



Earth Science Week Update

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National Earth Science Week Contests

The American Geological Institute will be holding three national Earth Science Week contests to celebrate Earth Science Week: a visual arts contest, essay contest, and photography contest. The deadline to enter these contests has been extended! Entries must be received by October 8th, 2004!

The Visual Arts contest, "Active Earth", is open to students in grades K-4. Contestants should create a drawing, collage, poster or other two dimension



piece of artwork that shows a natural hazard. The submission dimensions should be no more than 24 x 36 inches in size. Students in grades 5-8 are encouraged to enter the Essay Contest, "Studying the Restless Earth." Each student should pretend that he or she is a geoscientist that researches a particular natural hazard. What equipment do you use? How do you study your natural hazard? How is the general public educated about the natural hazard? Essays should be 500 words in length.

The Photography Contest, "Earth Scientists at Work," is

open to all ages. Submit a photo of an Earth Scientist at work or of students learning about the Earth Sciences. Photographs of children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a written consent form signed by their parent or guardian. A copy of this form can be downloaded from

www.earthsciweek.org/contests.

Celebrate Earth Science week by entering one or more of these contests! The grand prize in each contest is \$300 cash! Visit www.earthsciweek.org/contests for more information on how you can enter.

Earth Science Week Kits Have Arrived!

Sign up to receive this newsletter

Send an email to info@earthsciweek.org. Include your contact information and email address.

OR

Read the newsletters online at www.earthsciweek.org/newsletter.

The long awaited Earth Science Week Kits are now available! The kits are filled to the brim with educational materials for students of all ages. Kit materials have been provided by many governmental and scientific organizations. Materials include posters, bookmarks, lithographs, brochures, flyers, and classroom activities. This year, the estimated value of the Earth Science Week kits is well over \$30.

The kits include valuable classroom activities for students at all levels. Teachers and geoscientists will learn about US Geological Survey projects to reduce the risk of volcano hazards or to understand earthquakes and landslides. Elementary school students will

enjoy making a "cloud finder", or learning about remote sensing using a NASA/USGS Lithograph entitled "Amelia the Pigeon". Middle school students can investigate seismology through an activity "Exploring the Earth Using Seismology" from the IRIS Consortium (Incorporated Research Institutions in Seismology). High school and university students can learn to manipulate scientific data by completing the activities found in the *EarthInquiry* Investigations booklet on coastal hazards and earthquakes.

These examples are just few of the many resources included in the Earth Science Week kits for teachers. Each kit also includes an "Ideas and Activities" guide full of ways to

participate in Earth Science Week. Check out Chapter 4 for ten more classroom activities related to this year's theme of "Living on a Restless Earth", suitable for Elementary through High School aged students.

Earth Science Week Kits are made available through the American Geological Institute for \$4.95 which includes the cost of shipping and handling. To order the ESW kits please call the AGI publications department at 703-379-2480 or visit the publications website at www.agiweb.org/pubs. Bulk pricing is available for large orders. The official Earth Science Week poster and bookmark are also available for order.

EarthInquiry Sampler Included in the Earth Science Week Kits

One of the highlights in this year's Earth Science Week Kits is a sampler of activities from *EarthInquiry Investigations*. *EarthInquiry* is a series of web-based investigation activities (with printed workbooks) that guide students through working with international, national and local data to explore real-world phenomena. It provides students with a direct way of exploring and working with geological data online by exploring real scientific data that is now in the public domain. Students develop a deeper understanding of fundamental geoscience concepts and apply

newfound knowledge to explore real scientific problems that scientists confront daily. The activities in this booklet are suitable for upper high school and university level students.

The *EarthInquiry* sampler contains two activities that tie in with ESW's natural hazards theme: "Coastal Hazards: Severe Storms and Rising Seas" and "Earthquakes and Plate Boundaries". In these activities, students use a printed guide book and online links to examine data from the US Geological Survey, NOAA and the Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level

(PSMSL). Each activity normally costs \$5 per student, but these activities will be available for free in cooperation with Earth Science Week from September 1, 2004-February 28, 2005.

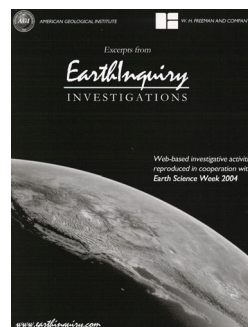
EarthInquiry is published by WH Freeman and Company. Seven different activity modules are currently available, with several others in the works. These activities span the range of Earth science topics. To learn more about the *EarthInquiry* program, please visit www.earthinquiry.com.

Get your Earth Science Week information kit: Hot off the presses!

The American Geological Institute, in cooperation with The U.S. Geological Survey, NASA, the National Park Service and local geological organizations, will be distributing Earth Science Week information kits. The kits are full of

fantastic resources for teachers, including classroom activities, informative posters and stunning fact sheets and lithographs that relate to the theme "Living on a Restless Earth". The kits are available from the American Geological Institute

for a small shipping and handling fee of \$4.95. For more information or to order a kit, please contact pubs@agiweb.org.



EarthInquiry Investigations book that can be found in the 2004 Earth science Week Kits.

