awe in the way the wind moves through a tall grassy meadow, in the mating dance of lizards on a desert rock, in the songs of birds as the sun crests the horizon, or in the mesmerizing, ever present crashing of waves against the shoreline. With that in mind, we offer the following..."

Brian Delgado, Co-Founder & Learning Designer



Our trips + Booking Process



**BLUE DOT
EDUCATION**

Our trips align with curriculum in a multitude of ways. We believe in fostering organic experiences for your community to explore the outdoors in a supportive environment. We aspire to enable participants to discover their own unique, meaningful connections to nature, their fellow community members, and themselves. For these reasons, our trip itineraries are fluid; we find it critical to leave space to evolve to meet people where they are in the moment.

We have formalized our offerings for community members in this packet to create structure around these offerings and ground them in the foundations of meaningful, communal experiences as a starting point for building deep relationships with the land we inhabit.

Guiding Questions:

- How might we support communities to engage in *rich, nature-based learning experiences* that put them in a position to *engage in deep discourse*?
- How might we more deeply grow a *culture of belonging, learning, and growing together* while simultaneously creating a reciprocal relationship with natural spaces?

We Provide

A guided and one of a kind immersive nature experience for your group, and...

- Meals, snacks, and drinks for all participants
- Transportation costs
- Any entrance fees, permits, adventure passes, and parking costs required for the destination
- All activity and safety equipment
- Activity and media waivers
- A fluid agenda for your trip paired with a suggested packing list for students and chaperones

You Provide

- Participant count: You will need to communicate how many students and how many adults for your trip. Please give an approximate number when inquiring and a finalized headcount at least a week prior to your trip.
 - Consider that certain locations require permits and have participant limitations which require advance notices.
- Special accommodations: If any students or chaperones have special needs requiring accommodation please communicate this as well as what those accommodations are (this includes dietary restrictions).
- Permission slips and anything else required by your site administrator.
- An accurate departure time/update on the day of your trip





Rock Climb

JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK SEPTEMBER-APRIL

MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK SEPTEMBER-MAY
(March & April are ideal)

Spend a day with a club or a class out climbing rocks in Mission Trails Regional Park or Joshua Tree National Park. Play on stone while learning the systems that keep folks safe with a seasoned guide service.

Rock Climbing in a team setting promotes problem solving skills, working memory, and communication and collaboration skills like active listening, team safety, and encouragement. It also physically tests strength and endurance, coordination and balance, as well as flexibility.

IDEAL AGE: 12-18 YRS

MAX PARTICIPANTS: INQUIRE FOR INFO



Hike

MOUNT LAGUNA REGION MARCH-OCTOBER

SUNSET CLIFFS NATURAL PRESERVE YEAR ROUND

MORLEY FIELD & FLORIDA CANYON AT BALBOA PARK MARCH-MAY

SAN DIEGO CANYONS YEAR ROUND

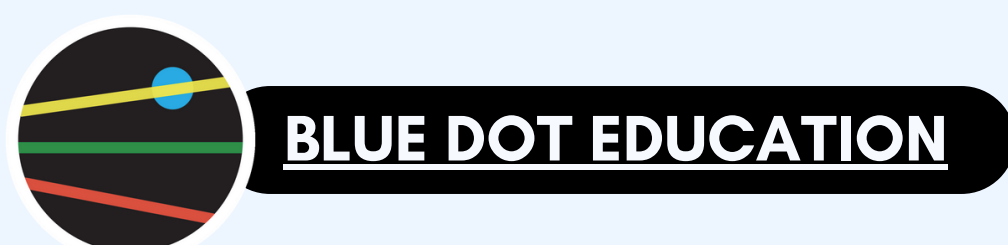
MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK SEPTEMBER-MAY
(March & April are ideal)

THE CUYAMACAS MARCH-NOVEMBER

Participate in a group hike while learning about the ecosystems of the surrounding environment. Explore both your interests and the collective interests of the group organically in nature. Through this engagement and connection to the land, we hope you gain increased understanding, appreciation, and respect for it. We often receive feedback that this results in the comprehension of and desire to preserve these natural spaces.

AGE GROUP: 5-18 YRS

MAX PARTICIPANTS: ONE CLASS



Surf

SAN DIEGO YEAR ROUND

Connect with nature and your community in the Pacific Ocean! Visit the coast and receive a professional surf lesson with your peers.

