

What the Teachers Are Saying...

“I would like to have the Earth Balloon as a yearly event at the school.”

“Impressive! – there are many things that can be done and seen by visiting the Earth Balloon that can not be done with flat maps or globes.”

“The sheer size of the Earth Balloon held their (the students) attention the entire time.”

What the Students Are Saying...

“It was awesome to go inside the earth.”

“I was surprised there is so much water on the Earth and how we waste it and not even know it.”

“It was really neat. I never thought it would be that amazing.”

“When I was inside the Earth Balloon you could see both sides of the earth at one time.”

Global Issues Resource Center
Community Continuing Education
Cuyahoga Community College
4250 Richmond Road Room 115
Highland Hills, Ohio 44122

SEND TO...



THE EARTH TREK



PROGRAM

- Interactive
- Innovative
- Hands-on
- Cross Curricular
- Proficiency Based Lessons

What Is the Earth Trek Program?

The Earth Trek Program is an interactive workshop experience aimed at the science and social studies students in grades 6, 7 & 8. The material in the program is designed to align with the topics that are being covered in the classroom. The mission is to raise awareness of critical issues facing our planet that will affect each student in his/her lifetime. The special feature of the program is the Earth Awareness Traveling Classroom*.

What Is the Earth Awareness Traveling Classroom?

The Earth Awareness Traveling Classroom (often referred to as the “Earth Balloon”) is a learning laboratory and the focal point of the Earth Trek Program. The Earth Balloon used in our program is 22’ in diameter and is the largest of its kind made.



Features of the Earth Balloon

- Satellite imagery, taken on cloudless days, was used to obtain photographs of the Earth which are silk-screened on the balloon fabric.
- The sizes, shapes and configuration of the continents (as well as the Earth’s features) are accurate, giving the students a “real world” look at our globe.
- Students can even see the ocean trenches between the earth plates which provide a visual link to plate tectonics!

What Are the Program Components?

The program is designed in 3 parts: the Pre-Activity, the Balloon visit, and the Post-Activity. The Pre and Post-Activities are educator designed lessons and relate to the chosen topic. The current topic choices are:

- Water, Water Everywhere
- Earth-“The Biosphere we Live In”
- Population

Each activity can be completed in one classroom period. On the day of the Earth Balloon visit, our presenter will inflate the Earth Balloon in your gymnasium (or other suitable indoor area) and present a 40 minute interactive workshop to each of the participating classes. Five to six workshops can be held in one day, each accommodating 25-30 students.

What Is Covered in the Earth Balloon Presentation?

Each 40 minute Earth Balloon presentation consists of 3 parts. The first part focuses on basic facts about the Earth Balloon such as size, weight, color keys, scale as well as time zones (each of the 24 panels that make up the Earth Balloon represents one hour in the 24 hour day). Students then take an “around the world tour” helping each understand issues such as overpopulation, deforestation, as well as identification of geographic features such as the “Ring of Fire” and the tectonic plates.

The second part of the visit offers the students an up close look at the planet by positioning themselves 5 ½” from the surface of the globe. This is the scale distance at which the Space Shuttle orbits. This activity gives students an astronaut’s perspective of the earth while in space.



The third part of the visit brings the students



inside the Earth Balloon through a zippered doorway at the International Date Line. The presentation inside the Balloon focuses on the

teacher selected topic – Water, Population or Earth as a Biosphere.

Can Multiple Days Be Scheduled?

Yes, the Earth Trek Program is available in a residency format in addition to the ½ day and single full day formats.

What Is the Cost?

The Earth Trek Program is affordably priced and includes the Balloon visit & Pre and Post lessons plans.

Full day (at Tri-C Eastern Campus) \$750/\$650

Half day (at Tri-C Eastern Campus) \$550

Full Day (at your site) \$650

Half day (at your site) \$500

Contact the Center for a detailed pricing plan.

How Do I Schedule a Visit? Determine the Best Plan for my School/Organization?

Contact Naomi White, Program Coordinator at 216-987-2582 Naomi.White@tri-c.edu

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*One of only 24 in existence - worldwide