



**Xplora Newsletter Issue 18
November 2009**

Welcome to the Xplora newsletter!

Are you looking for new ideas for your science lessons? Or are you interested in current projects in the field? Take a minute to explore the science education news and events Xplora has gathered for you this month!

Would you like to be featured in our newsletter or send us a contribution?

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EVENTS

XPLORA AT A GLANCE

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

We would like to invite you to send us your contributions for the next issue of the newsletter! Send short reports with a link to additional information on news, events, awards, best practices, etc. relating to maths, science, technology and environment education.

Please send your contributions **by 10 January 2010** to johanna.snellman@eun.org

LIBRARY

THE MEDIA PORTAL OF THE SIEMENS STIFTUNG EXPANDED: TEACHING MATERIALS AVAILABLE ALSO IN ENGLISH

Having acquired a solid reputation among German-speaking teachers, the Siemens Stiftung has now expanded its media portal by adding materials for bilingual and non-German teaching. In addition to more than 1,000 German media files, teachers can now access around 480 English media files on the topics of energy, water and hearing for free download.

http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/library/highlights/siemens_stiftung.htm

PREPARE YOUR STUDENTS FOR TOMORROW'S CLIMATE CHALLENGES

The Climate Mystery is an online learning universe that combines education and entertainment to inform and teach about global climate challenges. Through a combination of dramatic stories, problem-based assignments, social media, and gameplay, an *edutainment* universe is created focusing on motivating individuals for personal learning.

http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/news/latestnews/climate_mystery.htm

LEARN BY PLAYING: KS3 BITESIZE

Are you the next mad scientist? Maybe the next Shakespeare? Get closer to your dream with the brand new KS3 Bitesize website. Learn while you play games and activities on science, maths and English.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks3bitesize/science/>

NEW EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE: NERVE SIGNALLING

Nobelprize.org launches a new free educational resource on the nervous system. The Nerve Signalling online tool is based on several Nobel Prizes in Physiology and Medicine awarded from 1906 to the present day for discoveries related to nerve signalling. The Nerve Signalling tool gives a basic understanding of the nervous system and how it sends messages from one cell to another.

http://nobelprize.org/educational_games/medicine/nerve_signaling/about.html

Search for other science resources at:

<http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/library/resources.cfm>

Visit the Xplora science education library at:
<http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/library.htm>

PRACTICE

GET READY FOR THE XPERIMANIA SCIENCE AMBASSADORS

Would you like to show your students the coolest chemistry and physics tricks and find some new ideas for your science classes? This year Xperimania sends science ambassadors right into the classroom to demonstrate the fun side of science - and your school can be one of their destinations!

http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/news/latestnews/xperimania_ambassadors.htm

ABOUT XPLORA PARTNERS

TEST YOUR STUDENTS' PERCEPTION OF NANOTECHNOLOGIES

NANOYOU – Communicating Nanotechnology to European Youth – invites young people aged 11 to 25 years old to participate in a survey of their opinions and expectations with regard to Nanotechnologies.

http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/news/latestnews/nanoyou_survey.htm

EUROPEAN E-SKILLS WEEK 2010: A NEW CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE ICT SKILLS IN EUROPE

The European e-Skills Week 2010 campaign, which kicked off in Brussels on 22 October 2009, aims to raise awareness of the growing demand for highly skilled ICT practitioners and users within the industry.

<http://www.eskills-week.eu>

CLOSING UP INSPIRE: INITIAL OUTCOMES PUBLISHED

From August 2008 to November 2009, Inspire (Innovative Science Pedagogy in Research and Education) gathered teachers from five European countries to test and analyse digital learning resources in Maths, Science and Technology (MST) education. The results are now being published and distributed through the Inspire project summary brochure and the Handbook for teachers, which are available online.

<http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/news/latestnews/inspire.htm>

EUROPEAN SCIENCE EDUCATION PROJECTS

SCIENCE EDUCATION WORKSHOPS AND PRACTICE EXAMPLES

The STELLA project will hold its last workshops and final conference this autumn. The final conference – open to science teachers and educators from across Europe – will be held in Nancy, France, on 18 November 2009, and will be broadcast on the Internet in English and French. The final outcomes of the project will be presented at the conference, such as the STELLA eBook "Science Education in European Schools - Selected Practices from the STELLA Catalogue".

<http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/events/calendar/stella.htm>

EU CONTEST FOR YOUNG SCIENTISTS: EUROPEAN YOUNG SCIENCE STARS SELECTED

15 promising European and non-European young scientists, aged between 14 and 20, have been rewarded for their scientific project, of the highest quality, at the EU Contest for Young Scientists.

<http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/news/latestnews/eucys.htm>

AWARDS AND NEWS

CELEBRATE DATA PROTECTION DAY THROUGH DIGITAL CREATIVITY!

