

From: Science Buddies <scibuddy@sciencebuddies.org>
Subject: March 2009 Newsletter: Science Buddies Announces New Helpful Resources
Date: March 10, 2009 11:09:48 AM PDT
To: ken@sciencebuddies.org
Reply-To: "Science Buddies" <Science_Buddies_rgsbwww@cmpgnr.com>

Free Science Fair Project Ideas, Answers,
& Tools for Serious Students



Science Buddies Newsletter
Issue 5
March 2009

Dear Ken,

Science Buddies has recently completed several new resources, including a brand-new Parent Resources page; an Internet Safety Guide for students, parents, and teachers; and of course, new Project Ideas. There are also several interesting science events coming up this spring. You'll find more information about these topics, and more, below and on our website at www.sciencebuddies.org.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Hess
Science Buddies Founder and President
www.sciencebuddies.org

News and Announcements

[New Renewable Energy Project Ideas Now Live](#)

Renewable energy is a hot topic today, and Science Buddies writers have recently developed three new Project Ideas in this area, ready for your students to investigate. Science Buddies thanks PG&E, whose grant support underwrites development of energy-related Project Ideas, like these:

- [From Trash to Gas: Biomass Energy](#)
- [Leaky Clues to Dam Design: How Reservoir Height Affects Hydroelectric Power Production](#)
- [Tireless Tides: Extracting Energy from Ocean Tides](#)

Visit our [Energy & Power Project Ideas](#) page for a complete list of all energy projects.

[Find Out How You Can Experience Zero Gravity...Without Leaving Earth!](#)

The Northrop Grumman Foundation's [Weightless Flights of Discovery](#) program is a unique initiative that places teachers on micro- and zero-gravity flights to test Newton's laws of motion.

Contents

- [Renewable Energy Projects](#)
- [Weightless Flights of Discovery](#)
- [New Science Buddies and CYBERCHASE features](#)
- [Parent Resources Now Available](#)
- [Mission for Science Literacy](#)
- [Academic Outreach Partnership Program](#)
- [Internet Safety Guide](#)
- [Competition Resources](#)
- [Events and Deadlines](#)

Contact Us

If you have any questions or comments, please send an email to scibuddy@sciencebuddies.org



If you are a math or science teacher at an accredited public middle school or a college student majoring in education at a university near locations where flights will take place, you may [submit an application](#) to participate in the Northrop Grumman Foundation Weightless Flights of Discovery program. Visit the Northrop Grumman Foundation's [Weightless Flights of Discovery](#) website for more information.

Here are the locations and dates for the 2009 workshops and flights:

- Albuquerque, NM: Workshop – Saturday, August 22; Flight – Tuesday, September 22
- Detroit, MI: Workshop – Saturday, August 1; Flight – Thursday, September 24
- Norwalk, CT: Workshop – Saturday, August 29 ; Flight – Tuesday, September 29
- Washington, D.C.: Workshop – Saturday, August 15; Flight – Friday, October 2

What a phenomenal opportunity to share with your students! To help bring the concepts into the classroom, check out these Science Buddies Project Ideas:

- [Balancing Act: Finding Your Center of Gravity](#)
- [Centripetal Force](#)
- [Distance and Constant Acceleration](#)

Science Buddies thanks Northrop Grumman Foundation, whose grant support underwrites our [Aerodynamics and Hydrodynamics](#) Interest Area.

Check Out the New CYBERCHASE Project and Upcoming Features

Science Buddies recently teamed up with CYBERCHASE, the PBS KIDS GO! award-winning math-based mystery series, to develop a new Project Idea: [Keep Your Candy Cool with the Power of Evaporation!](#) The chemistry project was inspired by and features a CYBERCHASE episode.

We also wanted to let you know that CYBERCHASE will premiere its new initiative, Weather Watchers, on April 20, 2009—just in time for Earth Day! Weather Watchers features five episodes, an all-new online game, and supporting activities on math and weather science. Also premiering in 2009, an episode that features using math to understand animal behavior. You can visit pbskidsgo.org/cyberchase for updates, or check local listings. If this topic interests you and your students, Science Buddies offers several [Weather & Atmosphere Project Ideas](#), including:

- [Foggy Forecasting: What Weather Factors Create Radiation Fog?](#)
- [How Do the Seasons Change in Each Hemisphere?](#)
- [Predicting the Weather](#)

Brand-New Parent Resources Now Available

Let your students' parents know that Science Buddies has launched a new [Parent Resources](#) page! Whatever their background, whatever their level of scientific knowledge, we've compiled valuable resources to increase parents' confidence and motivation to help their children with science fair projects. Topics include:

- [Why Are Science Fairs Important?](#)
- [Science Fair Project Overview](#)
- [How to Help](#)

Tips and Tricks for Teachers

Be a Part of Our Mission to Teach Science Literacy

The Kenneth Lafferty Hess Family Charitable Foundation is a non-profit public charity founded in 1995. In 2001, the Foundation began its sole operating program: Science Buddies. Science Buddies is located in the San Francisco Bay Area, and will serve over 10 million students from all over the United States and the world in 2009. Hands-on scientific investigations are acknowledged to be the best way to teach science literacy. Science Buddies supports these activities by providing free science fair project ideas, answers, and tools to teachers, parents, and students from all walks of life.

