QUICKSCIENCE CHALLENGE 2009
It was a pleasure to teach my own classmates and it has been so wonderful to have made a family outside of home and I know that this has brought us all together and that we have all made a life long bond. This whole experience also grew to be my escape from home; my school became my second home to me and the people I worked with became a second family.

–Christine Xolotl Muñoz
Canyon Crest Academy

San Diego River Valley Conservancy Coastal Clean-up
Canyon Crest Academy

Third Grade Assembly
Through the QuikSCience Challenge, I have been inspired to further engage myself in contributing to saving the world's oceans from plastic pollution through educating the community, organizing community projects, and indulging in further research to develop solutions.

– Melissa Milder
As I researched it brought my attention to my massive consumption. Before the beginning of this project I did consume a lot, however, as I learned more about it I took action to reduce it. It has taught me a valuable lesson to and it has helped me gained confidence.

– Maria Figueroa

Quikscience opened my eyes to all of the constant abuse that we put our world through. Every day that we worked on this project, I learned more about how our lifestyle affects the Earth and how we must be careful about our choices because believe it or not, the impact the whole world, and that makes you think twice before acting.

– Claudia Nava-Soto
When I was researching more about the Marine Protected Areas (MPA), I started to look at the other factors that affect the population of the many species underwater. I think that is what got me more interested in finding out more on the MPA's and how it benefitted the environment and the people living in it.

– Sabrina Hammou
My group hosted a kayak clean up on the beach and we were sponsored by the Sea Lab. They taught us a lot of things about ocean pollution like DDT and storm drain runoff. Gaining all the knowledge from the Sea Lab staff really helped me understand more about ocean pollution and especially Storm Drain pollution. — Johnny Mendez
We placed our best foot forward and began finding solutions towards combating the issue of plastic pollution. Through the use of our imagination and hopes that our group would be a leader in scientific research we completed our task at hand.

– Victor Galdamez
Having the opportunity to share my knowledge about the environment with younger children at our events such as snorkeling in La Jolla Cove and kayaking on Mission Bay was so much fun! Organizing an event takes more preparation and determination than I had anticipated, and learning how to plan an event has made me a more organized individual. Quikscience has also helped me find a way to incorporate art into community service and science.

-Alicia Valencia

I have learned about coral reefs, marine science, and most importantly, I have learned about creating a quality community service event to spread awareness about both the environment as well as the ocean. In particular, the QuikSCience competition has allowed my teammates and I to incorporate our community service events with discovering our local area, San Diego.

-Samantha Sheehan
I feel that if we want to see change, good habits should be taught at a younger age. Teaching, however, is not the same as doing. I have been taught that plastic bags harm the ocean, but it was not until I started advertising this to the public and actually using canvas bags that I really felt my habits changing. —Corinne Cowan

Working with my partners was especially great, we all have different leadership abilities and I feel that the variety went together very well. Going out and being active with them and promoting a cause that I feel very deeply for, made this an overall a great experience. —Dayshel Atkins
Then we cleaned up the bike path. Boy, was that messy! We found a lot of paper and plastic. Most of it was everyday litter, but we cleaned most of it up. Now our only thought is about winning this competition and trying our best!—Stephanie Barrera
There was a lot of stuff that I didn't know about marine science and other seafood and ocean problems. One thing I have learned about marine science was about the four problems that are happening to the ocean (bycatch, aquaculture, overfishing, habitat damage). Also, I never knew that there was a difference between the good kinds of fish and the bad kinds of fish to eat.

-Leland Malry
As I look back over the last couple of months, I really have learned a lot. Aside from my own topic, I really wasn't accurately aware of just how important it is to save our ocean. Yes, I thought it was important, but it really didn't become personal until I listened to the entire groups topics. One thing that I think has been the most rewarding is seeing the kids from the full classrooms participate and respond to the lesson. For example, having them get into groups to put together a sentence strip. Also, seeing the answers that they came up with for the two questions at the end of the lesson. 

- Elizabeth Hoffman

Now I am aware of this problem and want to help. This challenge helped me do that. I did a little of community service, which included a website, and I taught kids about this big topic! Teaching the kids helped me get over my fear of being in front of people, and I hope that I taught them something that they will remember and think hard about.

- Sierra Burgos
QuikScience to me was a very interesting project which let me uncover an interest in marine life I didn't know I had. I didn't know how humans affected the marine environment before I participated in this challenge. I am an informed person now which allows me to teach others that pollution threatens our marine environment. Humans do have an impact on our world. I am glad that I participated in this challenge. It has been a life changing and positive experience for me.

– Blanca Villa

This experience has enabled me to apply that knowledge to real life situations that have occurred during the past five months. I not only gained knowledge through books and research, I was able to see the problems and come up with solutions and apply them. After this experience I am more aware of what is occurring in the environment. I have become more interested in this topic and will try to find a solution or help in any way that I can.

– Yesenia Garcia
felt very sad and yet happy that I learned what I did wrong when I polluted because I know what it effects and how. I am honored to be educated about our world because later on I can teach others what I have learned. It was vigorous experience.

- Justin Crisostomo

In my opinion, I really liked the QuikScience project. I like teaching little kids that pollution is bad. I like to make a difference in the world, even if I just help a little.

- Ivy Trouna
We worked to create a new, fun, and different way to teach younger students about whales, pollution, and how they are connected. The second graders really enjoyed our presentation. I feel like we actually did something to help the environment.

-Alisha Nguyen

It's thrilling to see people get excited to learn. I also got to learn as much as I taught. Being the Quikscience group was a great experience.

-Alex Tran
After you are exposed to the consequences of pollution, you are certainly more aware of which decisions are eco-friendly and which aren't. Picking up after yourself can go a long way. Experience has taught me that little children are eager to learn and so that is the best time to teach them about littering and pollution. How we keep our community reflects on us, either on a positive way or in a negative way.

–Vianey Maldonado

I truly believe we can say no to pollution. With family and friends supporting us, our team can make a difference in any community in the United States. Cleaning the L.A. River is an event that our team will continue to do every single year.

–Veronica Martinez
What I saw at Abalone Cove was a whole world I never thought existed. It is a beautiful place. How could I be so naive and not notice this place sooner! This place has changed my whole life around because the trip to Abalone Cove made me realize that I can make a difference and help out these fascinating animals. —Hugo Rivera