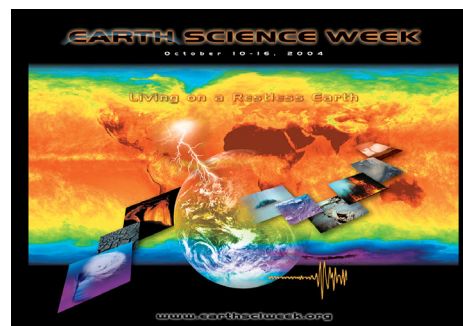
What's in the kit?

Posters from AGI, DLESE, IRIS, NASA and National Geographic.

Classroom activities from AGI, USGS, IRIS, Discovery School, NOVA, UCAR and The American Red Cross.

Fact sheets and information from USGS, NASA, the National Weather Service and the Southern California Earthquake Center.

Announcements for contests, upcoming events and great resources online!



Free Resources for teaching about Earth Science

Here are some wonderful resources made available to teachers at no cost to help teach Earth Science in the classroom.

ESW Website: Do you need more information on Droughts or Tsunamis? Can't wait to get your Earth Science Week kit to get started celebrating? The Earth Science Week Natural Hazards Resources webpage on the Earth Science Week website (www.earthsciweek.org/themebasedresources) is a list of links that will give you more information on natural hazards. There is also a collection of

Natural Hazards classroom activities, and Earth Science activities keyed to the national standards. Visit <http://www.earthsciweek.org/for-teachers/classroomactivities> for more information.

Ology: The American Museum of Natural History Ology website is fun for students and teachers. On this site you can find information on everything from paleontology to genetics. There are online activities, games, and information for students to explore. There will be a new section on Earth Science coming soon. Visit

<http://www.ology.amnh.org/> to learn more about this website.

Heldref Publications: Heldref Publications is offering four of their publications; Environment, Weatherwise, Science Activities, and Rocks and Minerals in limited quantities to educators for classroom use. These publications are being made available at no cost. To learn more about this program please visit www.heldref.org.

Earth Science Week Activities



A group of students in Florida visit an open House in 2003.

Groups across the country are already planning their events. If you have an event planned, let us know! We'll post your activity on our website www.earthsciweek.org/eventsnearlyou. Here are some examples of things taking place in celebration of Earth Science Week this year.

Heldref Publications is offering four of their publications (in limited quantities) free to educators for classroom use. For more information on this program, please visit www.heldref.org.

The annual Earth Science Day celebration of the Penn-Dixie Paleontological and Outdoor Education Center in Hamburg, NY will be held on October 16, 2004. It is sponsored by the Hamburg Natural History Society and the Buffalo Association of Profes-

sional Geologists. This free event will highlight rock coring demonstrations, scavenger hunts and much more.

The Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University will be hosting an open house for the general public on October 9th. This year there will be demonstrations and exhibits on everything from plate tectonics to oceanography and more.

To learn more about these events and find out what is happening in your area please visit www.earthsciweek.org/eventsnearlyou. If you have an event and want it publicized on the ESW website please let us know by emailing info@earthsciweek.org.

Teaching about Natural Disasters

After using your Earth Science Week kit to learn about natural hazards, you might be wondering what you should tell your students about preparing for a natural disaster to occur. The National Disaster Education Coalition (NDEC) has put together a comprehensive guide, called "Talking about Disasters," that provides standard messages for how to prepare for and respond to natural disasters. This

book was created by a group of government agencies and private organizations including the USGS, FEMA, NOAA, The American Red Cross, and AGI. You can download the entire book or just particular chapters. To learn more visit www.disastereducation.org

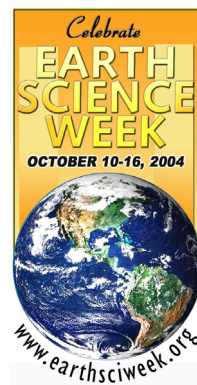


What is Earth Science Week?

In case you haven't heard, Earth Science Week was established by the American Geological Institute in 1998 to raise awareness of the Earth sciences and their importance to society. During Earth Science Week, geoscientists work with students and the general public to help them discover the Earth sciences and become engaged in scientific exploration. Teachers and students explore Earth science with activities and experiments or by having scientists visit their classrooms. As part of the 2003 Earth Science Week celebration, Earth scientists and educators organized more than 200 events in all 50 states and in nine additional countries. This year will be even bigger!

Earth Science Week will be held from October 10-16, 2004 with the theme of "*Living on a Restless Earth*". Classrooms around the country will be participating in Earth Science Week 2004 to learn more about natural hazards and what we can do to mitigate or prepare for their effects. Students can enter one of the national Earth Science Week contests, or can complete activities in their classroom or at a local museum or Earth Science Week event. Many geoscience organizations will be planning Earth Science Week events around the country. These include open houses, career fairs, and lectures that are open to the public.

You can visit the Earth Science Week website (www.earthsciweek.org) for links to more classroom activities that are keyed to the National Science Education Standards, or for information about Earth Science Week events planned in your area.



Earth Science Week staff at the American Geological Institute would like to thank our sponsor, the **US Geological Survey**, for supporting this fantastic program.



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