Rural Educator Network Newsletter

Connecting Educators and Sharing Resources

NASA SciAct

NAU NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Hello Educators!

This Newsletter is dedicated to providing:

1. NASA resources modified to the needs of rural audiences
2. Upcoming NASA events, webinars, and opportunities
3. Partnership highlights
4. Expressing your current needs and successes

You're invited to contribute content to a future newsletter...

Tell us a story, share an activity, photo, lesson plan, or resource.

Share with Us!

Help to Grow the Network: Share this sign-up link with friends: http://eepurl.com/h1xxQ9

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Get Ready for the NASA eClips Earth Day Video Challenge & Marathon!

Calling all Earth lovers, creatives, and aspiring filmmakers! NASA eClips is hosting an Earth Day Video Challenge and Marathon, and we want YOU to join in the fun!

What's the mission?

Assemble a team and create a NASA Spotlite Video, a **Maker Art Craft Video**, or an **Engineering Video** to share your passion for our planet. Need inspiration? Check out the NASA Spotlite Gallery for examples of draft videos.

Important Dates:

· Submission Deadline: April 10th

· Earth Day Video Marathon: April 22nd

Want to showcase your video or attend the viewing? Register here!

SPOTLITE

Science for students by students

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION
April 22, 2025

Video Marathon
Featuring :

1. NASA Spotlite Videos
2. Maker Art Craft Videos
3. Engineering Videos

Organize a team. Collaborate to create and submit a video featuring Earth Science topics.

Videos will premier April 22 to celebrate Earth Day.

1. Steps to produce a NASA Spotlite Video

- **STEP 1:** Select the misconception you will investigate.
- **STEP 2:** Choose one CLAIM to refute or disprove one misconception.
- **STEP 3:** Film how to gather EVIDENCE to test the CLAIM.
- **STEP 4:** Edit and publish your video.

2. Steps to produce a Maker Art Craft Video

- **STEP 1:** Select a hands-on activity to help others learn about Earth.
- **STEP 2:** Gather materials and tools.
- **STEP 3:** Film how to complete the activity. Include fun facts.
- **STEP 4:** Edit and publish your video.

3. Steps to produce an Engineering Video

- **STEP 1:** Select an environmental problem that needs a solution.
- **STEP 2:** Engineer a design that might solve the problem.
- **STEP 3:** Film your work and explain how it solves the problem.
- **STEP 4:** Edit and publish your video.

Aurorasaurus Spring Report-A-Thon

Join fellow aurora chasers, scientists, and aurora enthusiasts for an online Aurorasaurus Report-A-Thon, **Sat, Mar 1, 7-10 pm ET (which is Sun, Mar 2, 12-3am UTC)**. Bring your photos with verified locations and times. Help gather data to advance aurora science, ask your questions to experts, and hang out with a community of aurora lovers. There will be prizes!

Register Now

Register Now

Access a PDF version of the flyer here.

NASA Spinoffs in Sports Series: Football Edition

Join NASA on February 6 at 1:00 pm as we talk about Spinoffs in Sports: Football Edition. Ever thought about what kind of technology goes into creating safe, professional football helmets? Join us as we dive into how NASA's space travel innovations impact sports technology! We'll talk through the advancements of tools/devices in football and other sports through NASA innovations such as memory foam, thermometer pills, and more! Find out how NASA technology is making an impact not only in sports, but in our everyday lives down here on Earth.

Event Date: February 6, 2025, at 1 p.m. ET (Thursday)

Registration Deadline: January 31, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. ET (Friday)

Register Now

What's next?

NASA Spinoffs in Sports Series: From Rockets to Racecars

Event Date: March 6, 2025, at 1 p.m. ET (Thursday)

Registration Deadline: February 28, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. ET (Friday)

Lesson Plans, Resources, and Materials

NASA eClips at 3D Thursday

On January 9th, the **NASA eClips Education Team** connected with rural educators during the **3D Thursday Webinar** to share exciting new resources and gather feedback on educator needs.

Here are some of the latest resources introduced:

NASA eClips Ask SME: Corey Twine

Watch **Corey Twine** in action as he discusses how he keeps astronauts mission-ready both on Earth and in space. His passion for fitness and exploration is truly inspiring!

Real World: Physically Fit on Earth and Beyond (Coming Soon)

Join Corey Twine, NASA's Astronaut Strength and Conditioning Specialist, as he shares how astronauts stay fit to handle reduced gravity and safely return to Earth's 1G environment.

Real World: The Air We Share (Coming Soon)

Got Questions? We've Got Answers!

Here are some questions from our engaged educator audience, along with helpful NASA resources:

Q: What are CubeSats?

