

NASA Explorer Schools News

A monthly newsletter
from the teachers of
tomorrow's explorers

Featured Mission



NES Students' Experiments Blast Off!

NES students recently launched experiments in the nosecone of a sounding rocket as part of the FreeSPACE program at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia. Students from Matthew J. Kuss Middle School in Massachusetts, Central Park Middle School in New York, North Country Union Junior High School in Vermont, and Sheridan Communication & Technology Middle School in

Connecticut submitted experiments that were approved to fly in the Wallops' program.

Sounding rockets are low-cost transports built to carry a Sub-orbital Space Experiment Module (Sub-SEM) to 30 and 100 miles above the surface of Earth. The Sub-SEM was developed at NASA Wallops so that students can fly experiments and be like NASA scientists. The students design experiments to study the effects of traveling through the upper atmosphere and near-space. Most importantly, the students have the chance of a lifetime to take part in an actual NASA mission. Maybe they'll want to work for NASA when they grow up!

www.wff.nasa.gov/freespace/index.htm

Activity Corner



One Small Step

Thirty-five years ago this July, humans first set foot on the moon. As NASA begins planning a return to the moon, take the time to look back at the historic Apollo 11 mission. Half a billion people watched on television as Neil Armstrong

and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin became the first humans to visit the surface of the moon. Interview the people around you – family or neighbors – who remember watching this on TV in 1969. Ask them how they felt when they heard Armstrong say the now-famous words: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." Send your interviews to us at NESNews@nasa.gov.

www.nasa.gov/vision/space/features/apollo11_35th.html

history.nasa.gov/ap11-35ann/index.htm

Bytes and Bits

Safety Is No Accident

Safety is NASA's number one priority. Protecting the public, astronauts, pilots, NASA employees, contractors and NASA equipment and property are all part of NASA's Agency Safety Initiative. Pushing the frontiers of science, technology and exploration can be risky, so NASA has to pay extra attention to safety. Just like you have rules about safety at home and in school, everyone at NASA has safety rules to follow.

www.hq.nasa.gov/office/codeq/safety/index.htm

?? NESN Puzzler ??

Which NASA spacecraft recently reached Saturn?

Send your answer with your name, your teacher's name and school's name and address to NESNews@nasa.gov. The first 10 correct answers win cool NASA prizes!

NASA Explorers are people like you

Name: Karma Snyder

Education: BS Mechanical Engineering, MS candidate.

Job: Test Operations Engineer

Karma is a member of a team that prepares and maintains the E-1 Test Stand at NASA's Stennis Space Center. Her team tests turbo-pumps as well as liquid-fuel and hybrid engines. (Extra credit: Other than gasoline, what liquids are used as fuels?) Karma thinks the coolest part of her job is to have the opportunity to get involved in so many different engine programs that will one day fulfill NASA's vision to return to the Moon and then go to Mars. Karma enjoys getting paid "to make smoke and fire." Apart from being an engineer, Karma is also pursuing her private pilot's license, is a certified SCUBA diver, and she enjoys singing, running and spending time with her family.



NES Spotlight

J.F. Kennedy Elementary School

Students: 840

Teaching staff: 40

Kennedy Elementary School is located in the large urban section of San Diego, CA, amongst a diverse terrain of beaches, mesas, canyons, wildlife sanctuaries, mountains, agricultural lands and even deserts. Originally annexed to San Diego Unified School district in 1925 as Ocean View School, they later became J.F. Kennedy Elementary in honor of our 35th U.S. President. Kennedy Elementary embraces the NASA ideals in science, math, engineering and technology. This year the NES teachers designed and implemented a unique NASA Rotation program/curriculum, where more than 120 students rotated between science, math, technology and literacy, incorporating NASA curriculum materials in each subject area. In April, the NES Team planned NES Day, when students constructed their own aircraft, and then enthusiastically tested them at six stations. At each station, after performing the tests, students recorded their findings. The students and teachers are creating and designing a special web page for their NES school. Find out more about the great happenings at Kennedy Elementary at

www.sandi.net



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Please send comments or questions to NESNews@nasa.gov
learners.gsfc.nasa.gov/NESNews