



# DRS EARTHWISE

*"Cultivating Sustainable Communities"*

**MEDIA RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

**June 14, 2005**

Page 1 of 1

## **New Nature Program Helps Kids Disconnect From the Wired World**

**Delta, BC** – Children today are living in a wired world, and most have little opportunity to get outside and enjoy the sunshine. Children's lives are primarily lived indoors: in a classroom, in front of the television, on the computer or inside a vehicle. Today's environmental educators are concerned about children's decreasing involvement with nature and how all this 'indoor living' will affect their life and learning.

"Positive interactions with the natural environment are an important part of healthy child development," wrote author Ruth Wilson for ERIC Digest, "and these interactions enhance learning and the quality of life over the span of one's lifetime."

Spending time in a garden is a great way to teach children about nature. Every Thursday in July, DRS Earthwise presents Earthwise Eco-Kids Days at the McKittrick Earthwise Garden, where children can enjoy exciting environmentally-themed crafts, games, snacks and other eco-activities. The McKittrick Earthwise Garden is the perfect place for kids to stay cool in the summer heat and learn about the natural world around them at the same time.

"It's a great way for children to learn about the ecosystem we live in," says Christine Cummings, community programs developer for DRS Earthwise. "At the end of the day, children will go home with an understanding and appreciation of nature and their place in it."

Eco-Kids days are all about showing children the magic of nature and the garden will help children discover this exciting world. The theme for the July 7 opening day is 'Bird and Bug Bonanza', July 14 is 'Groovy Greenery and Funky Flowers', the July 21 theme is 'Slippery, Slimy, Goopy and Gross' and the July 28 closing day is 'Wacky Water Wizardry'. The program is for children aged 5-8, runs from 10am-3pm and the cost is \$20 per child per day, or \$70 for all four. For more information or to register, call 604-946-9828.

Media Contact: Sondi Bruner  
604-946-9828