

# SMSC August 2022

## Newsletter

### AUGUST EVENT CALENDAR

8/4 - JW Community Event: Robbinsville and Andrews Libraries

8/5 - JW Community Event: Murphy and Hayesville Libraries

8/6 - JW Community Event: Sylva Library

8/9 and 8/11 - Artemis ROADS Professional Development Workshop

8/26 - Last Day for GLOBE Land Cover Challenge

8/29 - Expected Artemis Launch Date

### ICYMI: Summer Edition

#### GLOBE Land Cover Challenge

From now through Aug. 26, the NASA GLOBE Land Cover Challenge is live! The GLOBE Program is inviting participants to document their local environment for NASA scientists to study! The data can help track the impacts of climate change, such as: floods, fires, wildlife habitat and more! To participate, download the [GLOBE Observer App](#) and begin taking photos of the land around you using the Land Cover tool! If there have been any changes in your area, be sure to leave comments in the field notes!

## Climate Kids

School is out for the summer, but children don't have to stop learning! Check out Climate Kids for a handful of cool, [climate-themed games](#) that educate kids while they play! There are also [fun activities](#) such as making a garden lampshade and a terrarium mini-garden!



## Multicultural STEAM Books for Children

You've heard of STEM, but have you heard of STEAM? It's STEM, but with art! Art has been added to emphasize the importance of creative thinking! You can find a [list of STEAM books here](#) for children of all ages that are visually stimulating as well as educational and fun!

## Webb Images of Jupiter

The start of July kicked off the monumental public release of the James Webb Space Telescope first images, but the fun didn't stop there! There are now more images available featuring our solar system's very own [Jupiter and its moon Europa](#)! Be sure to check out the images! The James Webb Space Telescope is the largest space telescope in history and has captured images of galaxies up to 13.5 billion years old.

## Opportunities and Resources

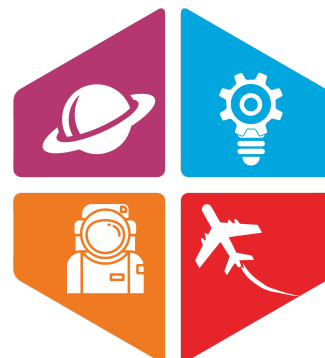
### 2022 International Space Apps Challenge

"Make space" in your schedule to participate in this year's NASA International Space Apps Challenge on Oct. 1-2! This year's theme is "Make Space," because "there's always space for one more." The NASA International Space Apps Challenge is an international hackathon for coders, scientists, makers, tech enthusiasts and more! Participants from around the world gather for both in-person and virtual events to solve challenges presented by NASA experts! [Sign up](#), create an account and then register for our location at Rosman (PARI)!



## NASA CONNECTS

Educators are invited to join Connecting Our NASA Network of Educators for Collaborating Together in STEM (CONNECTS), a professional community of practice from NASA's Next Gen STEM. Benefits of membership include access to NASA resources such as lesson plans and learning opportunities, access to the Museum and Informal Education Alliance content, networking opportunities with other registered members and more!



## STEMonstrations: Engineering Design Process

Available for teachers and educators is a [lesson plan from NASA](#) regarding the engineering design process to help students consider the various technologies they use in their everyday lives! The lesson plan includes a STEMonstration video as well as a couple of useful engineering design challenges and group activities that invite students to engage with their classmates to find solutions!

## Trees Around the GLOBE

The GLOBE Program invites participants to their Trees Around the GLOBE Student Research Campaign Webinar on Aug. 16 at 1 p.m. to focus on preparing students and educators for Year 5 of the campaign. GLOBE will have a guest speaker from the United States Forest Service to discuss carbon cycle research, land cover and more! There will also be an open forum and breakout rooms to discuss questions and ideas for the upcoming campaign.



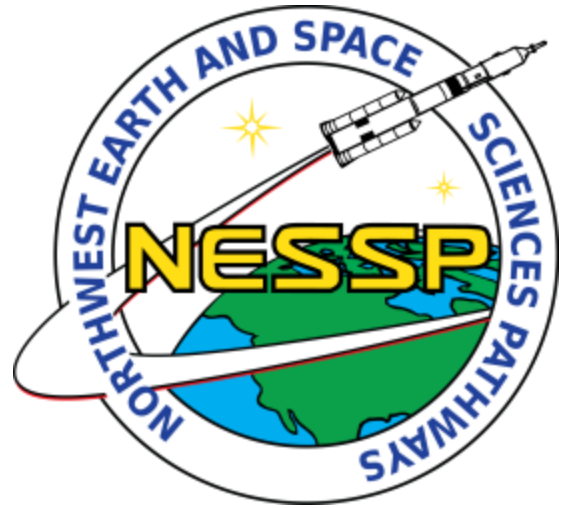
## Science in Action Comic Strip Contest

