

Science Education Department Focus

The Science Education Department at European Schoolnet aims to encourage more students to follow Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) studies and go into STEM careers, and more importantly, ensure all students understand the key role STEM has in our lives.

To achieve this, we support our Ministries of Education

by working with teachers, industry partners and other STEM education stakeholders, offering professional development opportunities, carrying out validation pilots, curriculum analysis and dissemination of good practices.

We are currently involved in over 15 projects and in each issue of the Science Education Department Focus we will highlight a service/area we work on.



Focusing on: Including Space in Education

With the idea of fostering a young, competent and wide-ranging space community, the Science Education Department has been working for years on **integrating** the topic of **space in education**, advocating for the important role it plays in schools' STEM curricula. With past, current and future projects, EUN strives to **inform students and teachers** alike about current research and issues related to space sciences and the numerous career opportunities offered by this field, and to show them that not only is

space knowledge exciting but also highly demanded. The projects mentioned herein developed a large array of **free high-quality resources** such as learning scenarios, online training, workshops and formative events, and various digital tools, all easily adaptable to different STEM disciplines and languages. The ultimate goal is to show students the importance and wonders of space and astronomy, and train and motivate some students in pursuing space-related careers.

Over

SPACE EU



Fostering a young, creative and inclusive European space community

The **SpaceEU Project** implemented an exciting Space Outreach and Education programme to capture the interest of young people in STEM fields and encourage them to choose space-related careers. After a 2-year run, European Schoolnet has delivered its final outputs listed hereafter:

- The [Teacher Training Programmes](#), a collection of 10 co-created educators' face-to-face and online training programmes

- The [Pre](#) and [Post](#) Self-Assessment questionnaires are available under spaceEU [Self-Assesment Tools](#)
- The "[Our Fragile Planet](#)" MOOC finished but it is still open for self-study
- The "[Engage with Space Toolkit](#)" a collection of space centred activities, which remain open
- The final event "[Using Space in Education](#)" was organised and is available online.

Over

SPACE awareness

[Space Awareness](#) offered a series of complementary activities and resources to inspire students from 8 to 18 years old, primary and secondary school teachers, teacher trainers, science educators, and families. Space Awareness focused on four categories related to major global issues and current European space missions:

- [Our wonderful Universe](#)

- [Our fragile planet](#)
- [Navigation through the ages](#)
- [Islamic heritage: the journey of the ideas](#)

The project ended in 2018 but all the resources are still available on the website. More information on the "[Report on entry-points for space topics in the curriculum](#)".



Schools Tune Into Mars



The work presented on this visual has received funding from the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union, coordinated by European Schoolnet (EUN). The content of this visual reflects the views only of the authors and it does not represent the opinion of the European Commission, and the European Commission is not responsible or liable.

The **Schools Tune Into Mars MOOC** was developed for teachers to bring Mars Missions into their classrooms using NASA's InSight mission data. The first successful run of the MOOC was executed in May-June 2020, and now the course remains open for self-guided learning.

After the MOOC, participants had a chance to submit their final lesson plans to be published among STIM pedagogical resources. The project team has revised 226 submissions, and 33 best lesson plans were chosen to be published as ready-to-use pedagogical materials

for classrooms' activities. The lesson plans will soon be accessible on the [STIM project website](#) and [Scientix repository](#).

Furthermore, STIM organized an [online event](#) on the 31st of October, including interactive sessions and rotating workshops which aimed to present project's results developed so far and provided teachers with inspirational activities about space missions which can be integrated in the classroom. Examples of the activities presented during the event are available under the [Pedagogical Guide](#).



AIRBUS FOUNDATION

DISCOVERY SPACE



Eleven Lead Teachers from across Europe joined the **Aerospace in Class** Project and are developing Learning Scenarios that integrate Airbus Foundation Discovery Space resources in the classroom (targeted at children 8-12 years old). The Learning Scenarios will be shared soon on the [project web page](#) once finalised.

Launching on 15 February 2021, the **Aerospace in Class MOOC** will guide teachers to create their own Learning Scenario with tested materials from the Aerospace in class project. They will hear best practices from the project's Lead Teachers and learn about all the knowledge and skills needed to engage students with aerospace subjects.



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> More information

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