



Sun-Earth Day March 29, 2006

When is Sun-Earth Day?

Sun-Earth Day is comprised of a series of programs and events that occur throughout the year culminating with a celebration on or near the Spring Equinox. However, in 2006 a total solar eclipse will occur just nine short days after the equinox! In response to this celestial event, the official date for Sun-Earth Day 2006 will be moved to March 29, 2006.

Sun-Earth Day Strategy:

Over the past six years, the NASA's Sun-Earth Connection Education Forum has sponsored and coordinated education and public outreach events to highlight NASA's Sun-Earth Connection research and discoveries. Our strategy involves using celestial events, such as total solar eclipses and the Transit of Venus, as well as Sun-Earth Day during the March Equinox, to engage K-12 schools and the general public in space science activities, demonstrations, and interactions with space scientists.

Sun-Earth Day Resources:

In collaboration with partners that include science centers and museums around the world, the Exploratorium, NASA Connect, Sun-Earth Connection missions, and others, we produce webcasts, other multi-media, and print resources for use by school and informal educators nation-wide and internationally. We provide training and professional development to K-12 educators, museum personnel, amateur astronomers, Girl Scout leaders, etc., so they can implement their own outreach programs taking advantage of our resources. A coordinated approach promotes multiple programs occurring each year under a common theme.

Sun-Earth Day Website:

The new Sun-Earth Day website contains information for students, educators, scientists, museums and amateur astronomers! All web resources for *Sun-Earth Day 2005: Ancient Observatories, Timeless Knowledge* are archived and will remain on-line for your enjoyment!

Key Understandings:

We live in the atmosphere of a dynamic, magnetic star that interacts with the Earth and the planets beyond.

Eclipses have inspired people to observe and understand the Sun-Earth-Moon system.

Human beings use technology (past, present, and future) to make discoveries about the Universe.

Light has always provided a means of exploring the Universe.

Human beings from diverse cultures have viewed the Sun as the source of life.

By combining ancient records and modern observations we gain insight into our Universe.

<http://sunearthday.nasa.gov>