AGE GROUP: 12-18 YRS

MAX PARTICIPANTS: 20 STUDENTS

CONSIDERATIONS: TIDE DEPENDENT



Camp

THE CUYAMACAS MARCH-NOV

JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK SEPT-APRIL

MOUNT LAGUNA MEADOW MARCH-OCT

ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK OCT-APRIL

Experience an overnight camping trip at an iconic Southern California Park. This night can include astronomy as well as ecosystem field work, hiking, rock climbing and storytelling.

AGE GROUP: 5-18 YRS

JOSHUA TREE 12-18 YRS

MAX PARTICIPANTS: INQUIRE FOR INFO



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Shallow Water Exploration

SAN DIEGO APRIL - OCTOBER

Snorkel

Nature Photography

Kayak

Stand-up Paddleboard

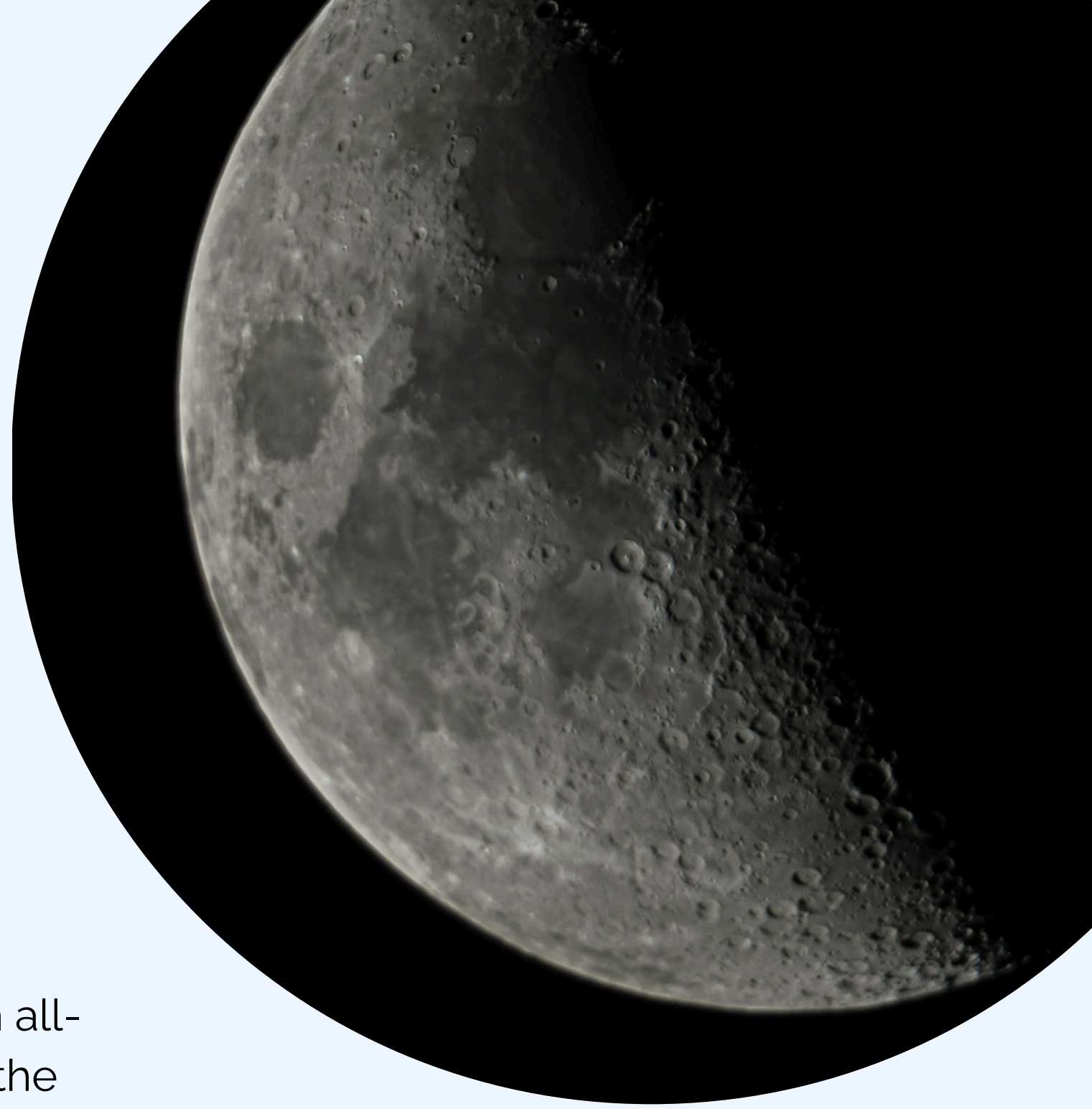
Discover the underwater wilderness that is San Diego's coast and explore shallow waters on crafts. Students and chaperones will engage in ecology discussions and wildlife exploration while playing in shallow water and searching for sea creatures!



