



# EXPLORE SCIENCE Earth & Space

## Welcome to the Explore Science: Earth & Space Toolkit

We're so glad you're joining organizations across the country to engage the public in Earth and space science content using the Explore Science: Earth & Space toolkit! The National Informal STEM Education Network (NISE Net) has assembled a new set of engaging Earth and space activities and professional resources with connections to science, technology, and society.

### PHYSICAL TOOLKIT CONTENTS

Enclosed, you'll find a list of the materials contained in your Explore Science: Earth & Space toolkit. The toolkit materials were designed to help partners engage participants in Earth and space phenomena, reflect on science as a way of knowing, and identify as science learners. The toolkit includes hands-on activities, training materials for staff and volunteers, and promotional materials. We've also included Spanish translations for all of the educational materials, plus a bilingual promotional banner, right in the box.

### COLLABORATING

We strongly encourage you to collaborate with local experts consisting of Earth and space science professionals as well as science enthusiasts in your area. Volunteer experts are a key ingredient to many successful public engagement efforts. The toolkit includes training and orientation materials to help prepare your event volunteers and staff for using the activities.

### ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ONLINE

Electronic copies of all the Explore Science: Earth & Space toolkit materials are available online. You can download these individually or as a complete digital toolkit from <http://www.nisenet.org/earthspacekit>. The website also has many other resources you can use for your Explore Science programs, including links to all of our educational programs, media, and training videos. You can also learn more about upcoming online workshops at <http://www.nisenet.org/events/online-workshop>.

### REPORTING AND EVALUATION

Each organization that receives a physical kit is required to fill out a simple report about their local event and implementation efforts. You will be contacted with more details about this required report in early 2017. Additionally, NISE Network evaluators may contact you to ask for optional feedback, to learn about your experience with Network products, and to determine the impact of this project. We greatly appreciate your help and feedback.

Thank you for all your efforts to engage the public in Earth and space science! We look forward to learning more about how you use the toolkit!

The NISE Network Explore Science toolkit team

# Explore Science: Earth & Space Toolkit Contents

## PRINTED MATERIALS

### Planning and promotional materials

- Welcome letter and list of kit contents
- *2017 Event Planning and Promotion Guide* (includes a section on planning for the 2017 total solar eclipse)
- Large promotional banners **Spanish!**
- Sample press release **Spanish!**
- Photo release form
- Sign stands
- Table cloths
- Temporary tattoos

### Training materials

- *Activity Overview* slides and notes printout
- Activity facilitator guides
- *Tips for Leading Hands-on Activities*
- *Preparing for a Partial Eclipse: An Event to Remember* slides and notes printout
- *Solar Science: Exploring Sunspots, Seasons, Eclipses, and More*

### Hands-on STEM activities (complete with materials and supplies for 100 learners!)

- *Exploring Earth: Bear's Shadow* **Spanish!**
- *Exploring Earth: Rising Sea* **Spanish!**
- *Exploring Earth: Investigating Clouds* **Spanish!**
- *Exploring the Solar System: Pocket Solar System* **Spanish!**
- *Exploring the Solar System: Big Sun, Small Moon* **Spanish! Eclipse mini-kit**
- *Exploring the Solar System: Solar Eclipse* **Spanish! Eclipse mini-kit**
- *Exploring the Universe: Ice Orbs* **Spanish!**
- *Exploring the Universe: Imagining Life* **Spanish!**
- *Exploring the Universe: Orbiting Objects* **Spanish!**
- *Ocean Worlds poster* **Spanish!**
- *Solar Eclipse poster* **Spanish! Eclipse mini-kit**
- *Solar Eclipse postcards* **Spanish! Eclipse mini-kit**

## DIGITAL KIT (ON USB THUMB DRIVE)

### Planning and promotional materials

- Welcome letter and list of kit contents
- *2017 Event Planning and Promotion Guide*
- Large promotional banners **Spanish!**
- Sample press release **Spanish!**
- Photo release form
- Digital copies of all promotional materials including photos, ads, posters, and banners

### Training materials

- *Activity Overview* slides (with presenter notes)
- Activity facilitator guides
- *Tips for Leading Hands-on Activities*
- *Preparing for a Partial Eclipse: An Event to Remember* slides (with presenter notes)
- Activity and content training videos for each activity, included in your kit and also online: <https://vimeo.com/nisenet/explore-science-earth-space>
- *Solar Science: An Observer's Guide to Viewing the Eclipse*

### Hands-on STEM activities

- Digital copies of all activity guides, graphics, and educational materials **Spanish!**

### Solar Eclipse Planning Mini-kit

- *2017 Event Planning and Promotion Guide*
- Digital copies of all activity guides, graphics, and educational materials to get ready for the 2017 total solar eclipse **Spanish!**