

Galileo Teacher Training Program – MoonDays

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Abstract

Moon is an excellent tool for classroom education. Many teachers fail to implement lunar science in classroom at several levels though – lack of guidance, finding the right materials, and implanting lessons in the school curriculum – just to name a few. To overcome this need, Galileo Teacher Training Program (GTTP) [1] present MoonDays, a resource guide for teachers globally which can be used both in and out of classroom. GTTP MoonDays includes scientific knowledge, hands-on activities, computing skills, creativity and disability based lesson plans.

1. Introduction

Moon, companion of Earth has been a subject of many, from poets to scientists. It is also a key element in education as it can be linked to science, environment, literature and many more aspects. In order to apply lunar science in education, the educators need to be equipped with right resources. However, finding the right resources is becoming a harder challenge each day in this information-overflowing era. Majority of the teachers and educators globally are not skilled to filter the right content off internet. Identifying the crucial need of having a go-to place for lunar resources for teachers and educators, GTTP presents GTTP MoonDays, a resource project which is accessible online or offline and able to adapt to local standards.

2. Project Description

GTTP MoonDays project is a part of GTTP Days program which creates resource guides for teachers and educators. It will be accessible online and also as a printable version which is especially crated for under-developed areas where internet is still a luxury. The project content includes lesson plans covering

basic knowledge of lunar science, exploration, visual and telescopic observation, photography, moon in cultures, activities for people with disabilities [2], hands-on activities and online tools.

The lesson plans are pre-tested with educators in order to produce the best materials. Following up the general teaching standards in most countries, each of the lesson plans indicate the concepts used, the skills required and age level. This will make it easier for the teacher or educator to decide on selecting the content suitable for the local curriculum. The project content is open for adaptation and translations for local circumstances.

3. Conclusion

GTTP MoonDays will be distributed and implemented among the large network of teachers around the world at GTTP. It will also expand to other networks of educators with GTTP partners. The project will keep expanding with the feedback and new materials.

References

- [1] Doran, R. “GTTP - Changing the World Teacher by Teacher,” EPSC-DPS Joint Meeting, 2-7 October 2011, Nantes, France.
- [2] Ortiz-Gil, A.; Benacchio, L.; Boccato, C. “Experience the Moon,” EPSC-DPS Joint Meeting, 2-7 October 2011, Nantes, France.