



CTSGC Educator Resources for April

## Potential Funding Opportunity



# Plant the Moon CHALLENGE

CTSGC is seeking 10 Team Leaders from schools or youth organizations around the state who want to participate in a [Plant the Moon/Plant Mars Challenge](#) for the Fall of 2022. This challenge is offered through the Institute of Competitive Sciences.

This is a chance for students of all ages to be part of a global science experiment and research challenge to examine how vegetable crops can grow in lunar or Martian soil. Participating teams will each receive real soil simulant from the University of Central Florida's CLASS Exolith Lab. Teams will design and conduct a set of experiments using this simulant to grow crops for a future long-duration mission.

The cost per team will be a \$100 registration fee payable to NASA CT Space Grant. The cost for any additional experiment supplies (seeds, pots, soil or additives) will be the team's responsibility, and can be in-kind donations. The remaining costs will be paid by CT Space Grant.

Formal applications for the program will be sent in July to team leaders who have submitted a [Letter of Intent](#). Awarded teams will be announced after mid-August to allow Team Leaders to prepare for the challenge at the start of the next school year. The grow period for the fall challenge is September - November.

Interested Team Leaders should submit their [Letter if Intent](#) before **May 27, 2022**. If you have questions, please contact CTSGC Program Coordinator [April Michaud](#).

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# April is Math Awareness Month



Math is certainly a part of every NASA Mission, but how does math contribute to art? To sports? To music? Explore the impact of math on the world around us by exploring these topics:

- [Take a math lesson straight from the ISS](#)
- [More of the space and mathematics connection](#)
- [Math in sports](#)
- [How can music help teach math?](#)
- [Relationship of math in art](#)
- [Math and climate change](#)

## How can you celebrate this with students?

- Read Math books. Books about math and mathematicians exist for all ages, but if you're looking for a list of books to explore math topics for elementary students, [here's a list online](#).
- Explore Math poetry. Since April is also Poetry Month, why not combine math and poetry in one fun lesson? You can view samples of [math poetry online](#).
- Host a Family Math Night. Get students and families engaged in the fun of math when you host your own event. Ideas for [activities are available online](#).
- Play math games. Whether on a table (board game!) or online, math games make the learning fun. Use your own games, or [browse online for ideas](#).

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## National Robotics Week (April 2-10, 2022)



National Robotics Week seeks to inspire students in robotics and STEM related fields, and share the excitement of robotics across all ages while at the same time showcasing the strength of the industry and the amazing things yet to come. You can [learn more online](#).

## How can you celebrate this with students?

- Host a Family Code Night
- Build a Drawing Robot
- Discover a Robot Themed Book
- Watch a Robot Video

There are many other [resources for students of all ages online](#).

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## April 22 is Earth Day



Celebrate [Earth Day 2022 - Invest in Our Planet](#). The time to act is now. We need to act (boldly), innovate (broadly), and implement (equitably). It's going to take all of us. All in. Businesses, governments, and citizens — everyone accounted for, and everyone accountable. A partnership for the planet.

## How can you celebrate this with students?

- Start a pollinator garden
- Plant trees
- Host a community cleanup
- Conduct air quality tests
- Teach a lesson plastic pollution
- Sign up as an Earth Day School

These resources and more are available to [view or download online](#).

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## We invite you to join NASA CONNECTS!

You can join as a formal K-12 educator or as a professional in the informal education (out-of-school time) field. Registered community members will have the opportunity to sign up for engagement events, view and chat with other members who are interested in similar fields, read exclusive NextGen STEM content, and access resources such as lesson plans and interactive media. These members will discover resources that enable

further STEM learning in their respective areas.

If you have a Gateway account, click the button below to log in through NASA Gateway, then register to join NASA CONNECTS. If you do not have a NASA Gateway account, you will need to create one before joining this community of practice by clicking the button below and following the prompts.

[Join NASA CONNECTS](#)

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### What's happening next month?

- National Inventors Month
  - Star Wars Day
  - National Space Day
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We are always looking to share information with K-12 partners who have a passion for STEM topics. Please forward this email to others in your school or district who may enjoy the content, and ask them to join our mailing list by clicking the link below!

[Join Our K-12 Mailing List!](#)

If you are interested in exploring funding for an upcoming STEM program, we invite you to [visit our website](#) for ideas or to apply.

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### CT Space Grant Consortium

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