From 15 October 2009 to 5 January 2010 young Europeans are invited to create digital artwork highlighting privacy as a human right and to submit it to the Data Protection Day competition.

http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/events/calendar/dpd_competition.htm

NEW EUROPEAN DIRECTORY OF WOMEN AND ICT LAUNCHED

The European Commission has launched the European Directory for Women in ICT – a new online tool that will bring together all information on activities and jobs in the EU related to women and ICT.

http://eskills.eun.org/web/guest/news_/journal_content/56_INSTANCE_iGv8/10114/33704

PROFESSOR JACQUELINE MCGLADE URGES YOUNG PEOPLE TO GIVE COURAGE TO THE WORLD LEADERS AT COP15

During an online debate that took place on the FuturEnergia website on 25 September 2009, Professor Jacqueline McGlade, Executive Director at the European Environment Agency urged young people to speak out and persuade their governments to make a difference and contribute to a good outcome from the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP15), which is scheduled to take place in Copenhagen on 7-18 December 2009.

<http://www.futurenergia.org/ww/en/pub/futurenergia2007/news/mcglade.htm>

APPLY NOW: MILLENNIUM YOUTH CAMP 2010

The first-ever international Millennium Youth Camp (MY Camp) will be organized 6-13 June 2010 in Helsinki, Finland. MY Camp is targeted at young people aged 16-19 interested in mathematics, natural sciences, information technology and other technologies.

http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/events/calendar/my_camp.htm

CHALLENGING FUTURES OF SCIENCE IN SOCIETY – THE MASIS REPORT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED

The MASIS (Monitoring Activities of Science in Society in Europe) report represents a collective overview and reflection on emerging trends and important cutting-edge policy and research issues in Science in Society, making it a potentially valuable tool for researchers and decision-makers. It looks forward into a number of challenging futures and develops the hypothesis of a European Model of Science in Society.

http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/document_library/pdf_06/the-masis-report_en.pdf

EVENTS

SEMANA DE LA CIENCIA

9-22 November 2009

Madrid, Spain

During the Science Week in Madrid over 250 participating institutions offer guided tours, conferences, round tables, workshops, demos, science movies, science paths, archaeological, architectural and geological routes, exhibitions, competitions and many other events and activities.

<http://www.madrimasd.org/semanaciencia>

EIROFORUM TEACHER SCHOOL: THE EVOLUTION OF THE UNIVERSE

16-20 November 2009

Geneva, Switzerland

EIROforum, the publisher of *Science in School*, is organising a one-week course entitled "Evolution of the Universe" for European physics. The course will be given by renowned scientists from CERN, EFDA, ESA, and ESO, and will give a broad overview of the origin and development of the Universe.

<http://www.eiroforum.org/>

LA FÊTE DE LA SCIENCE

16-22 November 2009

France

The topic of this year's Fête de la Science is "The origins of life and the Universe: what evolutions, what revolutions?" The events taking place throughout France are aimed at the general public: exhibitions, workshops, science cafés, visits to labs, natural and industrial sites, and much more.

<http://www.fetedelascience.fr>

STELLA FINAL CONFERENCE

18 November 2009

Nancy, France

Science teachers, educators, researchers and school heads are invited to take part in the STELLA final conference held in Nancy, France, on 18 November 2009. The conference will also be broadcast on the Internet in English and French.

<http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/events/calendar/stella.htm>

EUROPEAN E-SKILLS CONFERENCE

20 November 2009

Brussels, Belgium

This year the European e-Skills Conference will take place on 20 November 2009 in Brussels. The conference is organised by the European Commission and the European Economic Social Committee in partnership with the Council of European Professionals and Informatics Societies and other leading stakeholders. It will bring together experts from governments, academia, ICT industry, ICT professional bodies and other stakeholders.

<http://www.eskills-pro.eu/>

UPDATE CONFERENCE

23-24 November 2009

Madrid, Spain

UPDATE stands for Understanding and Providing a Developmental Approach to Technology Education. The aim of the programme is to improve science and technology teaching in Europe in order to attract young people to technology, especially girls. New learning material and methods are expected to result from the project, which is focussed mainly on three age-groups: early childhood, elementary school and general education. At the final UPDATE Conference held in Madrid, Spain, 23-24 November 2009, a variety of different UPDATE members and guest speakers will complete the programme with their presentations on technology and science education and other topics related to this field. The purpose of the conference is to disseminate and exploit the findings of UPDATE activities. Discussion of how activity will be continued beyond the end of the project will also be an important item on the agenda.

http://update.jyu.fi/index.php/UPDATE_Conference_Madrid

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE "ICT IN NATURAL SCIENCE EDUCATION - 2009"

26-29 November 2009

Siauliai, Lithuania

We invite you to the international scientific conference "Information & Communication Technology in Science and Technology Education – 2009", which will take place 26 - 29 November 2009 in the Conference centre of Siauliai University in Siauliai. The main aims of this conference are to disseminate ideas in natural science education, to share experience among educators and to search for opportunities to improve processes in natural science & technology education by applying modern information and communication technologies.

http://www.gutc.su.lt/ICT_conference_2009.htm

ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN

2-4 December 2009

Berlin, Germany

ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN is the largest global e-learning conference for the corporate and public service sectors in education and training. This annual event offers a forum for e-learning experts, experienced users and apprentices from all over the world to exchange ideas and make contacts. Over 2000 delegates from more than 90 countries attend the conference, making ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN the most comprehensive annual meeting place for e-learning and distance education professionals.

