



GEMS* @ Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve Sunday, November 6, 2016

Sponsored by the Morgan Hill branch of AAUW
For All *Girls Engaged in Math and Science

We'll visit the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve on **Sunday, November 6**. As the second largest estuary in the state, Elkhorn Slough Reserve is known for the biological diversity of its flora and fauna. The California Department of Fish and Game, which manages Elkhorn Slough Reserve, considers the restoration of its wetlands, tidal marshes, forest, and prairie habitats a critical site objective. For this hands-on field trip, we will explore the site's varied habitats, view wildlife, native and invasive plants, and use field tools to collect plankton samples, which we will observe during a microscope lab.

This event is limited to 24 student participants, so just GEMS members, friends 12-17 years old, and chaperones, please. Other than onsite parking (about \$6 per car), there is no cost for this activity.

As usual, we will meet at the Morgan Hill Caltrain parking lot (immediately behind the Community Garden fence) **by 8:30 AM** to assemble carpools before leaving for Elkhorn Slough Reserve. **We will not wait for latecomers.** After arriving at the Reserve, we will reassemble as one group for our docent orientation, habitat exploration, and field testing. In the case of rain, we will have an activity in the visitor center. Lunch will be around 1 PM in the picnic area. After lunch, we will be in the microscope lab until our departure time of 4 PM.

Please dress in layers, wear walking shoes, and bring a sack lunch, water, and either a warm jacket or sweatshirt. The weather can change quite rapidly at Elkhorn Slough Reserve.

When: Sunday, November 6, 2016

Time: 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Where: Elkhorn Slough Reserve, 1700 Elkhorn Rd, Watsonville, 95076

Please respond to Susan Oldham-Fritts at gems@aauw-morganhill.org by 10/31/16, whether or not you are attending.

Opt-Out: If you no longer wish to remain on the GEMS list, please email me at gems@aauw-morganhill.org to remove your name.

Future Events:

December 4	:	Tech Museum
January 16:		NVIDIA
February 5:		California Academy of Science
March 26:		Wildflower Run
April :		TBD

Look for our current calendar, activity notices, and opportunities for other STEM events on the GEMS webpage, <http://aauw-morganhill.org/gems.htm>.

I give my permission as parent/guardian of _____ for her to participate in the GEMS Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve field trip on Sunday, November 6, waive claims against the leaders of this activity, and allow photographs of her to be taken for GEMS and the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Signed: _____ Relationship to GEMS member: _____ Date: _____