

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Earth Science Week Provides Education Tools for Earth Day

Educators and students worldwide will celebrate Earth Day 2016 on April 22 with classroom activities, experiments, and investigations exploring how our world works -- and those in the know will be tapping the wealth of education resources available through Earth Science Week.

Although Earth Science Week 2016 will be celebrated on October 9-15, this international public awareness program offers education materials, information, and tools throughout the year. Since the American Geosciences Institute (AGI) founded the program in 1998, Earth Science Week has supported teaching and learning about Earth system science, the study of how the planet's geosphere (land), hydrosphere (water), atmosphere (air), and biosphere (life) interact.

This year, for example, Earth Science Week is highlighting the theme of "Our Shared Geoheritage." Geoheritage is the collection of natural wonders, landforms, and resources that have formed over eons and come to this generation to manage, use, and conserve effectively.

"Geoheritage awareness is essential for all citizens of the planet, who are the 21st-century inheritors, managers, and protectors of a vast wealth of irreplaceable natural treasures, billions of years in the making," says Geoff Camphire, AGI's Manager of Outreach. "Because Earth Science Week raises awareness of the vital importance of the geosciences and stewardship of the planet, the program's aims are perfectly aligned with those of educators and students celebrating Earth Day."

The Earth Science Week website presents hundreds of free classroom activities, Spanish-language resources, videos, visualizations, webcasts, local events and organizations, competitions and awards, and careers information. The program reaches more than 50 million people worldwide each year through materials, events, school activities, and media coverage.

Learn more about Earth Science Week at www.earthsciweek.org.

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Reaching over 50 million people annually, Earth Science Week has been led by AGI in cooperation with its sponsors and the geoscience community since 1998. Earth Science Week 2016 will be celebrated October 9-15, 2016. To learn more, please visit www.earthsciweek.org. To order Toolkits, please visit www.earthsciweek.org/materials. You may also call AGI Publications to place your order at 703-379-2480.

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The American Geosciences Institute is a nonprofit federation of geoscientific and professional associations that represents more than 250,000 geologists, geophysicists and other earth scientists. Founded in 1948, AGI provides information services to geoscientists, serves as a voice of shared interests in the profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public awareness of the vital role the geosciences play in society's use of resources, resiliency to natural hazards, and interaction with the environment.