

# Earth's Kids



## About Earth's Kids

Earth's Kids is an educational and community action volunteer organization which seeks to connect parents, teachers, and children with the information, resources, and opportunities they need to live joyfully and make a positive impact on their community and their world. Resources for teachers & professional caregivers include age appropriate craft and learning activities, recipes for making your own sensory materials, and links to fun and affordable instructional materials and classroom supplies, as well as articles on child development, positive discipline, stress management, child advocacy, and more. Parent resources also include a listing of local playgroups and parent support groups as well as the central California directory Places To Go with Kids. Earth's Kids features many "Fun & Learning" pages for kids filled with tips, links, and activity ideas as well as resources for giving service in the community and for taking action on behalf of preserving wildlife and the natural environment. Earth's Kids was founded in 1999.

## About Linnaea Avenell

Linnaea Avenell is an experienced writer and educator specializing in the fields of Early Childhood Education and self-actualization. Linnaea holds the certificate in Early Childhood Education from U.C. Santa Cruz and completed the CTC approved course of studies in adult instruction from San Jose State University. She has Designated Subjects Adult Education Credentials in both Parent Education and Computer Applications. Linnaea also completed a B.A. in Anthropology at U.C.S.C. with an emphasis on women's roles, child development, and gender socialization in cross cultural settings. Her 20 years of experience in the ECE field has spanned a variety of roles from instructional aide to lead teacher to administrator in a broad array of settings -- including child care centers, parent participation preschool, in home daycare, and K-2 elementary classes. In addition she has many years of formal and informal training in meditation, spiritual studies, and holistic healing and taught and directed youth spiritual education for many years.



Linnaea Avenell currently teaches preschool and parent education through Wilson Preschool and Santa Clara Adult Education, and is the Director of Earth's Kids ([www.earthskids.com](http://www.earthskids.com)). As a mom with three

children, and many hats to wear, Linnaea is profoundly sympathetic to the challenges faced by both working parents and early childhood educators and enjoys sharing the tools she has so generously been given by the many teachers and mentors she has been privileged to work with over the years.

## Recent News

- ❖ Look for the soon to be released DVD of our recent webinar for CAPP (California Alternative Payment Program Association), a California nonprofit organization which advocates for and facilitates family access to quality child care, supportive services and early education and development programs. <http://www.cappaonline.com/> The topic of the webinar is “Where Does the Time Go? Stress Management and Tips for the Overwhelmed Child Care Provider”. This program originally aired in a live webcast on Thursday March 18, 2010 and featured a presentation by Earth’s Kids director Linnaea Avenell. We are pleased to report that according to CAPP education & meeting coordinator Danielle Conley the feedback from participating childcare centers was “very positive”.
- ❖ Earth’s Kids was recently acknowledged by Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo counties for achieving the Bronze Award for 2009 food & fund drive efforts. In keeping with its goal of helping children realize their capacity for effective community action, Earth’s Kids partnered with local school children to support the Share Your Lunch drive which provides food for underprivileged children in the Bay Area.
- ❖ Earth’s Kids is pleased to announce that we have been selected by Candlewick Press to review new title releases in the subject area of environmental education and social action. Selections include picture books for preschool and elementary children as well as works for the YA audience. More on this soon!
- ❖ We are excitedly awaiting publication of Professor Claire Rabin’s upcoming book which will include a chapter written by Earth’s Kids director Linnaea Avenell on nurturing a sense of empowerment in children. The focus of Dr. Rabin’s books is on supporting children whose parents are going through the process of divorce.
- ❖ Santa Clara families are looking forward to a new course offering from Earth’s Kids director Linnaea Avenell and E.K. community outreach coordinator Mike Avenell: "**Meditation and Stress Management for Parents, Teachers, & Caregivers**". This course will combine Linnaea’s experience as a parent educator with Mike’s skill as a certified meditation instructor. As long time students and practitioners of meditation and stress management techniques, they both look forward to sharing the tools that have helped them become happier, calmer, and more responsive parents. This course is currently in development.
- ❖ Earth’s Kids is on Facebook! With our new organization/fan page our news items and resource recommendations can be quickly shared with our Facebook contacts *and* streamed directly from Facebook to [www.earthskids.com](http://www.earthskids.com) via our “fanbox”. Most importantly, we look forward to increased interactivity with friends and fans and the opportunity to give parents and teachers a greater voice in sharing their wisdom with one another. Please stop by to say hello!