Has Science Buddies helped you and your students? Consider linking to [Science Buddies](#) on your website or blog, and help spread the word about our free online resources!

[Science Buddies Launches New Academic Outreach Partnership Program](#)

We're funneling real-world research straight into the hands of students with a new [Academic Outreach Partnership Program](#). With the launch of this program, we're actively inviting collaborations between Science Buddies and researchers at universities, institutes, and science foundations. The goal is to develop new Project Ideas where students have exposure to the exciting, cutting-edge research being done right *now* in academic labs. This program is already meeting with great success. Here are two recently published examples:

- Dr. Wikelski, wildlife biologist at Princeton University: [Are We There Yet? Test How Migratory Birds Navigate](#)
- Dr. Brodie and Dr. Arnold, astronomers at the University of California, Santa Cruz: [Finding the Center of the Milky Way Galaxy Using Globular Star Clusters](#)

Maybe you know a researcher or professor who'd like to share his or her work with a broader audience—if so, point them to our [Research Grants & Academic Outreach Partnerships](#) page! We always welcome new and exciting Project Idea suggestions and collaborations.

Tips and Tricks for Students

[New Science Buddies Internet Safety Guide](#)

The Internet can be an excellent resource as your students perform research for their science fair projects; however, there are also risks you might not even have considered. Science Buddies recently completed an [Internet Safety Guide](#) to help keep them safe. Do any of their usernames or passwords include their birthday, part of their address, or their name? Are their Facebook photos public? Are they tempted by those online ads to play a simple game to win a free ringtone or game console? The Science Buddies [Internet Safety Guide](#) offers tons of insightful information and tips to help them protect their identity and their privacy. Science Buddies thanks Symantec Foundation, whose grant support underwrote the development of our Internet Safety Guide.

[Keep Your Science Fair Project on Track with Our Competitions Resources](#)

As your students are working on their science fair projects, perhaps they're wondering if anyone else has run into the obstacles they have. Or maybe they're thinking big and preparing for the next level of competition. Science Buddies' [Science Competitions](#) page offers blogs from students who have been through science fairs and wanted to share preparation tips, presentation ideas, and more!

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Events

- [NASA Kepler Mission](#) The Kepler Mission, a NASA Discovery mission, is specifically designed to survey our region of the Milky Way galaxy to detect and characterize hundreds of Earth-size and smaller planets in or near the habitable zone. Launch date and time is no earlier than March 6, 2009 at 10:48 p.m. EST. To find out any official changes in launch time, see the [NASA Launch Schedule page](#).
- [Earth Hour](#) On March 31, 2007, 2.2 million people and 2100 businesses in Sydney, Australia turned off their lights for one hour. This effort reduced Sydney's energy consumption by 10.2% for one hour, which is the equivalent effect of taking 48,000 cars off the road for one year. Earth Hour 2009 will be

on Saturday, March 28th, 8:30 pm.

- [National Robotics Challenge](#) National Robotics Challenge allows students to develop their creativity, engineering, problem-solving and leadership skills. The 2009 National Finals will be held in Marion, Ohio on April 17–18.
- [National DNA Day](#) April 25 commemorates both the discovery in 1953 of the DNA double helix and the 2003 completion of the Human Genome Project. Students can participate in National DNA Day through a live, moderated online chat with National Human Genome Research Institute researchers on April 25, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST. The Science Buddies Project Idea [Do-It-Yourself DNA](#) would make a great in classroom demonstration on DNA day.

Deadlines

- [Physics Bowl](#) Registration deadline is March 21. Each year, approximately 10,000 students take a 40-question, 45-minute timed, multiple-choice test under their school's supervision. The 2009 exam will be given between April 1–15.
- [NASA Space Settlement Contest](#) NASA Ames Research Center, in conjunction with the National Space Society, sponsors an annual space settlement design contest for 6–12th grade students. Each spring, students send their designs for homes in space for judging by NASA engineers and scientists. Submissions must be received by March 31, 2009.
- [ThinkQuest](#) ThinkQuest offers a unique project-based learning experience to students worldwide. Teams compete for prizes, including laptop computers and a trip to ThinkQuest Live, an educational extravaganza celebrating their achievements in San Francisco. In addition to honoring the top entries in each age group, a special award is presented to the team best demonstrating global perspectives. Entry submission deadline is April 1, 2009.
- [Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams](#) The InvenTeam initiative, created by the Lemelson-MIT Program, offers an opportunity for high school students to cultivate their creativity and experience invention. InvenTeams are teams of high school students, teachers, and mentors that receive grants up to \$10,000 each to invent technological solutions to real-world problems. Each InvenTeam chooses its own problem to solve. The program is currently accepting initial applications for 2010 InvenTeams; the deadline to submit is April 24, 2009. Applications must be completed [online](#).

Science Buddies gratefully acknowledges its Presenting Sponsor



If you would like to receive this email in text format, please email us at scibuddy@sciencebuddies.org

To Forward-Click here to send this to a friend.

To Subscribe-Click here to subscribe to this newsletter.

Copyright © 2002-2009 Kenneth Lafferty Hess Family Charitable Foundation. All rights reserved.

You are subscribed as ken@sciencebuddies.org. To unsubscribe please [click here](#).

delivered by
Campaigner