IDEAL AGE RANGE: 5-18 YRS
MAX PARTICIPANTS: ONE CLASS



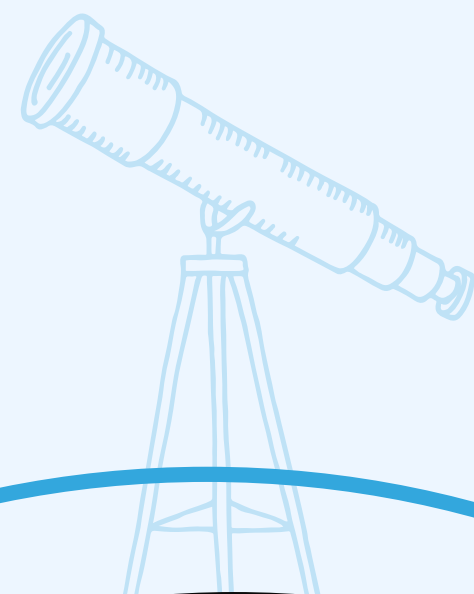
Community Astronomy Night



VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Blue Dot Ed will set up telescopes as part of an all-school community event. Events can vary, but the entire community is invited to participate!

**ALL AGES
UNLIMITED PARTICIPANTS**



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Discover Tide Pools

SUNSET CLIFFS YEAR ROUND

CABRILLO NATIONAL MONUMENT YEAR ROUND

LA JOLLA YEAR ROUND

Explore the intertidal zone in La Jolla, Sunset Cliffs or in Cabrillo National Monument. This offers the chance to see creatures in the intertidal zone including sea slugs, star fish, sea anemones, hermit crabs and octopi, among many others!

AGE GROUP: 5-18 YRS

MAX PARTICIPANTS: ONE CLASS

CONSIDERATIONS: TIDE DEPENDENT



the not-so-fine print

BECAUSE WE'RE TRANSPARENT ABOUT OUR POLICIES

While we strive to provide accurate and up-to-date information, there are factors beyond our control—such as changes in government funding regulations, natural area permitting requirements, and other unforeseen circumstances—that may require adjustments be made to our programs with little to no notice.

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Testimonials

"Last Saturday's field trip was phenomenal. All of the students had an amazing time. To begin, Blue Dot, thank you so much for arranging these amazing activities for our students. Students did nature photography, flew a drone, and took pictures and videos utilizing the drone; they did paddle boarding, everyone enjoyed the meal, the food was delicious. The most incredible, unexpected surprise and treat was that we all got to experience whale watching in Mission Bay: a blue whale. Everything was so well planned. Blue Dot, you are so detail-oriented and CHS Robotics is very appreciative of what you did for us."

Mario, Educator at Calexico High School

"...Thank you everyone at Blue Dot for everything you did with the robotics team and for everything you've done for Calexico."

Jesus, Educational Coach at Calexico High School

"Blue Dot, we are immensely grateful for the amazing opportunities you have brought to Calexico. Our students and families will cherish these moments forever. Your outdoor experiences offer a whole new level of learning that truly stands out.

Thank you so much for everything!"

Karina, Director at Calexico Unified School District

"Thank you for the amazing experience our eagles had the opportunity to live thanks to your program. I appreciate your time and dedication."

Alejandra, Educator at Kennedy Gardens Elementary

"I just wanted to take the time to thank all of you for making our field trip an amazing experience. My students had so much fun! Everything was so organized and planned and everyone was incredibly fantastic. TK is all about intentional play but you guys went above and beyond! "All I could hear when they woke up (including the parents) on the way back was the frogs' and tadpoles' habitats, pine needles, cones, and acorns, flowers and of course, the ladybugs!" made this possible and we're tremendously thankful."

Monica, Educator at Cesar Chavez Elementary



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