

## **Teacher Guide for the Nature and Me \$50 Award Contest**

### *Springfield Plateau Chapter of Missouri Master Naturalists*

#### **1. Who is eligible to apply for the Nature and Me \$50 Contest?**

Students in grades 5 through 11 are eligible. Teacher does not have to be a member of LAD to submit this essay.

#### **2. Give each student a packet including: Guidelines, Application Form, Scoring Rubric.**

#### **3. Share this information with your students:**

- Writing will be in the form of essay.
- Give your students topic options that align with your course content and relate to the natural world. Please DO NOT assign one essay title, since an important part of the writing process is for students to reflect on what they know and care about, to think for themselves, and to decide what they want to share through their writing. To help students get their own ideas for writing, you might pose questions such as these: What do you think, feel, or know about something in Mother Nature? What have you experienced in nature that has affected your life? What is a problem facing nature and what do you think will help solve it?
- Submissions should be one to three pages in length; typed; 12-point; stapled.
- The Scoring Rubric is included to help students self-check.
- Students should complete the Application Form and paperclip the essay to it.
- Students should submit their Application Forms with essays to you by the deadline.

#### **4. Select two of the best submissions and send them to:**

Melissa Troxell  
Master Naturalist Scholarship  
Willard High School  
515 E Jackson  
Willard, MO 65781

#### **Questions? Contact:**

Bob Ranney  
417-379-1757  
bobranney@outlook.com



*The Springfield Plateau Chapter of Missouri Master Naturalists is a community service organization whose mission is to engage Missourians in the stewardship of our state's natural resources through science-based education and volunteer community service.*

