



ARGONAUTICA, an educational project using satellite data to understand the ocean change and its effects on marine animals.

Danielle De Staerke (1), Vinca Rosmorduc (2), and Annie Richardson (3)

(1) CNES, (Danielle.Destaerke@cnes.fr), (2) CLS, (Vinca.Rosmorduc@cls.fr), (3) NASA/JPL, (Annie.H.Richardson@jpl.nasa.gov)

Awareness of the significant impact of the ocean on the Earth's climate and environment has grown in the last few years. This is in particular due to the use of space technologies which play a unique role in oceanographic study at all scale of time and space.

Argonautica is an educational project, aimed to capture interest of primary, middle and high school students, with remote sensing data. Moreover this project includes, curriculum-oriented activities to improve environmental and ocean literacy, and get to know the role of ocean observation satellites.

This project allows young people, through Internet:

- to track buoys drifting in the major ocean currents (Gulf stream, Antarctic Circumpolar Current...), thanks to ARGOS system, and to compare their routes to marine current charts derived from Jason satellite data
- to follow the world's great animal migrations routes (penguins, albatrosses, leatherback turtles... which are fitted with ARGOS transmitters) and to study, with the help of scientists, aspects of the animals life, conservation status, food web... and connections to ocean processes and remote sensing data (Jason...).

ARGONAUTICA, initialized by CNES, is also part of the collaboration with NASA/JPL. It is one of the activities being conducted in support of NASA/CNES ocean surface topography missions education and public outreach.