

Astrobiology Summer Science Experience for Teachers (ASSET)

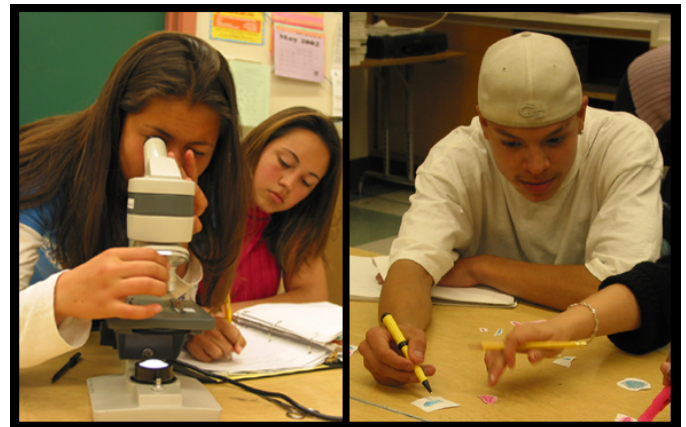
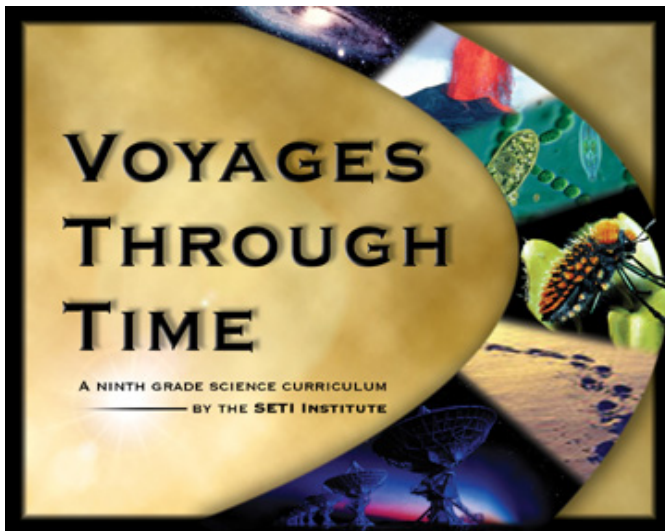
A science and curriculum institute for high school science teachers
June 24 -30, 2007

Would you like to learn more about the new interdisciplinary field of Astrobiology? Are you looking for a contemporary thematic science curriculum that is standards based? Are you in search of an exciting professional development opportunity? Are you ready to share your enthusiasm for science teaching with others? If so, we invite you to become an ASSET teacher.

The ASSET experience will be intense and exciting, interactive and content rich, with presentations by leading astrobiology researchers from the SETI Institute, NASA, and the California Academy of Sciences. Scientists will share the latest in astrobiology research on the origin of life on Earth, the extreme conditions in which life exists, Mars exploration, the formation of planetary systems around Sun-like stars, and the search for life in the universe. The workshop features a combination of cutting edge science, inquiry-based teaching and learning, and leadership skills development to support you as a teacher and teacher trainer.

Evolution, Planetary Evolution, Origin of Life, Evolution of Life, Hominid Evolution, and Evolution of Technology. Together these modules comprise a yearlong, integrated science course; or they may be used individually in discipline-specific courses. Each module includes a database activity, an image library, videos, detailed lesson plans, and assessment materials. Magazine-style Student Readers bring current science articles to the classroom. If you are interested in teaching this exciting curriculum, then ASSET is for you! To learn more about VTT visit <http://www.voyagesthroughtime.org>.

Voyages Through Time was first published in the fall of 2003. VTT was developed by the SETI Institute (<http://www.seti.org>) partnership with NASA Ames Research Center, the California Academy of Sciences, and San Francisco State University with major funding from the NSF (Grant IMD# 9730693), NASA, Hewlett Packard Company, Foundation for Microbiology, SETI Institute, and Educate America. VTT was successfully field-tested in 24 states with students in more than 80 high school classrooms across the U.S.A.



Students engaged in hands-on, inquiry-based activities.

Participants receive the entire *Voyages Through Time* curriculum and complementary astrobiology materials, developed by NASA's Astrobiology Institute, for use in their classrooms.

Voyages Through Time (VTT) is a standards-based integrated high school science curriculum, delivered on CD-ROMs. VTT consists of six modules: *Cosmic*

ASSET is funded by the NASA Astrobiology Institute (NAI), the SETI Institute, and Educate America. NAI conducts collaborative research and education on the origin and evolution of life and the search for life beyond Earth. The SETI Institute is one of the twelve institutions across the U.S. that comprise the NAI. For more information on NAI visit <http://nai.arc.nasa.gov/>.

