Earth Learning Idea

To coincide with the UN International Year of Planet Earth (2007-2009), three Earth science teachers from the UK have compiled a website with a vast, varied and still expanding collection of teaching activities.

The simple activities require few resources (but can be readily adapted for use with standard school lab equipment) and are designed to encourage students aged 8-18 years to investigate how the Earth works (the recommended age range is given in each activity). You can discuss the idea with other interested people across the globe on the associated blog, www.earthlearningidea.blogspot.com. Each activity is accompanied by 'back-up' notes for teachers. The activities

are also being translated into Spanish, Norwegian, Italian, Chinese and Tamil.

In 2010 new Earthlearningideas are being published every two weeks. This year we have included ELI+ activities which require some basic school laboratory equipment and/or some abstract ideas. All activities are free to be downloaded at any time, but if you subscribe to the blog, you'll be notified when a new activity is published.

There is a comprehensive Keyword Index on the website and also an index based on nine categories: Earth as a system, Earth energy, Earth in space, Earth materials, Evolution of life, Geological time, Investigating the Earth, Natural hazards and

Resources and environments. They include activities on volcanoes, tsunamis, dinosaurs, oil and gas, earthquakes, permeability of soil and many more. Most of them are practical activities, while others are thought experiments, such as a paper-folding activity to help students visualise how Darwin developed his theory of how coral atolls formed.

Over 80 Earth-related activities are free to download from www.earthlearningidea.com.

If you have any good ideas that you think we could use, or any queries, please contact us at info@earthlearningidea.com