

ATTENTION 7TH AND 8TH GRADE SCIENCE CLASSES IN THE SACRAMENTO AREA



Don't pass up this exciting launch!

Send your class in space and win a field trip to the Aerospace Museum of California. This year the Sacramento Chapter of AIAA is going to sponsor field trip, transportation included, to the Aerospace Museum of California at McClellan Park. If you have not participated in a PongSat launch, you are missing a wonderful educational, free activity.

Hurry . . . the launch is in March 2011 and prep is needed!

This contest is open to all Sacramento area public, private, and charter middle schools, and middle school science or math academies or clubs. To enter your class or club in the competition, simply fill out the form on the next page, then get your ping pong balls and start brainstorming with your class about the cargo they will put inside of their PongSat. In the Sacramento area, Linda Swan will pick up and deliver your class's PongSats to JPAerospace before the launch. **Note: PONG BALLS are due March 2011 although PROJECT is not due till April 11, 2011.**

Check out the links below for more information.



The Museum boasts "the finest collection of aircraft and aviation memorabilia in the west". It has a strong education program that is based on providing hands-on, practical state-of-the-art experiences related to math and science. The Aerospace Learning Center within the museum gives students an appreciation for how math and science can be used in aviation. The students fly a no-motion flight simulator as part of the Learning Center experience. Please visit <http://www.aerospacemuseumofcalifornia.org> for more information.



A PongSat is an experiment that fits inside of a ping pong ball. These ping pong ball 'satellites' are flown to the edge of space by balloon or launched in sounding rockets. The PongSats are then returned to the student. The experience is a unique, creative, and exciting way to interest students in science and math. Visit <http://www.jpaaerospace.com/pongsat/index.htm> to learn more.

PongSat Middle School Competition Guidelines and Entry Form



Sponsored by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. AIAA offers and sponsors a wealth of resources to support educators at both the university level and K-12: publications & online tools, classroom grants, our Educator Associate Program, informative aerospace links. The list goes on and on. Membership is entirely FREE to educators!!

Guidelines: This contest is for 7th and 8th grade classes in the Sacramento Area. Teachers will provide each student with a ping pong ball. The teacher will need to cut each ball in half. Each student will determine an experiment or item to be placed inside their ball, which is then taped back together. The PongSats will be sent to JPAerospace for the launch in March 2011.

The class will prepare a Summary Project consisting of:

1. An electronic presentation such as a power point, summarizing the PongSat experience **and**
2. A class book which consists of the original or a copy of each student's Scientific Process Worksheet which is teacher provided. This two-part "Summary Project" will become a contest entry and will be presented to Sacramento AIAA council members and Pong Sat entrepreneur John Powell for judging. All entries become the property of AIAA.

Contest entries will be due no later than April 11, 2011. Deliver to the Aerospace Museum, 3200 Freedom Park Dr., McClellan, CA 95652-2432 OR Linda Swan 9271 Linda Rio Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826.

Winner(s) will be judged on creativity of the electronic presentation and thoroughness of Scientific Process worksheets. PowerPoints will be limited to 15 slides and Class Books limited to one page per student. Neatness and originality may become deciding factors.

Winners will be notified by April 18, 2011. Winning classes will receive a field trip to the Aerospace Museum of California. Transportation and admission are included in this prize. Field trips can be scheduled any time after winners are announced. All teachers are encouraged to become members of AIAA (membership is FREE to educators), thus enhancing our local membership while providing valuable educational AIAA resources to these new members!

For questions or more information, PLEASE contact Linda Swan at lswan@att.net.

The following pre-entry form is due as soon as you decide to enter. PongSat spaces on the January launch are limited to 300 ping pong balls. Reserve your spot TODAY by mailing to above Contest entry locations or emailing to lswan@att.net.

Date: _____

Teacher's name: _____ Teacher's email: _____

Teacher's AIAA # _____ **Go to <http://AIAA.org> to join. It's FREE to Educators.**

School: _____ District: _____

School address: _____

School phone: _____ Teacher's phone: _____

Name of class, club, or group _____ # of students participating _____

Pong Sat ID #s _____ (These will be assigned by JPAerospace)