

STEAM Resources for Libraries



Our Planet: EARTH focuses on citizen science and earth science opportunities during April 2020 to coincide with Citizen Science Month and the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. *STAR Net* invites libraries and their communities to participate in this month long event by utilizing all of our programming resources.



Citizen Science Month is an annual event to celebrate and promote all things citizen science: amazing discoveries, incredible volunteers, hardworking practitioners, inspiring projects, and anything else citizen science-related! This global celebration includes events hosted by libraries,

community groups, museums, and individuals all around the world.

Citizen Science Events include:

GLOBE Trees – This program allows citizen scientists to measure tree height for as many trees as the observer wants. Tree height is the most widely used indicator of an ecosystem’s ability to grow trees. Observing tree height allows NASA scientists to understand the gain or loss of biomass which can inform calculations of the carbon that trees and forests either take in from or release into the atmosphere.





Spotty Rain Campaign - The Spotty Rain Campaign encourages volunteer participation in community drought monitoring by providing the rain gauges and financial support for library sponsored programs. Increased public participation in drought monitoring can help scientists to predict where and when devastating droughts will occur.

New NASA Resources

NASA has released their Earth Day 2020: 50th Anniversary webpage. The webpage features topics such as air, climate, hazards, water, among others as well as how the Apollo mission helped to shape the original Earth Day. Libraries can access NASA Earth mission data as well as connections to various resources (for example eBooks, posters).

Along with the webpage is the Earth Day 2020: 50th Anniversary Toolkit. Fifty years ago, people around the world celebrated the first Earth Day (April 22, 1970). Organizers selected dates and planned activities specifically to engage young people in the growing environmental awareness movement. As organizations plan for Earth Day 2020, NASA continues that outreach to young people and their families by pulling together various resources from across the agency into this online Earth Day Toolkit. All the resources are free and available to teachers and students, parents, civic leaders, public libraries, museums, — and anyone else — to use and enjoy.



Activities that can be done at home: With the increase of closures and cancellations due to COVID-19, here are STEAM activities that patrons can do at home.

