

Free Distance Learning Programs Available From NASA

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NOTE: Programs support standards and the integration of mathematics, science, and technology.

The NASA Center for Distance Learning (<http://dlcenter.larc.nasa.gov>) offers instructional distance learning programs that are research- and standards-based, support the national mathematics, science, and technology standards, and use NASA programs, facilities, and people to establish a "connection" between the math, science, and technology concepts taught in the classroom and the math, science, and technology used every day by NASA researchers. The programs listed below are free and are not copyrighted. Broadcast and off air rights are unlimited and granted in perpetuity. However, educators are required to register for the NASA SCIENCE Files™ and NASA CONNECT™. In an attempt to provide the widest dissemination and use, educators are encouraged to copy and share the lesson guides with their colleagues.

NASA's Kids Science News Network™ (KSNN)

URL: English: <http://ksnn.larc.nasa.gov>

URL: Spanish: <http://ksnnspace.larc.nasa.gov>

NASA's Kids Science News Network™ (KSNN) is a research and standards-based, award winning program that (1) uses web- and video-based technology, (2) targets K-2 and 3-5 audiences and (3) is available in both English and Spanish. KSNN explains the everyday phenomena of our world, corrects misconceptions, and answers frequently asked questions about the Earth and beyond. KSNN begins with a 1-minute "streaming" video newsbreak from the KSNN web site and offers a follow-up written explanation, a hands-on activity, related print and electronic resources, and a computer-graded quiz.

NASA SCIENCE Files™

URL: <http://scifiles.larc.nasa.gov>

The NASA SCIENCE Files™ is a research and standards-based, Emmy® award-winning series of 60-minute instructional programs for students in grades 3-5. Programs are designed to introduce students to NASA; integrate mathematics, science, and technology through the use of Problem-Based Learning (PBL), scientific inquiry, and the scientific method; to motivate students to become critical thinkers and active problem solvers; and to introduce students to careers requiring proficiency in math, science, and technology. The series includes an instructional broadcast, a companion educator's guide, an interactive web site featuring a PBL activity, plus a wealth of instructional resources. The NASA SCIENCE Files™ airs nationally on Cable Access, ITV, and PBS-member stations and can be taped for later use.

NASA CONNECT™

URL: <http://connect.larc.nasa.gov>

NASA CONNECT™ is a research- and standards-based, Emmy® award-winning series of mathematics-focused, instructional programs for students in grades 6 - 8. The series includes a 30-minute instructional broadcast, a companion lesson guide, and an interactive web-based application. Programs are designed to establish a connection between the mathematics, science, and technology concepts taught in the classroom to those used every day by NASA researchers. The lesson guide, containing a hands-on activity, and the web-based application reinforce and extend the objectives presented in the program. NASA CONNECT™ airs nationally on Cable Access, ITV, and PBS-member stations and can be taped for later use.

NASA LIVE™

URL: <http://live.larc.nasa.gov>

NASA LIVE™ (*Learning through Interactive Videoconferencing Experiences*) represents a new dimension in education and instruction. NASA LIVE™ is a series of videoconferencing programs that (1) are designed to extend and strengthen NASA's commitment to educational excellence at the K-12 level; (2) provide opportunities for learning, instructional enrichment, and professional development for students and educators by engaging them in an interactive, virtual environment with NASA researchers; and (3) communicate NASA knowledge, foster collaboration, and the exchange of ideas. This program links students and educators to NASA in an interactive, virtual setting. Students and educators across the nation will have the unique experience of visiting NASA experts via videoconferencing without the inconveniences and expenses associated with extended travel.

Television Broadcasts

You can get the television broadcasts of the NASA SCI Files™ and NASA CONNECT™ programs by:

- checking your local PBS station listings for broadcast times;
- viewing on the Web through NASA's Learning Technologies Channel (<http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/lrc/special/scifiles/scifiles.html> and <http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/lrc/special/connect/index.html>);
- obtaining video copies from the NASA Educator Resource Center in your state (<http://education.nasa.gov/ercn>) and from NASA Central Operation of Resources for Educators, <http://core.nasa.gov>. Contact NASA CORE for a catalog of multimedia educational materials at NASA CORE, 15181 State Route 58 South, Oberlin, OH 44074, phone: (440) 775-1400, fax: (440) 775-1460, E-mail: nasaco@lecca.org

Both the NASA SCI Files™ and NASA CONNECT™ are closed captioned and their corresponding web sites are 508 compliant.

NASA Resources for Educators

Additional resources for NASA-related materials to support educators are provided on the following Web sites:

- <http://education.nasa.gov>
- <http://www.nasa.gov/enterprises.html>
- <http://edu.larc.nasa.gov>
- <http://spacelink.nasa.gov>
- <http://quest.nasa.gov>
- <http://NASAexplorers.com/>

The NASA Center for Distance Learning

The NASA Center for Distance Learning is the home for some of the Agency's most exciting and inspirational K-12 educational programs. Created in 1996 and located at the NASA Langley Research Center's Office of Education, the NASA Center for Distance Learning is committed to enhancing and enriching the teaching and learning of mathematics, science, and technology. The Center offers a variety of distance learning programs that (1) combine the power and strength of several educational technologies to inspire educators and students in grades and (2) help NASA inspire the next generation of explorers. Reach us on the web at <http://dlcenter.larc.nasa.gov>.

As part of its program of continuous improvement, NASA's Center for Distance Learning is always looking for feedback from educators. If you do not have internet access, want to register for a program, or want to speak with someone directly about how NASA can help you implement programs in your school, please call (757) 864-6100.

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