Grab your pens and papers! SciArt is inviting high school students and adults to participate in the Science in Action Comic Strip Contest! There are three prompts to choose from, which can be found on the [SciArt website](#), that focus on the positive impacts of NASA satellite data! Get inspired, prepare your comic strips and then [submit them online](#)! The deadline for submission is Aug. 31.



## Artemis ROADS Professional Development Workshop

The Northwest Earth and Space Sciences Pathways (NESSP) is launching its next Rover Observation and Drone Survey (ROADS) challenge, and we are going back to the Moon! Virtual professional development workshops are being offered on Aug. 9 and Aug. 11 to help formal and informal educators looking to mentor ROADS teams or incorporate ROADS challenges and activities into their classrooms. The ROADS Program explores STEM through hands-on activities. Teams in grades 3-12 model their own NASA missions, including flying to the mission site via drone, surveying the landscape via robot and analyzing data! ROADS takes inspiration from real NASA missions. Teams can document their missions in text and video, then submit those materials to NESSP for the chance to win prizes! For more information or to sign up, please visit the [NESSP website](#).



## NASA Connections - Middle School Workshops

Randi Neff, Project Coordinator of the Smoky Mountains STEM Collaborative, has compiled NASA resources and activities for middle school educators! There are workshop outlines available for [6th grade](#), [7th grade](#) and [8th grade](#) science classrooms. These workshops include general NASA resources, hands-on activities, materials for specific objectives and more.

## Virtual Classroom Connection

NASA's Next Gen STEM will select a handful of middle school groups for an interactive virtual event with a NASA expert on Sept. 8 at 1 p.m. to learn about the Quesst Mission. The students will then be tasked with completing a hands-on activity, which will be shared by the educators to NASA through NASA CONNECTS. Visit [NASA's Mission Overview](#) for more information about the Quesst Mission. [Registration is due](#) by Aug. 17.

Image credit: [Lockheed Martin](#).



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## August Skies

### Observing Constellations

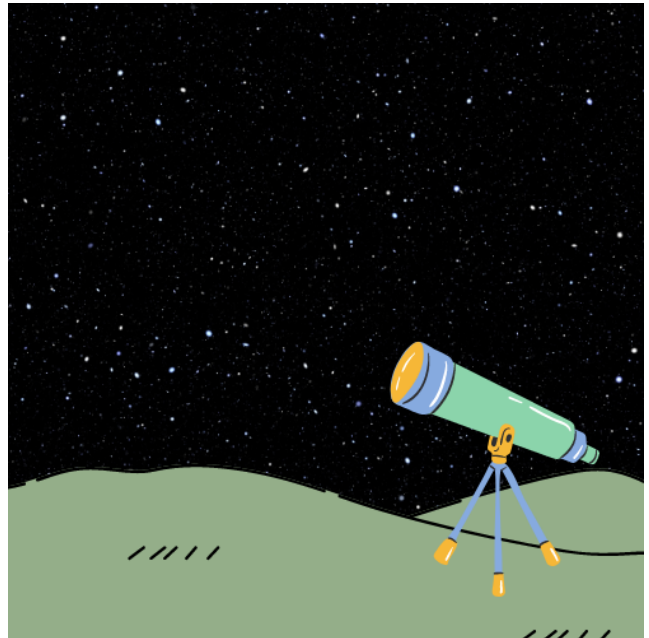
If you are a fellow fan of the stars who enjoys documenting constellations, here are some of the best ones to look for around the world in August! We have Aquila, Corona Australis, Pavo, Sagittarius and more to observe!

**Aquila** is Latin for “eagle” and represents the bird that carried the thunderbolts of Zeus. Its brightest star is named Altair.

**Corona Australis** is located between Sagittarius and Scorpius. It is said to represent a crown worn by the centaur seen in Sagittarius.

**Pavo**, meaning “peacock” in Latin, was discovered by Dutch astronomer Petrus Plancius in the late 16th century. It is a southern constellation.

**Sagittarius** is one of the constellations of the zodiac and it is usually depicted as a centaur with a bow and arrow.



*Newsletter header courtesy of NASA's SciAct program.*