

S'COOL E-note March 2011

Greetings from the S'COOL Team! Welcome to Issue 55 of the S'COOL E-note.

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1. Featured lesson of the month

This month's featured lesson, Lesson 37 [Clouds: A Multidisciplinary Study](http://tinyurl.com/4dgp5mn) (<http://tinyurl.com/4dgp5mn>), provides students an opportunity to use Science, Math, and Language Arts skills as they learn how clouds form, and how to identify cloud-types. Suggested for Grade 3, the lesson is adaptable to other grade-levels, and can be used as a short-term activity or can be expanded to three 45-minute study blocks.

2. Observation Resource

As you prepare for your observations, you may want to explore our newly updated [on-line cloud chart](http://tinyurl.com/4jy45kn) (<http://tinyurl.com/4jy45kn>). It contains multiple examples for most cloud types, to help capture the range of appearance that clouds can have. We will be adding more examples this year, so check back occasionally for updates.

3. Teacher Quote of the Month

From John Vernon, Lodi, California: " We have been training 6th and 7th graders on the S'COOL project here at Vineyard Christian Middle School in Lodi, CA. I put together a PowerPoint showing weather on other planets in our solar system and then coming back to Earth and discussing our project here and why it is important. We also told the kids it is cool to study science and think about careers in science as their country will need [*the students*] as not enough kids seem to migrate out to science fields. To my shocking surprise, the 6th and 7th graders were very eager and curious about the data we have been collecting so far. We did a little sales pitching along the way to hype up how important science is. At the end of the training, I asked the 30 something kids if they wanted to walk away from this project, they could so now and with no regrets-all eagerly stayed and are ready for the 'front lines'. This is an excellent program and thanks for all your support and commitment."

4. Fantastic Video! Sundog Mystery

Take a few minutes to check out a fantastic video, [SDO Sundog Mystery](http://tinyurl.com/4chgngx) (<http://tinyurl.com/4chgngx>), from [NASA Science: Science News](http://science.nasa.gov/) (<http://science.nasa.gov/>)! On February 11, 2010, the Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO) was launched from Cape Canaveral, FL. Check out what happens as the rocket penetrates the clouds! This is a great opportunity to show your students a good example of a Sundog.

5. Energy Lab Program open to schools

American middle and high schools are now eligible to participate in the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy-Related Laboratory Equipment (ERLE) program. For over 30 years, this program has enabled colleges and universities to acquire hundreds of millions of dollars in high-quality surplus laboratory equipment from the department's National Laboratories. The listing of free equipment available through ERLE is updated periodically, as new equipment is identified. It is made available for a limited time on a first-received application, first-qualified basis. The Department of Energy, an active Earth Science Week partner, invites schools to acquire equipment by reviewing the list at the [ERLE web site \(http://www.osti.gov/erle/\)](http://www.osti.gov/erle/) and completing an electronic application form. (Ref: <http://www.earthsciweek.org/>, American Geological Institute. Vol. 9, No. 1: January 2011.)

6. LiveBinder Highlights...

We are frequently updating and improving our resources and materials to better aid you and your students! One of our newest additions is our growing collection of LiveBinders. Each one contains all the information, links and even our presentations that are showcased at current and past events. Now you don't have to worry about forgetting to write something down at a workshop, or missing important information. It's all included in the corresponding Livebinder! Livebinders are also an easy way to keep up with what we are doing at workshops and conferences.

LiveBinders are easily accessible directly from the [Live Binder main website \(http://livebinders.com/welcome\)](http://livebinders.com/welcome) No user name and log in required). Then you may search related topics (i.e. S'COOL).

Our most recent LiveBinder with a S'COOL feature is titled, **NASA STEM Educators Workshop Series 3-2/3-2011** (<http://tinyurl.com/4g5p2pv>).

If you have any questions, please [let us know](mailto:scool@lists.nasa.gov) (scool@lists.nasa.gov)!

7. Bilingual programs about climate change and biofuels now available at NASA and You

NASA and You is a bilingual educational program designed to motivate and inspire young Latinos to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The program consists of downloadable 30-second educational video segments, interview clips with Hispanic researchers and educational resources for parents and teachers. The video segments and the website expose students to NASA advances and discoveries through the contribution of Hispanic astronauts, engineers and scientists.

Come and learn about how NASA studies our own planet and climate change with interviews with the special assistant to the deputy director of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center Gilberto Colón and about biofuels and all of its uses with NASA aerospace engineer Diana Centeno-Gómez.

Please visit the [NASA and You \(http://tinyurl.com/49zrlmf\)](http://tinyurl.com/49zrlmf) website; or, for more information contact lvelisse.r.gilman@nasa.gov.

NASA and You is a joint venture between NASA and Univision Communications, Inc.

Note: Links indicated by  are not maintained by NASA.