

Science Education Outreach: Sharing NASA Science with 5th-8th Graders and University Students

Science question. Why is science education outreach important?

Impact. The Ames Early Career Network (ECN) recently teamed with the Alianza Charter School in Watsonville, CA to talk with students in grades 5-8 about career paths to NASA and working in STEM fields. Speakers with different backgrounds and experiences across Ames including SCR's Ana Uriate Acuna, volunteered to chat with the students. The event included a 25-minute interactive presentation of the speakers' career paths, followed by a Q&A session and a tutorial on how to use NASA online resources for kids. All students received NASA stickers, temporary tattoos, and pencils.

Parag Vaishampayan (SC) space biology portfolio scientist, gave a virtual talk for microbiology students at the University of Arizona. He presented planetary protection, astrobiology, space biology research and career opportunities for microbiology students. Faculty members also attended.

George Cooper (SSX) presented an invited talk in UCLA's Earth and Planetary Science seminar series entitled, **An Attempt to Unravel the Origins of Enantiomer Excesses in Early Solar System (Meteoritic) Organic Compounds.**

<https://epss.ucla.edu/seminars/epss-colloquium/winter-2021/>

