



Global Friendship Through Space Education

HISTORY of the PARTNER SCHOOL SCIENCE PROGRAM

The year-long Partner School Science Program connects teachers and their students in different countries via space education to motivate students to increase their knowledge of math and science. Collaborative projects via e-mail and videoconferencing are intended to promote cross-cultural understanding and friendship.

The program was started in 2003. In past three years 17 top schools in Turkey, 14 schools from the U.S., three schools from Israel, and two schools from Bulgaria have participated in the program. From those schools, more than 1500 students, teachers, principals worked together to develop their science-related projects and friendship.

Turkish School Participants, 2003 -2010

1. Acarkent Doga College, Istanbul, <http://www.dogakoleji.com/acarkentkoleji/>
2. Atakent Doga Colelge, Istanbul, <http://www.dogakoleji.com/atakentkoleji/>
3. Beykoz Doga College, Istanbul, <http://www.dogakoleji.com/beykozoleji/>
4. Bilkent University Preparatory School, Ankara, <http://www.bups.bilkent.edu.tr/>
5. British International School, Istanbul, <http://www.bis.k12.tr/intro.aspx>
6. Dogus Schools Group, Istanbul, <http://www.dogus.k12.tr/>
7. Enka Schools, Istanbul, <http://www.enkaschools.com/genel/en/index.asp>
8. Gelisim Koleji, Izmir, <http://www.gelisim.k12.tr/>
9. Isikkent Egitim College, Izmir, <http://www.isikkent.k12.tr/>
10. Istek Acibadem, Istanbul, <http://www.istek.org.tr/>
11. Izmir Ozel Turk College, Izmir, <http://www.itk.k12.tr/>
12. Kartal Doga College, Istanbul, <http://www.dogakoleji.com/kartalkoleji/>
13. MEF International School, Izmir, <http://www.international.mef.k12.tr/izmir/>
14. MEF Istanbul College, Istanbul, <http://www.mef.k12.tr/00giris/index.asp>
15. SANKO College, Gaziantep , TURKEY, <http://www.sanko.k12.tr/>
16. Sariyer Doga Colllege, Istanbul, <http://www.dogakoleji.com/sariyerlisesi/>
17. SEV Izmir American College, Izmir, TURKEY, <http://www.sevizmir.k12.tr/>
18. TED College Ankara, Ankara, TURKEY, <http://www.tedankara.k12.tr/>
19. The Koc School, Istanbul, TURKEY, <http://www.kocschool.k12.tr/>

U.S. School Participants, 2003 -2010

1. Browne Academy, Alexandria, Virginia, <http://www.browneacademy.org/>
2. Children's Aid Society, New York City, <http://www.childrensaidsociety.org/communityschools/locations/NYC/mirabalsisters>
3. Discovery School, Tennessee, <http://www.dicksoncountyschools.org/tds/>



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4. Harry Eichler School, New York, New York, <http://schools.nycenet.edu/csd27/ps56>
5. Hobgood NASA Explorer School, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, <http://cityschools.net/schoolsites/hg/index.html>
6. Intermediate School 90, New York, New York
7. Lindsey Middle School, Long Beach, <http://lin.sbo.hampton.k12.va.us/>
8. Middle School 244, New York, New York, www.ms324.org
9. Middle School 324, New York City, www.ms324.org
10. Miribal Sisters Schools, New York, New York, <http://www.childrensaidsociety.org/community-schools/mirabal-sisters-campus>
11. Orville Wright Middle School, Los Angeles, California, <http://www.wrightms.org/>
12. School of the Future, New York, New York <http://www.sof.edu/home/>
13. Thurgood Marshall Academy, New York, New York, <http://www.thurgoodmarshallacademy.org/>
14. Valley Christian Elementary School, Bellflower, California <http://vcschools.org/page.cfm?p=11>
15. Washington Middle School, Long Beach, California
16. <http://lbwashington.schoolloop.com/>

Israeli School Participants, 2004 – 2010

1. Tefen School, Migdal Tefen, ISRAEL, www.tefenschool.org.il
2. Gevanim School, Zoran-Qadima, ISRAEL, <http://www.linnet.pro.net/il/anneu>
3. Science & Knowledge School, Karmiel, ISRAEL

Bulgarian School Participants, 2005 - 2010

1. 133 SOV 'A.S. Pushkin' School, Sofia, BULGARIA
2. 1st Private Mathematic School, Sofia, BULGARIA, www.parvamatematicheska.com

(Note that not all the above schools participated for all six years.)

