



the Space Place

May – June 2014 / Vol. 7, Issue 3

NEWS AND NOTES FOR FORMAL AND INFORMAL EDUCATORS

The Space Place is a NASA website for elementary school-aged kids, their teachers, and their parents.

It's colorful!
It's dynamic!
It's fun!

It's rich with science, technology, engineering, and math content!

It's informal.
It's meaty.
It's easy to read and understand.
It's also in Spanish.
And it's free!

It has over 150 separate modules for kids, including hands-on projects, interactive games, animated cartoons, and amazing facts about space and Earth science and technology.

Not only is the Space Place constantly developing brand-new content, we also make sure to keep our existing products as up-to-date and as exciting as possible. Nowhere is this clearer than in our educational mobile game development. In the past couple of months we have updated our classic games Satellite Insight and Comet Quest, and our magazine-style app Space Place Prime. Comet Quest is now as exciting as ever with all-new game play. We have expanded our reach by releasing Space Place Prime for Android devices, and all of our products are now compatible with iOS7. The new updates of Comet Quest and Satellite Insight now include access to Apple's Game Center. See how well you stack up against players from around the world!

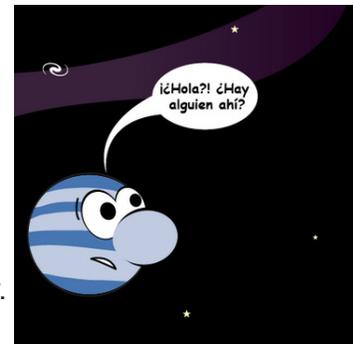
What's New? Craters!



Ever stop to think about how many craters are on the Moon? Do you wonder why Earth hasn't suffered a similar scarred fate? It's a good mystery to puzzle about, and can lead to some excellent classroom science discussions. A new page on Space Place answers this quandary with its usual dose of fun and humor. Check it out at <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/craters>.

Space Place en Español

We are constantly adding our newest content to Space Place en Español, but we've added even more to the site recently. Our popular new pages "The Lone Planet," "What is a Planet," "A Solar Mystery," and our new activity "Build a Spacecraft" are all available on the Spanish language site. Check them out at <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/sp/>.



Spotlight on Game Center



The Space Place team is proud to announce that we are one of the first NASA groups to release mobile games that are compatible with Apple's Game Center app. This app, which works with both Comet Quest and Satellite Insight, allows you to compare scores with anyone else in the world. How do your scores measure against friends, strangers, and high-scorers. Who knows? Maybe you can set the highest score in the world. You'll have to beat us first, though... Check out our mobile games at <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/ios>.

For the Classroom



It's that time of year again—Space Place calendar time, that is! We've just released the most recent edition of our hit calendar. Perfect for the classroom, this June 2014-June 2015 calendar comes complete with fun science facts, historical notes, and beautiful images. Can't wait until then? Don't worry, we still have the remaining

months of last year's calendar ready to download as well. Spice your classroom up today! Download at <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/calendar>.

For Out-of-School Time



With summer fast approaching, now might be a good time to get your wardrobe in order. Why not create your own fashionable summer wear this year? Space Place can help you out. We've got a printout t-shirt design that can be ironed on to the shirt of your choosing. What better way to tell the world that you are both stylish and science savvy than with a Space Place t-shirt? Check it out here: <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/t-shirt>.

Special Days

May 2 - The first commercial jet flight takes place, 1953. Why do we need rockets? Can't an airplane just keep going into space? <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/dr-marc-technology>.

May 6 - National Space Day. Build your own satellite to celebrate! <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/build-a-spacecraft>.

May 18 - Eruption of Mount St. Helens, 1980. It was a pretty impressive volcanic eruption. Does anything like that happen on other planets? <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/volcanoes>.

May 26 - Birthday of Dr. Sally Ride, 1951. She was the first American woman in space. Women do all kinds of important work at NASA. <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/space-place-live>.



June 5 - World Environment Day. Take a look at Earth's many environments. <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/gallery-earth/geography>.

June 13 - The first roller coaster opens, 1884. How does a roller coaster work? Build a "Newtonian Physics Machine" and find out. <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/momentum>.

June 30 - A comet or asteroid explodes over Siberia, 1908. Do comets or asteroids do more than explode or kill off dinosaurs? <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/comet-ocean>.

Share

Want some help spreading the word about NASA's Space Place? We've got a page with ready-to-use website descriptions, logos, and links to all our social media. Check out <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/share>.

Send Feedback

Please let us know your ideas about ways to use NASA's Space Place in your teaching. Send to info@spaceplace.nasa.gov.