



Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education

www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee

Suggested Web Sites EARTH SCIENCE

Astro Venture

www.astroventure.arc.nasa.gov

NASA's Astro Venture astrobiology website offers multimedia geology and biology modules for teaching students in grades 5-8 about Earth's structure and the flow of energy. On this interactive site, students are challenged to design a planet that would be habitable to humans and draw conclusions about characteristics that are necessary for human survival.

Earth Science Picture of the Day

<http://epod.usra.edu/>

Each day, a different image provides a graphical representation of a topic in Earth science, along with an informative caption and links to additional information about that topic. An archive is available of past images and captions

Earth System Science Online

<http://www.usra.edu/esse/essonline/>

The goal of this site is to serve as a repository for Earth System Science education and research resources. Education resources at the undergraduate level are the primary focus of the site, but there are links to relevant resources at all learning levels, and to primary research findings and data that relate to the Earth as a system. Check out the "Resources" section, which offers links to data sets, maps, satellite images, and other pictures.

Exploring Earth

www.classzone.com/books/earth_science/terc/navigation/investigation.cfm

This web site contains interactive investigations that illustrate the physical processes that shape the Earth. Although the investigations in this collection serve as a companion to a high school Earth science textbook, they illustrate concepts pertaining to any Earth science inquiry, regardless of the textbook used. The site groups the investigations according to topics such as Earth as a System, Models of the Earth, Mountain Building, and The Atmosphere. Computer simulations, photographs, video clips, and drawings are used to illustrate concepts. Each investigation engages the viewer by asking higher-order assessment questions or providing an interactive interface that allows users to manipulate an image while engaging in hands-on inquiry of the material.

Exploring Earth: Visualizations

<http://earthsci.terc.edu/navigation/visualization.cfm>

This site features more than 100 animations and images that illuminate key concepts in earth science. Animations show coal forming, nuclear fission, the growth of a continent, tectonic plate movement, volcanoes and earthquakes, fault motion, the formation of the Himalayas, a geyser eruption, how waves move, tornadoes, hurricanes, thunderstorms, and more. Students can observe a single place on earth from multiple views, 3-D models of water and common molecules, images of different climate zones, and seasonal changes in the amount of sunlight reaching locations on earth. Visualizations are organized by topic: earth as a system, earth's structure and motions, rocks, atoms to minerals, plate tectonics, volcanoes, earthquakes, mountain building, weathering and erosion, water, wind and currents, atmosphere, weather, oceans, planets, and others.

Exploring the Environment

<http://www.coff.edu/ete/main.html>

This online series features an integrated approach to environmental earth science through problem-based modules and activities. Issues such as water quality, deforestation, biodiversity, volcanoes, ozone depletion, and global climate change are addressed.

For Kids Only: Earth Science Enterprise

<http://kids.earth.nasa.gov/>

This site, developed by NASA, helps students learn about Earth's air, land, natural hazards, water, and how people affect the earth. Games, quizzes, narratives, and teachers' guides are available.

MGBnet

<http://mbgnet.mobot.org/>

This web site, a collaboration of the Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG) and the Evergreen Project, allows users to explore various terrestrial biomes and aquatic habitats. The project is part of MBGNET series, which shares knowledge about plants and their environment in order to preserve and enrich the Earth. Environments included in the resource are organized into three categories: Biomes of the World, Freshwater Ecosystems, and Marine Ecosystems.

Missouri Botanical Garden Biomes Site

<http://mbgnet.mobot.org/>

The MGBnet project began in the mid-nineties as a collaboration between the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Evergreen Project. Together we created a series of videos about terrestrial biomes and aquatic habitats. The MGBnet website is based on these videos and gives additional information about the ecosystems.

NASA Kids' Pages

<http://kids.earth.nasa.gov/>

Kids can find out how NASA studies Earth's land, air, water, and people, natural hazards at this Earth science portal. Interactive activities include quizzes and online maps that visitors can color to represent views of the Earth available to NASA. Suitable for grades K-8.

Paleomap Project

www.scotese.com/

This web site lets you watch the eons pass by-- animations show the plate tectonic development of the continents and oceans over the past 1100 million years. Maps, globes, and information on Earth and climate history will help students understand what a moving experience our planet is.

Study of Place

www.studyofplace.com

Study of Place is where middle school science connects earth science and human geography. The two 2-week modules—Antarctic Exploration and Ocean Currents Exploration—combine high-tech satellite images and historical narratives to help students picture how Earth's oceans, ice, and atmosphere affect each other and how they affect human habitation.

Teach Earth

www.teachearth.com

A product of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, this site aims to provide teacher resources for Earth system science. The "Resources and Programs" section allows you to search extensive databases by grade level and subject for lesson plans, posters, CD-ROMs, and professional development opportunities.

World Wide Biome Project

www2.kpr.edu.on.ca/cdciw/biomes/

The World Wide Biome Project is designed to have students learn about ecosystems in their locale and share their findings with students from around the world through the medium kids use - the internet. The prime focus of the site is to have students/classes do an evaluation of a habitat in their biome and send the data in to the World Wide Biome Project. Their data is converted into a series of web pages for them. This allows students to learn from other projects that students like themselves have created.