A: Explore NASA eClips' **CubeSat videos** and curated resources to learn more.

Q: Does NASA have 3D models for creating simulations?

A: Absolutely! Check out NASA's 3D models here: **https://nasa3d.arc.nasa.gov/**

Q: Where can I find lessons for high school students can use CAD software for 3D printing?

A: Visit TeachEngineering for CAD and 3D printing activities: **teachengineering.org**

Q: Where can I get ideas for astronomy pop-ups?

A: Check out NASA **eClips Guide Lites** for engaging astronomy resources to use in informal settings.

Q: Want to see an astronaut's control panel?

A: Explore Orion's displays and controls here: **NASA Orion Components**

North American Phenology Campaign

growing season. Educators in the United States and Canada can register now to participate. Participants will receive regular emails with resources that support collecting green-up data, opportunities to share their research, and more! Learn more and register today at the North American Phenology Campaign webpage.

Resource Highlight: GLOBE and Natural Inquirer Crosswalks

The U.S. GLOBE Office has partnered with the USDA Forest Service to show connections between the hands-on science of the GLOBE Program (including protocols, learning activities, and storybooks) with the captivating research found in the *Natural Inquirer* readers for students. The most recent post is a series of five lessons based on the Natural Inquirer issue "The World's Forests 2." These lessons are appropriate for middle and high school levels. All of these materials are free; some Natural Inquirer issues have print copies available to be ordered at no charge.

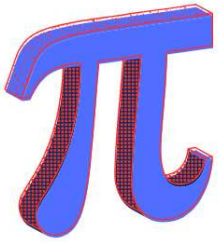
Visit the **U.S. GLOBE Teacher Resources page** for the complete list of GLOBE and Natural Inquirer crosswalks.

Solar System Treks

Solar System Treks is a browser based exploration tool for planetary bodies in the Solar System. Take a trek over Ganymede, Venus, Bennu, and more!

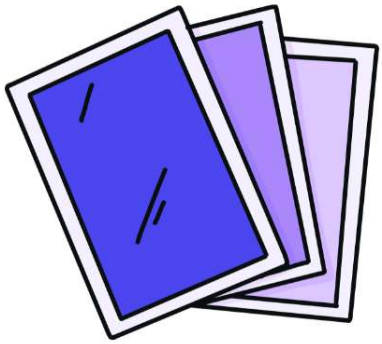
Our Blue Marble

In this free lesson for grades 3-9, learn about what makes Earth a unique and habitable planet.



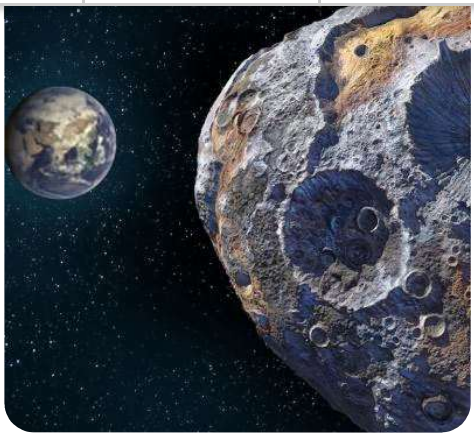
NASA Pi Day Challenge

3.14 will be here soon! Check out these challenges aimed for grades 4-12 from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.



NASA Space Voyagers: The Game

In this strategy card game, students work individually or collaboratively to build a spacecraft capable of exploring our solar system.



OST from LPI

Explore by category free OST activities and programs from the Lunar and Planetary Institute, a NASA Partner

