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1/11/12

NEWS RELEASE – “MANATEE MIDDLE STUDENTS POWER UP WITH SOLAR ENERGY”

Manatee Middle School (MMS) sixth grade students are gearing up for some “Solar Powered Fun” this semester thanks to a grant funded primarily by Disney’s Planet Challenge. MMS science teacher Maryjane Slaughter authored the grant and will be teaching the “Solar Powered Fun” science unit in her sixth grade classes.

The grant will fund the purchase of K’nex solar powered racers, as well as the needed rechargeable batteries and chargers. Students will use the K’nex racers to witness how harnessing the sun’s energy generates a source of power that propels the racers to action. Plus, this engaging unit will also teach students the concept of “Reuse, Reduce, Recycle.”

Disney’s Planet Challenge (DPC) is a project-based learning environmental competition for classrooms across the nation. DPC, sponsored by Disney’s Friends for Change, teaches kids about science and conservation, while empowering them to make a positive impact on their communities and planet.

To learn more, please contact Maryjane Slaughter at 377-4400.