



Earth Science Week Update

March 2004

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Get ready for 2004: "Living on a Restless Earth"

Earth Science Week will be held from October 10-16th this year, and we are already gearing up to make it the most successful week yet! The theme will be "Living on a Restless Earth", and will focus on the science of Natural Hazards and mitigation of their effects on society. The global community is affected by the restless nature of our planet every day. For example, earthquakes rattle the islands of Japan. Volcanic activity closes resorts in Italy, and the fishing industry in Peru struggles to survive changes in ocean temperature caused by El Niño. In Florida, a sinkhole in the karst terrain causes the sudden collapse of a building.

Earth Scientists study dramatic phenomena such as these in order to understand their causes and minimize their impact on society. What hazards could potentially affect your area? This theme offers a fantastic teaching opportunity to get your kids excited about dynamic processes that affect our Earth and that may even affect their community.

AGI staff members are working with our main sponsor, the U.S. Geological Survey, the AAPG Foundation and the National Park Service and newer partners to Earth Science Week such as NASA, NOAA, National Weather

Service and others to plan and produce materials and resources for teachers, geoscientists and the general public. We encourage you to begin planning events to commemorate the week in your local areas!

Win ESW Materials

AGI is looking for feedback about what materials were most useful in our past Earth Science Week kits in order to improve them this year. Visit www.earthsciweek.org/materials/survey and let us know what you think about our past kits, and you will be entered to win a free ESW kit for this coming year.

Wrap Up from Earth Science Week 2003

"Earth Science Week provides an opportunity to recognize our progress in conservation through environmental stewardship and the contributions of geologists, geophysicists and other environmental scientists."

President George W. Bush

Earth Science Week 2003 was a resounding success. With the theme "Eyes on Planet Earth: Monitoring our Changing World", the Week involved educators, students, geoscientists, science centers, the National Parks and the general public in showcasing the importance of Earth Science to society. Events were held in all 50 states and in at least nine countries worldwide. Proclamations were made in 21 states and President Bush issued a special Earth Science Week

message. ESW 2003 was made possible by support from the U.S. Geological Survey, The AAPG Foundation, The National Park Service, and NASA.

Major events included an open house at the USGS center for Coastal and Watershed studies for St Petersburg, Florida area fourth graders. The University of Dayton was very active having several ESW events including a movie night during the week. The Cleveland Museum of Natural History held an "Antiques Rock Show" to cele-

brate ESW. To learn more about the events that were held and to read news articles about Earth Science Week 2003 please visit our Highlights and News Clippings book online at <http://www.earthsciweek.org/highlights/>.



Students observe a model volcano at an USGS Open House

Learn about AGI's Education Program in *The Earth Inquirer*

You can learn about AGI's Earth science education program in a new newsletter, *The Earth Inquirer*, that describes the contributions and initiatives of AGI and its member societies towards reforming Earth science education at the K-12 level. Readers learn about the various Earth science curricula developed or being developed by AGI, receive updates on new materials and resources that support the curricula, and find out details about teacher enhancement opportunities. Readers also receive information about the resources and programs offered by AGI member societies in support of Earth science education. The *Earth Inquirer* can be read on line at

www.agiweb.org/education/newsletter. AGI will mail hard copies of the newsletter to those who send their contact information to education@agiweb.org.

New Website and Materials for Earth Science Week 2004

Have you looked at the new Earth Science Week website? The site, found at www.earthsciweek.org, has been updated with new information and resources for Earth Science Week 2004. Check out the new theme-based resources about Natural Hazards including Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Hurricanes, Tornados, Dust Storms, Floods, and Forest Fires. New classroom activities are being added to our Teacher Resources every week, and stay tuned for information about our new contests kicking off this spring.

We are also collecting and creating new materials for the 2004 Earth Science Week information kit. The kits will be

better than ever this year, and will include posters, book-marks, classroom activities, and interactive CDs that will help you plan for your own Earth Science Week celebration. Kit materials will be suitable for elementary through college. Kits will be available beginning in May.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for what we should include in our kit or on the ESW website, please let us know! Email info@earthsciweek.org with any recommendations or for information about how you can order a kit.



Photos from the AGI ImageBank.

Earth Science Week Contest Winners!



Ben Kennedy's photo of Mt. Semeru, Indonesia.

There were hundreds of contest entries in 2003 for the Earth Science Week Art, Essay, Photography, and Lesson Plan Design Contests. Wonderful winners were found in all categories. They are

- **Art:** Christina Gill for her poster "Keeping an Eye on our Earth"
- **Essay:** Jessica Taylor for her essay "Who is a Volcanologist and What do they Do?"
- **Photography:** Ben Kennedy for his picture of Mt. Semeru in Indonesia
- **Lesson Plan Design:** Mary Ball for her lesson on streamgaging.

To view these submissions and several finalist entries please visit <http://www.earthsciweek.org/contests/2003.html>. Keep watching the Earth Science Week website for information on the 2004 ESW contests!



Christina Gill's top prize poster.

Earth Science Week Calendar

- March 3, 2004

U.S. Geological Survey's 125th Anniversary

- April 2, 2004

Earth Science Week at NSTA

Learn more about Earth Science Week and pick up free information at the national NSTA meeting in Atlanta. Stop by the AGI booth in the Exhibit Hall or attend the NESTA/NAGT Share-a-thon on Friday at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis hotel.

- April 19, 2004

2-4 PM

Earth Science Week Planning Meeting

Everyone is invited to attend a planning meeting with AGI staff at the AAPG Annual Meeting in Dallas, TX. For more details, contact cmm@agiweb.org

- October 10-16

Earth Science Week

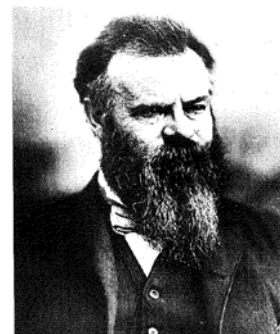
Start planning now to celebrate the week this fall!



Each issue we will feature different groups getting involved in Earth Science Week. If you know of a group that has or is planning to participate in the week, send us an email and photographs at info@earthsciweek.org.

USGS 125th Anniversary

On March 3, 2004 the U.S. Geological Survey will mark its 125th anniversary. The Survey was established in 1879 under President Rutherford B. Hayes to conduct "the classification of the public lands, and examination of the geological structure, mineral resources, and products of the national domain." Today the survey continues with this work and is conducting scientific research in reference to economic and national concern. An anniversary celebration will feature Kathie Olsen, Deputy Director of the White House Office of Science Technology and Policy, the political commentator Steven Roberts, a one-act play about John Wesley Powell, and cake-cutting events for USGS employees. Congratulations to the USGS on reaching this milestone!



John Wesley Powell, USGS director 1891-1894

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Introducing the American Geological Institute's.....

Earth Science World ImageBank!

A free service that provides the public, educators, and the geoscience community with high quality images covering a wide range of Earth Science topics.



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