During the year-long program most of the students and teachers were able send emails to each other and have three-way videoconferences with NASA experts or astronauts. Some were able meet their E-Pals during a unique six-day summer program at Space Camp Turkey called E-Pal Week. During the E-Pal Weeks held since the start of the program, students and teachers were able to meet and talk with NASA astronauts, a Romanian Cosmonaut, hear interesting guest speakers and ask questions by teleconference directly to the astronauts on the International Space Station. They also had the experience of working with young people from many different countries.

E-Pal Week Highlights:

2010 – E-Pal Week

- Astronaut Charles D. Walker – MDC Payload Specialist - Guest Speaker and week-long visitor at Space Camp Turkey



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2009 – E-Pal Week

- Astronaut Jon A. McBride - Captain, USN, Ret. - Guest Speaker and week-long visitor at Space Camp Turkey

2008 – E- Pal Week

- Astronaut Dr. Jay Buckley – Payload Specialist – Guest Speaker and week-long visitor at Space Camp Turkey

2007 – E- Pal Weeks

- *Cosmonaut Yuri Baturin – The First Politician Cosmonaut – Guest Speaker and week-long visitor at Space Camp Turkey
- *NASA Astronaut Roger Crouch – The First Politician Cosmonaut – Guest Speaker and week-long visitor at Space Camp Turkey
- Amateur Radio contact with NASA scientist Pat Kilroy

2006 – E-Pal Weeks

- *Cosmonaut Dorin Priunariu Dumitru – First and Only Romanian Cosmonaut – Guest Speaker and week-long visitor at Space Camp Turkey
- *NASA Astronaut Shannon Lucid –Capsule Communicator – Guest Speaker and week-long visitor at Space Camp Turkey

October 8-12, 2006 – Special Session for PSSP students in Izmir

- *NASA Astronaut Steven Lindsey – Space Shuttle Commander – Guest Speaker and week-long visitor at Space Camp Turkey

2005 - E-Pal Weeks

- Hüsnü Arsev Eraslan – NASA Scientist – Guest Speaker
- *NASA Astronaut Andrew Gaffney, Payload Specialist – Guest Speaker and week-long visitor at Space Camp Turkey

July 04-10, 2004 – E-Pal Week

- Patriarch Bartholomew of the Greek Orthodox Church – Guest Visitor
- NASA Astronaut Dr. Ellen Baker, NASA Goddard Space Center – Videoconference
- Dr.Carolynn Conley, NASA Integration Manager for Amateur Radio for the ISS – Guest Speaker
- Astronaut Janet L.Kavandi, NASA Astronaut – Videoconference
- Astronaut Michael Fincke, Expedition 9 NASA ISS Science Officer/Flight Engineer – Amateur Radio Contact with Space Station

July 13-19, 2003 – E-Pal Week

- Ulku Adatepe, Ataturk's adopted daughter – Guest Speaker
- Isilay Davaz, Youngest pilot in the world – Guest Speaker



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- Dr. Jeffrey Theal, NASA Director for Russian Integration of the ISS – teleconference
- Susan Anderson, NASA Distant Learning Program Expert - Videoconference
- Dr.Carolynn Conley, NASA Integration Manager for Amateur Radio for the ISS – Videoconference
- NASA Astronaut Ed Lu, Expedition 7 NASA ISS Science Officer, July 2003 – Amateur Radio Contact with International Space Station