

# STAR LIBRARY EDUCATION NETWORK

PRESENTED BY:  
THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR  
INTERACTIVE LEARNING

EXCITE. EXPLORE. DISCOVER.

Community of Practice Newsletter



NOAA Scientist Robert Clancy giving a talk to Discover Earth host librarians about how climate change can affect their regions.



A wind activity that can be found on the STAR\_Net Community of Practice website.



The end result of a comet-making activity that can be found on the STAR\_Net Community of Practice site.

## FREE Webinar!

### Bringing STEM Learning to Public Libraries: Collaboration and Resources for Librarians

Webinar Hosted by NGCP

February 27, 2012

11:00 AM-12:00 PM Pacific/ 2:00-3:00 PM Eastern

Join librarians and others who want to provide STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) programming in public libraries. In this webinar, you'll hear from those who've successfully implemented STEM programs in their libraries, and you'll be able to ask questions about finding resources and support for your STEM programs.

Register for the webinar:

<http://www.ngcproject.org/events/events.cfm?eventid=235>

### STAR\_Net Project

Participants will learn about the STAR Library Education Network (STAR\_Net) project led by the National Center for Interactive Learning (NCIL) at the Space Science Institute. STAR\_Net librarians and others will share their strategies for connecting with community resources to provide STEM programming.

The STAR\_Net project includes two traveling exhibits: *Discover Earth: A Century of Change* and *Discover Tech: Engineers Make a World of Difference*. The *Discover Earth* exhibition features interactive, multimedia displays that allow exhibit visitors to interact with digital information in a dynamic way, encouraging new perspectives on our planet. A number of earth science activities and resources have been developed by project staff and by other organizations to help librarians and community partners offer a wide variety of programs for their patrons. *Discover Tech* introduces the many extraordinary ways that engineers solve problems to help people and societies around the world. Similar to a science center experience, visitors and families will be able to explore and tinker with their own engineering solutions.

NCIL's partners on STAR\_Net are the American Library Association, the Lunar and Planetary Institute, and the National Girls Collaborative Project. Together they're developing hands-on learning programs for libraries and their communities, and a variety of education and outreach programs with a focus on hands-on learning. STAR\_Net is also conducting library staff training (online and in-person).

### A Community of Practice

The STAR\_Net project team is building a Community of Practice (CoP) for librarians who want to provide STEM programming, and STEM professionals who want to partner with libraries to support STEM programs in public libraries. The webinar will introduce the CoP and tell you how to join.

### **The National Girls Collaborative Project**

The goal of the National Girls Collaborative Project is to maximize access to shared resources within projects and with public and private sector organizations and institutions interested in expanding girls' participation in STEM. Webinars are offered throughout the year addressing research-based exemplary practices and strategies in informal learning, evaluation and assessment, and reaching underrepresented populations. Webinars and resources are archived and available for viewing.



*Expanding the frontiers of knowledge and understanding*



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