

Earth Science Week Update

October 2005 Volume 3 Issue 4

Celebrate Earth Science Week! October 9-15, 2005



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One Week to Go!

Earth Science Week is less than a week away, and we're getting ready for local events, judging the National Contests and drumming up publicity for the celebration. This newsletter contains some last minute ideas and updates about Earth Science Week. As always, contact us if you have any questions!

info@earthsciweek.org

It's not too late! Enter one of the National Contests!

The Earth Science Week contest entries are due on Friday, October 7th. Enter the Visual Arts, Essay, or Photography contest today. Submissions may be sent in by mail, fax, or by e-mail. This is a great way to get involved in Earth Science Week. Students will learn about geoscience careers as they write their essays. Be creative and have your class draw pictures of Earth scientists. Do you have a great picture of an exciting aspect of Earth Science? If so, send it in! The top prize for all of our contests is 300 dollars and a year long subscription to Geotimes Magazine. To learn more about these contests and to download the entry form, please visit www.earthsciweek.org/contests. We can't wait to see your entries.

Grades K-5: Art Contest- "Earth Jobs"

Grades 5-9: Essay Contest- "What kind of geoscientist would you like to be, and why?"

Everyone: Photo Contest- "Extreme Earth Science"

Earth Science Week in the Classroom

Teachers: how do you plan to participate in Earth Science Week in your classroom? Take our VERY short survey to tell us your plans and you'll be entered to win a free 2006 Earth Science Week kit.

Visit <http://www.earthsciweek.org/participation/> to complete the short survey

Publicize your Earth Science Week Event.

What are you doing this year to celebrate Earth Science Week? Are you having an open house? Leading a field trip? Having an event at a local museum? Let us know what you're doing and we'll advertise it on our Events Near You website. E-mail info@earthsciweek.org and tell us the details of your event. Need some help with publicity in your local area? Check out our Guide to Working with the Media: <http://www.earthsciweek.org/forplanners/gettingstarted/mediaandpublicity.html>

Last Minute Ideas:

1. Set up a display at your local library or bookstore!

Are you looking for an easy way to participate in Earth Science Week? We have an idea for you: Set up a display of books about Earth science subjects and add a poster or printed banner letting patrons know that it's Earth Science Week. Try mounting your copy of the Earth Science Week poster on foam core and standing it up against a bookcase or wall. Don't have a poster? Download and print the Earth Science Week logo: <http://www.earthsciweek.org/imagesandlogos/index.html>.

This is one low-energy way to let your local community know that Earth Science Week is taking place! Teachers, you can work with the school librarian to create a display in your school's library!

2. Count Contrails with S'COOL!

Did you know that clouds are the largest variable controlling Earth's global climate and also the main sources of uncertainty for scientists studying the atmosphere? One cloud type remains a major challenge, and of major interest: contrails. Also known as "condensation trails," these are linear clouds produced in the wake of jet aircraft. Since contrails are difficult to study using satellite data, student and the general public can help scientists by observing contrails in their area and reporting on the amount and type of contrails present.

You can count contrails during Earth Science Week. Sky observation reports are welcome from interested observers sometime between 11am and 1pm local time, on October 13th, during Earth Science Week. For more information visit the Contrail Education Website: <http://asd-www.larc.nasa.gov/GLOBE>. If you don't have an Earth Science Week kit, be sure to click on "Fall 2005 Contrail Count-a-thon" for the Contrail Education Newsletter loaded with educational resources. This newsletter is included in the Earth Science Week kits.

AGI Earth Science Week and Outreach Planning Meeting

If you'll be attending the Geological Society of America meeting in Salt Lake City this October, come to a planning meeting for Earth Science Week and AGI's other Outreach programs. We are looking for feedback, ideas and links to other Earth Science programs. The meeting will be held on Monday, October 17 from 1-3 pm in Salon G and H at the Marriott Hotel. Everyone is welcome, especially teachers. We hope you can join us!

You can still order an Earth Science Week kit

There is still time to order an Earth Science Week kit for 2005. You may not receive it in time for the event, but the resources and activities included in the kit are useful year round. Visit <http://www.earthsciweek.org/materials/index.html> to order!