<http://www.online-educa.com>

INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY IN THE HANDS OF THE YOUNG 2009

2–4 December 2009

Reykjavik, Iceland

This conference is of interest to a wide spectrum of audiences, ranging from children and young people to industry and academia as well as policy makers, as its focus is on the interrelations between the different actors and sectors of society. Creativity and innovation are undoubtedly part of the resources that both nations and the global community need to harness in order to get through the current global economic and social crisis. Dialogue about Innovation and Creativity in the Hands of the Young and practical examples from the Nordic countries of the use of innovative and creative talent presented in the conference will feed into current debate and contribute to finding

solutions, alleviations of the current crisis and further developments in the field. The Conference is a joint Nordic involvement in the European Year of Innovation and Creativity 2009 (EYIC 2009).

<http://www.yourhost.is/ichy2009>

BELGRADE SCIENCE FESTIVAL

4-6 December 2009

Belgrade, Serbia

The aim of the Belgrade Science Festival is to demonstrate to the youth of Belgrade and Serbia that science is an inseparable part of everyday life, and to arouse interest, explain and involve the whole of society in the importance of science and technology. The Festival is under the patronage of the Ministry of Science and Belgrade City Council and supported by the US Embassy and the British Council.

<http://www.festivalnauke.org/>

EUROPEAN CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY NETWORK – THE TWIN CITY CONFERENCE 2009

6-9 December 2009

Bratislava, Slovakia / Vienna, Austria

The European Children's University Network forms an international network for cooperation for those, who are interested in science communication for children, including those who are organizing Children's Universities activities and those who plan to organize such activities. The 2nd International Conference on Children's Universities - the Twin City Conference will be held in Bratislava and Vienna 6-9 December 2009 under the motto "Beyond the Boundaries".

<http://www.eucu.net>

I DO: A COLLECTIVE EUROPEAN ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

14 December 2009

Copenhagen, Denmark

"I do" is the message of the ACCENT project, which coordinates a European action on climate change, engaging the public inside and outside of science centres and museums across Europe throughout 2010. The launch of "I do" takes place on 14 December 2009 in the context of the COP15 United Nations Climate Change Conference. Experts from across the field of climate change communication, scientists, policymakers and stakeholders will get together and exchange views in an afternoon of inspiring speeches, workshops, shows, demonstrations and a reception in Experimentarium's new Energy exhibition, in the presence of Denmark's Minister for Science, Mr Helge Sander.

Registration to participate is free

<http://www.i-do-climate.eu/>

EU SUSTAINABLE ENERGY WEEK

22-26 March 2010

European wide

From Monday 22 to Friday 26 March 2010 the 4th edition of the EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW 2010) will take place in Brussels and other major cities across Europe. Under the umbrella of the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign, an initiative of the European Commission managed by the Executive Agency for Competitiveness & Innovation (EACI), the EU Sustainable Energy Week is Europe's lead event on energy issues. The focus of this year's EUSEW is on Europe's cities and their efforts in the fight

against climate change.
<http://www.sustenergy.org>

EUROPEAN SCIENCE PARLIAMENT CONFERENCE: H₂O – MORE THAN JUST A DROP

23-25 March 2009
Aachen, Germany

The European Science Parliament (ESP) is an ongoing discussion forum dealing with current socio-political topics related to science and research. The second ESP Conference is organised in two phases: The first phase is an online discussion of a range of topics via a web portal. The second phase will take place in Aachen, with live participation by those invited to join in a face-to-face discussion on the most interesting points. The topic of the ESP 2010 is “H₂O – More than just a drop”.

<http://www.science-parliament.eu>

MILLENNIUM YOUTH CAMP 2010 – MY CAMP

6-13 June 2010
Helsinki, Finland

The first-ever international Millennium Youth Camp (MY Camp) will be organized 6-13 June 2010 in Helsinki, Finland. MY Camp is targeted at young people aged 16-19 interested in mathematics, natural sciences, information technology and other technologies. The application deadline is 30 November 2010. The names of the successful applicants will be announced by 15 March 2010.

<http://www.technologyacademy.fi/millennium-youth-camp-fi.html>

SCIENCE EDUCATION SUMMER SCHOOL: DISCOVER OPEN SCIENCE RESOURCES

4-9 July 2010
Crete, Greece

Educators from science centres and museums as well as science teachers are invited to participate in the summer school DISCOVER OpenScienceResources: Technology Enhanced Science Education and Science Content Organisation held in Crete 4-9 July 2010. The application deadline is 16 January 2010.

<http://www.xplora.org/ww/en/pub/xplora/events/calendar/openscienceresources.htm>