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April 2008



## **SPARK Physical Education Institutes**

### **Learning, Leadership and Laughter in the San Diego Sun**

A SPARK Institute is a 2 or 3 day physical education subject matter project that simply should not be missed! Physical Educators from all over the country (and world) gather to share best practices, create a professional family, and learn SPARK's unique content and pedagogy from SPARK's top presenters and program authors. Here's what one participant had to say:

***"The staff, colleagues and people with you are all very professional but at the same time make the program so much fun that you will want to go to all of the get-togethers after the day is done. I was disappointed when it was all over; I was having a blast!"***

Jeffery L. Merzbacher- PE Specialist Ramona, CA

### **Registration Includes:**

## **SPARK GOES INTERNATIONAL**

### **SPARK in Norway**

SPARK is beginning a research project with the University of Oslo and the University of Bergen. One of the teachers in the study came to San Diego during our 3-6 PE Institute last summer (2007) and was trained in SPARK content and instruction, then participated in our "Train the Trainers" model. She returned to Norway and selected many of the activities from the 3-6 book for the study, and had them translated into Norwegian. Elementary teachers, both PE specialists and classroom teachers, are working together to implement SPARK with their students, and the effects will be measured.

SPARK was honored to have been the PE program selected for this study, and we are excited about working with our new friends in Norway. We look forward to broadcasting good news to you in the years to come. Until then, Tusan Takk (That's Norwegian for

- Two fun and fantastic days with SPARK's top presenters and program authors
- Continental breakfast, lunch and refreshments each day
- Complete handout packet and supplementary materials
- Institute t-shirt, clipboard, and great raffle prizes
- Planned evening social (no-host)
- Eligible for one unit of credit from San Diego State University
- SPARK Certification Award (upon completion of both days)
- Free lifetime follow-up support from SPARK
- Free SPARK Quarterly Newsletter
- 10% off PE4life Academy Training ([www.PE4life.com](http://www.PE4life.com))
- 10% off Sportime equipment\*  
\*Discount good for one equipment order; must be ordered through SPARK

**ONLY \$375 IF YOU REGISTER BY JUNE 7TH**

**[Click Below For More Info And A Free Brochure](#)**

Elementary Institute K-2: July 14-15, 2008

Elementary Institute 3-6: July 16-17, 2008

[Elementary Institute K-6: July 21-23, 2008](#)

[Middle School Institute: July 24-25, 2008](#)

[High School Institute: July 28-29, 2008](#)

**[ALLIANCE FOR A HEALTHIER GENERATION  
TEAMS UP WITH SPARK TO COMBAT  
CHILDHOOD OBESITY](#)**

Greenville, WI, April 3, 2008 – The Alliance for a Healthier Generation and SPARK have teamed up to help schools encourage students and staff to develop lifelong, healthy habits and increase physical activity.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation, a joint initiative of the American Heart Association and the William J. Clinton Foundation, has identified School Specialty's SPARK (Sports, Play, and Active Recreation for Kids) program as an approved physical education curriculum resource for schools in its Healthy Schools Program. The comprehensive SPARK program includes a research-based physical

Thank You!).

### **FEATURED TIPS:**

#### SPARK Teaching Techniques:

~Be aware of the medical conditions/ limitations of the student with special needs.

~Emphasize cooperative games and play; de-emphasize competition.

~Provide relaxation activities at the end of class.

#### SPARK Equipment Tips:

~Ensure equipment is appropriate for students' age level and size.

~Modify equipment size and weight to vary speed and performance

~Provide direct instruction/demonstration on how the equipment is to be used.

### **CONFERENCE CALENDAR**

[BOOST \(Best of Out of School time\)](#)

April 30,2008-

May 03,2008

Palm Springs, CA

[California PTA](#)

May 1,2008-May3,2008

Long Beach, CA

education curricula, on-site teacher training, and content matched equipment sets from School Specialty's Sportime business line.

“The SPARK approach to inclusiveness, quality physical education and after school programs reflects many of our views of how schools can raise the effectiveness of their physical education efforts,” said Lisa Perry, national physical education and physical activity manager for the Healthy Schools Program.

The Alliance's Healthy Schools Program offers support to schools nationwide to create school environments that promote physical activity and healthy eating for students and staff. Currently, 968 schools in 34 states receive on-site Healthy Schools Program assistance and more than 1,300 schools receive online and telephone assistance. Any school in the country is eligible to participate in the Healthy Schools Program at no cost and the Alliance expects to expand that support to more than 22,000 schools by 2010.

In support of the Healthy Schools Program, SPARK will provide eight demonstration schools with free curriculum, training, and equipment.

**[Visit Us Here:](#)**

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**[www.sparkpe.org](http://www.sparkpe.org)**

**[Alliance for a Healthier Generation:](#)**

**[www.healthiergeneration.org](http://www.healthiergeneration.org)**

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