



Roundtables

at Earth Connection

A chance to share YOUR earth connection . . .

- ☞ places that matter in your neighborhood
- ☞ a question or concern about the environment
- ☞ a project you are planning or doing in your community
- ☞ actions or activities that help you connect with yourselves and the earth

. . . in a creative way:

You might

- ☞ give others an **experience** of your project as well as a description
- ☞ share a **burning question** or point of view, then listen to others' perspectives
- ☞ bring an object that expresses a key idea to start the conversation
- ☞ lead a simple **activity** that conveys an important idea
- ☞ bring a sensory sample of your "place" - sights, sounds, smells, tastes, or touches

ROUNDTABLES are freewheeling small group discussions around a place, a question, or an idea of **your choice**.

EVERY TEAM should plan a roundtable for Friday evening. This session is a conference favorite!

YOU'RE INVITED to share something about the place you are from as well as your projects or plans. And you're encouraged to use objects, experiences, and activities - as well as words - to start the conversation.

Here's how it works:

The room is full of tables, one to a team. At each table, two "home team" members share *their* earth connection - place, project, activity, or question - with three or four "visitors" from other teams.

The room buzzes with ideas, opinions, and concerns as each home team presents the project, place, or question that matters to them, and visitors offer their own questions and views.

Every 10-15 minutes, visitors leave one table, move on to another, and the process begins again. Team members take turns sitting at the home table and visiting other tables.

Everyone has a chance to present their team's earth connection. And everyone visits several other teams' tables, gathering questions, ideas, and inspiration.

To prepare for your roundtable:

- DISCOVER** your own earth connection using the suggestions on this page, or your own ideas.
- PLAN** a fun, powerful way to introduce your earth connection (place and/or project) to others. What questions or experiences will you use to get people thinking and talking? You might use maps, pictures, objects, poetry, even sounds on tape.
- CHOOSE** a descriptive title and note it on your registration form.
- CREATE** a simple, one-page handout to go with your roundtable, something people can remember you by. Include a way for others to get in touch with you.