CLEAN: The Climate Literacy and Energy Awareness Network

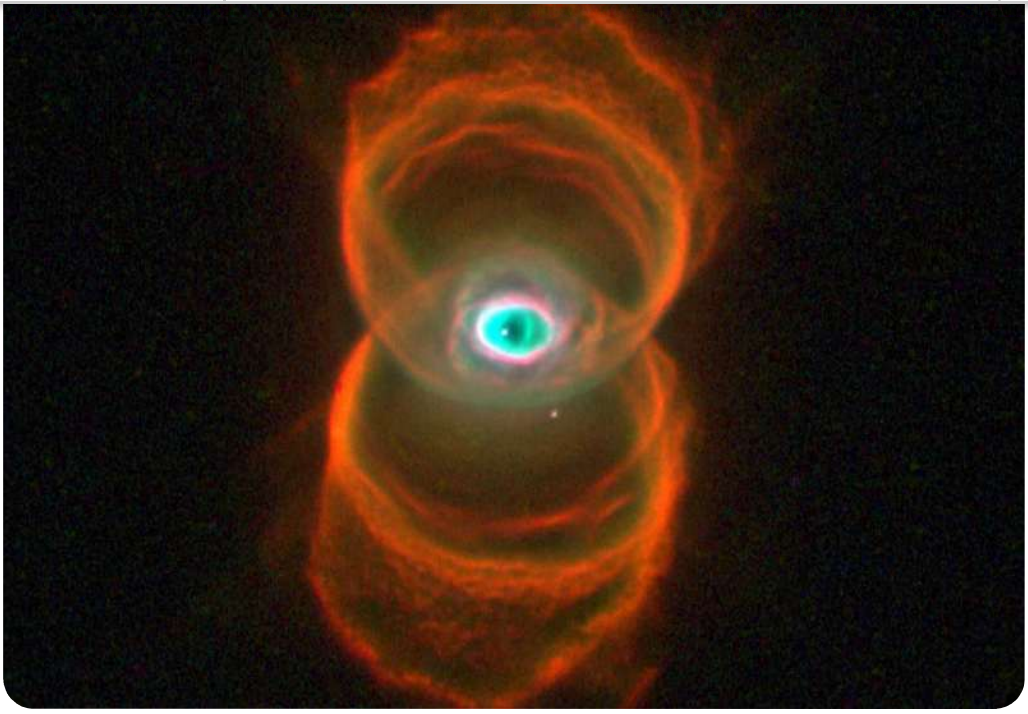
Over 800 educational resources that are free, peer-reviewed, NGSS aligned, easily searchable, and ready-to-use for teaching about climate and energy.

ACLIPSE: Advancing Climate Literacy through investment in In-Service and Pre-Service Science Educators

The ACLIPSE course engages grade 6–12 teachers and teacher candidates in climate science/change activities using authentic data. ACLIPSE uses climate science as the context for applying current research about teaching and learning aligned with the Framework for K–12 Science Education. Educators and their students also improve their skills for using and interpreting real- and near real-time data. ACLIPSE includes instructional materials developed with NOAA's financial and scientific support.

The session write ups, accompanying PPTs and handouts are freely available.

The results are in! The Spookiest NASA Image is…



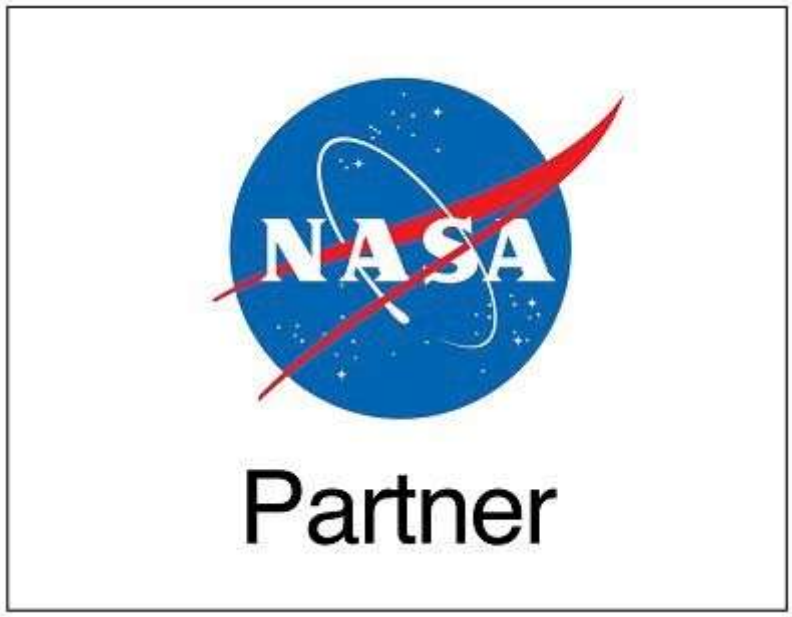
This is a Hubble image of object MyCn18, the Hourglass Nebula. Image credit: NASA, ESA, Raghvendra Sahai and John Trauger (JPL), the WFPC2 science team

---

Join NASA Connects

Registered community members will have the opportunity to sign up for engagement events, view and chat with other members who are interested in similar fields, read exclusive NextGen STEM content, and access resources such as lesson plans and interactive media.

games, videos, educator guides, teacher toolkits, and much more.



“The material contained in this document is based upon work supported by a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) grant or cooperative agreement. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of NASA.”

The Rural Education Network team serves as volunteer representatives from NASA Partner projects funded through SciAct. We are aiming to amplify and elevate the voice of rural educators while providing access to resources that support educators in engaging youth in planetary science and STEM.
