

Dear EOAS members,

Please consider the following request by a Kirkbride Elementary School teacher for speakers on anthropogenic effects on biodiversity and climate:

Hello,

My name is Shanah Fedder and I am writing on behalf of the intermediate teaching team at Kirkbride Elementary School in Surrey. We are writing to request a visit from a skilled and passionate presenter about the issues affecting our planet in order to inspire our students and move them from passive to active responders at a key point of their lives. Our students are enthusiastic learners and would benefit from any support you could offer.

Kirkbride's 110 grade 4 and 5 students in four classes are continuing their inquiry into biodiversity this year, a learning journey which began last year. As a teaching team, we are co-teaching a collaboratively planned and executed intensive unit under the title "The Trouble with Mother: Our Earth in Jeopardy?" from January to mid-March. Our goal is to move students from a general study of the earth's biomes to the effects of human interaction on these biomes.

For your information, Kirkbride is an inner city school where many families are challenged by social and economic issues related to poverty. Our students experience limitations of experience and access to learning venues as a result. In the face of these challenges as a staff community we seek ways to motivate our students and to engage them in meaningful, relevant inquiry learning to provide them tools and opportunities that enable them to fulfill their personal and academic potentials.

I am seeking your assistance in enabling Kirkbride students to have a common experience and point of reference to inspire their inquiry and make their learning meaningful. Thank-you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Chuck Kosman

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