

NASA's Digital Learning Network

Education Team, Johnson Space Center

NASA's Digital Learning Network (DLN) impacts more than 23,000 participants annually via interactive two-way audio and video technology. By using DLN, learners at all levels have the opportunity to interact directly with NASA experts through three modes of program delivery.



The Digital Learning Network Expedition is a 50-minute videoconference experience delivered up to six times daily to classrooms and organizations across the nation and around the world. The events are integrated educational packages of grade-appropriate instruction and activities delivered by a NASA education specialist or subject matter expert. These programs offer unique interactive learning opportunities that enlighten students about future studies in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Participants communicate with NASA experts and virtually explore NASA working facilities.

A DLN Challenge is an in-depth research-design experience that allows students to propose detailed solutions to challenge criteria and present their solutions to NASA education specialists and experts. The Challenge involves more than one DLN connection, student involvement through research and design activities, open-ended problem solving, flexibility, and formal student presentations that demonstrate understanding

and application.

Students participate in one of three Challenge areas: engineering design, research, or a mission operations problem. Events parallel NASA's bold new course into the cosmos, a journey that will take humans back to the Moon and eventually to Mars and beyond.

The DLN annually supports a growing variety of special events that enable classrooms and organizations to be a part of NASA's latest projects. The combination of videoconferencing technology and satellite communications enables the DLN to connect audiences to remote locations to communicate in real time with NASA scientists, astronauts, and researchers. Students are taken on a journey to explore extreme environments such as Antarctica, an underwater habitat, or the edge of a meteor crater.