Your commitment to ASSET:

- Attend the ASSET Institute, June 24 - 30, 2007, and participate in the ASSET electronic community throughout the academic year.
- Implement at least one module of VTT in your classroom.
- Conduct significant outreach activities involving VTT over the next two years, for example:
 - o Plan and lead a teacher professional development workshop or course for teachers based upon your ASSET training and the VTT materials.
 - o Mentor other teacher(s) using the VTT curriculum.
 - o Produce an outreach activity appropriate to your school or district.

ASSET's commitment to you:

- Six days of science content, and hands-on experiences with VTT, at the SETI Institute and San Francisco State University in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- VTT curriculum package: six modules.
- Travel assistance within the U.S., room and board.
- Continuing support via on-line community, materials for outreach activities, and teleconferences.
- Interaction with other top-notch science teachers interested in astrobiology and evolution.
- Field trip to California Academy of Sciences.

Application Details

Applications from teams of two high school teachers, from a school or district, are encouraged. Both team members must each complete a separate application. Due to federal funding of the program, preference is given to teachers in U.S. schools.

3 graduate credits in education will be available through San Francisco State University for an additional \$225 fee (subject to adjustment). Upper division undergraduate credit may be made available at a lesser fee.

For more information, contact Pamela Harman at pharman@seti.org or (650) 960-4523. You will receive an email receipt for your application. If you do not receive one within a week, contact Pamela.

All forms and FAQ's are available at <http://www.seti.org/ASSET>

Applications will be accepted from January 8 – February 28, 2007. All applicants will be notified by March 16

Application Check List

- Complete application pages 1 and 2 (be sure to include the signature on page 2):
 - Print the PDF document and type or print on the application,
 - Or download and complete the Microsoft Word document, no more than 2 pages in length.
 - See FAQ's on <http://www.seti.org/ASSET> for additional information.
- Have the Declaration of Support signed by principal, vice-principal, or district science supervisor.
- Keep a copy for your records.
- Postmark or fax application and signed Declaration of Support no later than February 28, 2007. Mail or Fax completed application to:

SETI Institute
515 N Whisman Road
Mountain View, CA 94043
ATTN: ASSET Program

FAX (650) 961-7099
ATTN: ASSET Program
or



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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| I. Contact Information (If applying as a team, please note partner's name in the space provided.) | | | |
| Name: | | Partner's Name: | |
| Title: | | Name of school: | |
| Home Address: | | School Address: | |
| City: | | City: | |
| State: | Zip Code: | State: | Zip Code: |
| Phone number: | FAX number: | Phone number: | FAX number: |
| Email: | | Email: | |
| School Demographics (size, ethnic composition, SES): | | | |
| | | | |
| Professional References (please provide two references) | | | |
| Name: | | Name: | |
| Phone number(s): | | Phone number(s): | |
| | | | |
| II. Professional Experience | | | |
| Degree(s) /Major(s): | | | |
| Credential(s)/License(s)/Certificate(s): | | | |
| Years of teaching experience: | | | |
| Current teaching assignment(s); course & grade level: | | | |
| Multimedia available in classroom and at home: | | | |
| Department or district positions held (e.g. Science Department Chair): | | | |
| List any workshops and/or presentations you have given in the past 3-5 years (If you have not presented workshops, you are still eligible to attend ASSET): | | | |
| | | | |
| How did you hear about ASSET? (Please identify the relevant web site, publication, convention, etc.) | | | |
| | | | |

III. What do you want to accomplish as a participant in ASSET? (Please answer in the space provided.)

IV. Teaching Evolution (Please answer in the space provided.)

Explain how you approach the topic of evolution and the place it has in your classroom.

What challenges have you faced personally and professionally, regarding the teaching of evolution?

As an ASSET teacher, you will be expected to complete outreach activities. What ideas do you have for completing this requirement? (See "Your commitment to ASSET" on ASSET Invitation pg. ii.)

I, _____, _____, agree that

PRINT NAME

PRINT TITLE

following completion of the institute, I will introduce the VTT curriculum into the classroom and complete two ASSET outreach activities within the next two years.

SIGNATURE

DATE



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Declaration of Support

To be completed by a principal, vice-principal, or district science supervisor.

I, _____, _____,
PRINT NAME PRINT TITLE

have read the Astrobiology Summer Science Experience for Teachers (ASSET)

invitation. I support the application of _____
PRINT TEACHER'S NAME

to attend the ASSET institute, to introduce the VTT curriculum into the classroom,

and to complete two ASSET related outreach activities within the next two years.

Signature Date