

# Summer Questing Institute

Tuesday July 7 to Thursday July 9, 2009



Our intensive three-day, residential\* training program is designed by one of the nation's leading experts in Quest development and place-based education. We use field trips, talks, hands-on activities, community meetings, and lots of resource materials to introduce you to the greater Muscongus Bay area, to the concepts and importance of place-based education, and to the specific mechanics of Quest development. The program also includes group development of two Muscongus Bay Quests based in downtown Waldoboro.

This year the institute will be housed on the shores of Damariscotta Lake in the comfortable and relaxing setting of Camp Kieve's Kennedy Learning Center in Nobleboro, Maine. The Center offers a peaceful retreat with wonderful meals and lovely rooms. Scheduled breaks give you time to enjoy reading on the porch, soaking in the hot tub, walking the wooded trails or swimming, canoeing or kayaking off the Center's private dock.

\* Overnight stays are negotiable for those who need flexibility to meet family needs.

## Program Expectations

- Participate in the entire three-day Summer Institute program
- Develop a Quest with your classroom during the 2009-2010 school year
- Help other members of your teaching team and their classrooms to join us in the development of this Quest
- Come with the support of your teaching team
- Come with the support of your school administrator
- Participate in program evaluations



# QUESTING TO LEARN

## Connecting Schools, Kids & Communities

2009 Summer Teachers Institute



July 7 to July 9, 2009 - Kennedy Learning Center at Camp Kieve, Nobleboro, Maine

Discover the remarkable stories and special places of the Muscongus Bay region while learning an effective, meaningful way to awaken your students to the distinctiveness of their coastal environment and community. Enter the wonderful world of *Questing* where students research, develop, design and publish poems and maps that cleverly entice others to explore this bay area.



Start with QLF's three-day Summer Questing Institute where you will develop the skills and experience you need to lead your students in the development of a local Muscongus Bay Quest. Then, work with QLF's Community Learning Coordinator during the school year to get the support you and your teaching team need to integrate Questing into your curriculum, to bring community members into your classrooms, to bring your students out into their community, and to celebrate your students' achievement.

## More on Questing

A Quest is a community treasure hunt. Supplied with a site map and a rhyming poem full of directional and informational clues, Questors connect the pieces of a local story as they move across a given area by foot, bike, boat, or vehicle. At the last stop they find a hidden treasure box containing the Quest stamp (for the Questor's passport), a sign-in book, and any variety of additional materials pertaining to the Quest topic.

Creating a Quest with your students is the quintessential place-based education experience. It is a fun, hands-on, project-based way to cover MLR concepts in English language arts, science, social studies, visual arts, physical education and career preparation while increasing student knowledge and concern about their community and its place within the greater Muscongus Bay region.



Photo courtesy of Herring Gut Learning Center

*Place-Based Education is the process of using the local community and environment as a starting point to teach concepts in language arts, science, math, social studies and other subjects across the curriculum. Emphasizing hands-on, real world learning experiences, this approach to education increases academic achievement, helps students develop stronger ties to their community, enhances students appreciation for the natural world and creates a heightened commitment to serving as active contributing citizens.*

Place-Based Education: Connecting Classrooms & Communities by David Sobel



## Program Highlights

- An intensive three-day, two-night **SUMMER QUESTING INSTITUTE** providing Questing training by one of the nation's leading experts in Quest program development and place-based education
- Extensive **CLASSROOM SUPPORT** (e.g. securing permission for site use, coordinating materials, supplies and community members, organizing field trip transportation) provided by the Community Learning Coordinator at QLF's Waldoboro office
- Program **FEE WAIVER** for 4th to 8th grade teachers in Union74, MSAD50, and MSAD40 covering institute lodging, meals, and resource materials
- **CLASSROOM QUESTING FUND** for school year projects to help cover the costs of student transportation, Quest publishing, and teacher planning time
- A culminating, multi-school **MUSCONGUS BAY QUEST FEST** for all participating classrooms and community members to share and learn about each others' Muscongus Bay Quests at the end of the school year
- **TEACHER TRAINING BENEFITS** including \$200 summer institute stipends and 2.5 Continuing Education Credits through the University of Southern Maine (or 25 professional development hours) for the Summer Questing Institute, and/or 3 graduate credits (through Antioch University New England for a fee of \$250) upon documentation and implementation of a Quest development lesson plan for your class

# QUESTING TO LEARN

## Connecting Schools, Kids & Communities

### 2009 Program Application\*

*Eligibility: Individual teachers and non-formal educators are welcome to apply. Space is limited. Preference will be given to 4th to 8th grade teachers from MSAD 50, MSAD 40, and Union 74.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School/organization \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Administrator's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teaching Team's Names \_\_\_\_\_

School/organization address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School/work Tel \_\_\_\_\_ Home Tel \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

(Circle your preferred means of contact)

Do you want CEU's from USM?

es  nb

Do you want proof of professional development hours from QLF?

es  nb

Do you want graduate credits from Antioch University New England?

es  nb

**Please attach the following materials to this application:**

1. Course fee (payable to Quebec-Labrador Foundation, Inc.) includes all Institute costs, e.g. food, lodging, instruction, and materials: \$600.00

Check here for an automatic *course fee waiver* if you are a 4th to 8th grade classroom teacher from MSAD40, MSAD50, or School Union 74.

Check here if you do not qualify for an automatic course fee waiver and require financial assistance, if available, to participate. We will contact you with further details.

2. Support Letter from your Administrator

3. Support Letter from a member of your Teaching Team

4. A brief description (one page or less) about what you hope to gain professionally by participating in the *Questing to Learn* program and, if appropriate, how you have used *place-based education* approaches in the past.

\* Form and brochure also available online at [www.qlf.org](http://www.qlf.org) in "Events" section on home page

Return completed application (with attachments) by mail or email to:

**Community Learning Coordinator**  
**QLF Field Desk**  
**P.O. Box 335**  
**Waldoboro, Maine**  
**04572**

**Tel: (207) 832-8109**  
**astires@qlf.org**

**SPACE IS LIMITED.**  
 After May 1, 2009 please contact us before applying to ensure availability of openings.