

# TAKE AN EXPEDITION IN YOUR OWN SCHOOLYARD!

## Join the Will Steger Foundation on An Exploration of Minnesota's Changing Climate

In May 2010, Minnesota's Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) allocated \$250,000 to the Will Steger Foundation's project, *Engaging Students in Environmental Stewardship through Adventure Learning*, to support the development of a new curriculum, teacher

training, online learning and collaboration with schools. The overarching goal of the project is to build awareness and interest in Minnesota's natural environment and the impact of climate change, and to provide educators and students with the tools necessary for active and life-long stewardship.

*All grade 3-12 classrooms and homeschool cooperative or families are invited to participate in this exciting project during the 2011-2012 school year! Please Join us as a Participating or Explorer Classroom!*

### Benefits of Participation

*Participating classrooms and educators will receive:*

- Tuition for one educator to attend the 2011 Summer Institute for Climate Change Education where curriculum training will be provided. Date and Location TBD.
- A copy of *Minnesota's Changing Climate* five lesson unit, aligned to Minnesota State Standards and focused on:
  - building awareness and interest in Minnesota's natural environment and the impact of climate change
  - development of skills useful in exploring the natural environment
  - development of an environmental stewardship project
- Access to an online classroom that includes information and activities correlated to *Minnesota's Changing Climate Curriculum*, as well as opportunities for statewide peer to peer interaction.
- Will Steger Foundation staff support throughout the year.
- The opportunity for students and classrooms to showcase the outcomes of their participation in a fair held in the spring of 2012.
- The opportunity to apply to be an *Explorer* classroom. Five *Explorer* classrooms from throughout the state will be selected.

### In addition, *Explorer* Classrooms will receive:

- A classroom visit from Will Steger during the school year.
- Recognition via the online classroom and WSF newsletters as an *Explorer* classroom.
- A classroom set of *Explorer* tools that may include weather instruments and digital cameras.
- Travel and accommodations for one educator to attend the Summer Institute 2012, as well as the spring fair.

### Expectations of Participation

*Participating classrooms and educators are expected to:*

- Attend the 2011 Summer Institute for Climate Change Education.
- Use at least a portion of the *Minnesota's Changing Climate* five lesson unit.
- Participate in short evaluation opportunities.

### Participating Classrooms are Strongly Encouraged to:

- Use the online classroom.
- Implement the entire five-lesson plan unit.
- Plan and implement an environmental stewardship project in their school or community
- Attend the spring 2012 fair to showcase the outcomes of their participation.

### In addition to the above, Explorer Classrooms are expected to:

- Interact with other Explorer classrooms via the online classroom, or webinar to be facilitated by Will Steger Foundation staff.

### Summary of Time Commitment

#### *The minimum time commitment for a Participating classroom:*

- Participation in a one to one and half day Summer Institute.
- Implementation of two one hour lessons throughout the 2011-2012 school year.
- (Total: Approximately 12 training hours, 3 classroom hours, including prep and lesson implementation)

#### *The minimum time commitment for an Explorer classroom:*

- Participation in a one to one and half day Summer Institute
- Implementation of five one hour lessons throughout the 2011-2012 school year
- At least three visits to the online classroom for content
- Interaction with other Explorer classrooms
- Participation in the spring 2012 fair to showcase outcomes of the project.
- (Total: Approximately 12 training hours, 12 classroom hours and one day at final fair)

## Questions?

Please visit our webpage at: <http://www.willstegerfoundation.org/index.php/new-minnesotas-changing-climate>

Contact Kristen Poppleton, [kristen@willstegerfoundation.org](mailto:kristen@willstegerfoundation.org) or 612-278-7147.

Apply today via our website, or fill out an application and return it to:

Kristen Poppleton  
Will Steger Foundation  
2801 21st Ave S. Suite 127  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

\*\*\*If you are interested in pilot testing lessons during the Spring of 2011, please contact Kristen Poppleton\*\*\*



2801 21st Ave S, Suite 127 Minneapolis, MN 55407 tel 612.278.7147 fax 612.278.7101

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