



SMSC June 2022 Newsletter

JUNE EVENT CALENDAR

6/6-6/10 - Robotics Camp at SCC

6/14-6/17 - Summer Career Camp at SCC

6/13-6/24 - AstroCamp at Smokey Mountain Elementary School

6/21 - HBS Solstice Event

Summer Camps

Summer Camp Registration

For more information, email Randi Neff at r_neff@southwesterncc.edu

Summer AstroCamp - June 20-July 1, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Two-week day camp at Smoky Mountain Elementary School; free. Parents can email Randi Neff or talk to Suzanne Hummer at shummer@jcpsmail.org. There are ten spaces left!

Summer Career Camp - June 14-17

One-week day camp at Southwestern Community College for current high school sophomores and juniors; [registration is free](#).

Opportunities and Resources



NASA Space Place Art Challenge

NASA invites children of all ages to get creative about space! At the end of the month, drawings will be selected to be featured on the NASA Space Place website! You can submit your drawings by emailing NASAKidsArt@jpl.nasa.gov with your first name and age, as well as [completing a release form!](#) So get space on the brain and have fun!

3-D Thursdays for Rural Educators

Join hosts Rachael Arens and Michael Gurraia at NASA's Science Mission Directorate from 8 to 9 p.m. EST on June 2 for a [webinar series](#) that connects rural educators to NASA resources! Contact Rachael Arens at rachael.arenas@ops.org for more information!

World Ocean Day

Why does NASA study the ocean?

"Part of NASA's mission is to develop an understanding of the total Earth system and the effects of natural and human-induced changes on the global environment."

June 8 is World Ocean Day, and the analysis of remotely-sensed ocean data makes it possible to understand the ocean in exciting new ways! To celebrate, please visit the [World Ocean Day Resources](#) page to find toolkits and materials for your World Ocean Day activities!



Earth to Sky

Earth to Sky invites you to join an ongoing informal community conversation about climate change and climate science! On June 1 at 3 p.m., Earth to Sky will host a [Webex seminar](#) to discuss technical language and jargon when discussing climate. There will be multiple sessions available, and there will be breakout groups so everyone has a chance to participate!

Summer Solstice

Celebrate the longest day of the year by exploring how to tell time using the Sun as a guide! Join the Smoky Mountains STEM Collaborative on June 21 from 8-9 p.m. at the Highlands Biological Station to make a sundial and learn how the Earth's elliptical orbit around the Sun creates challenges for timekeeping!

World Environment Day

June 5 is World Environment Day and NASA invites the community to get involved in [Earth Science research](#)! There are several [citizen science projects](#) available for the community, such as the [GLOBE Observer Program](#), so be sure to check them out and find something you can get involved in!

[North Carolina Space Grant](#)

The North Carolina Space Grant (NCSG) invites educators to apply for the NC Space Education Ambassadors Program! Ten teachers across the state's eight education districts will be selected as Ambassadors to bring NASA and STEM education to communities! Selected Ambassadors will participate in webinars that will begin in September and will be led by NASA educational specialists from different NASA centers. The deadline is June 30.

James Webb-inar

Dr. Kelly Lepo, Education and Outreach Scientist at the Space Telescope Science Institute, is hosting a virtual webinar on June 7 at 4 p.m. with details about the James Webb Telescope! In this webinar, Dr. Lepo will provide an update on the telescope, discuss infrared astronomy and more!

[NASA News](#)

Artemis Launch

NASA's Space Launch System Rocket and Orion spacecraft are scheduled to return to Launchpad 39B at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in early June for a rehearsal before the launch of the Artemis I mission! The Artemis missions aim to land the first woman and the first person of color on the Moon to explore more of the lunar surface and establish the first long-term presence. From there, Artemis will use what they learn to travel further: Mars. [Stay tuned!](#)



CAPSTONE Launch

Illustration by [Daniel Rutter/NASA](#).

June is an exciting month in space as The CAPSTONE mission is planned for launch! Rocket Lab's Photon satellite bus will deliver CAPSTONE, a CubeSat spacecraft, into space toward the Moon. The spacecraft will test a unique, elliptical lunar orbit as part of the Cislunar Autonomous Positioning System Technology Operations and Navigation Experiment, and it will orbit around the moon for six months to understand the characteristics of the orbit!

.....



June Skies

Supermoon

Photo provided by [NASA/Goddard/Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter](#).

It's a bird! It's a plane! No, it's a Supermoon, in the sky on June 14! The Moon circles the Earth on an elliptical path, hitting both an apogee perigee point. The celestial event known as the supermoon is when the Moon gets closer to its perigee; the more accurate and scientific term for this is called "perigee syzygy," which is the alignment of three celestial bodies (being the Sun, the Moon and Earth). The Moon can appear roughly 14% larger and up to 30% brighter than usual! NASA has created several fun, [lunar activities available](#) for students, including [Measuring the Supermoon](#), [Moon Phases](#) and more!



Newsletter header courtesy of NASA's SciAct program.