

Earthlearningidea Update

CHRIS KING, PETER KENNETT, and ELIZABETH DEVON, Earth Science Education Unit,
Keele University, Earthlearningidea Team

There have been many Earthlearningidea developments since our update in August. By early November, we had over 8500 visits to our site from 115 countries and we have decided to continue the project into 2009. However, for next year, we are asking you to contribute; details of what to do can be found on the home page of our website www.earthlearningidea.com. Throughout next year, we shall be publishing one new activity per month. Also, on the home page, you will find an invitation to evaluate the ideas; the results of these evaluations should help future educators to use their time and resources most effectively to support global learning.

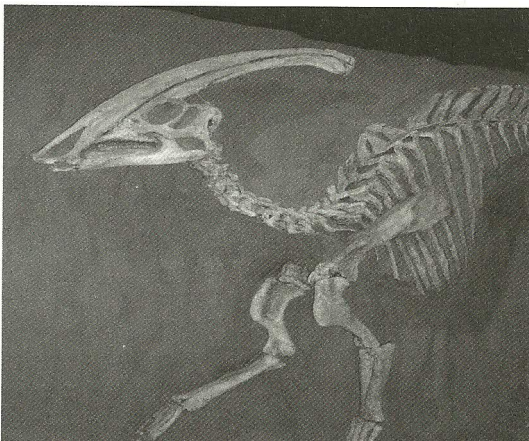
The posts on the blog <http://earthlearningidea.blogspot.com> will continue throughout 2009, so please send us your comments and ideas. We are hoping to extend our 'extension ideas' based on your suggestions on the various activities.

Some indicative extracts from the comments on the blog are as follows:

From Italy – “I'd like to thank Dr. Greco (responsible for Italian translations) and ELI: the interactive methodology is very interesting and easy to learn. I like it. I'm sure my students will enjoy the activities very much too.”

From Sri Lanka – “I am highly appreciative of these valuable teaching aids related to Geoscience education. These Earthlearningideas are very nice, and I hope that all the ideas are very useful to educate school children. The students can simply learn basics of Earth Science by experimenting with these ideas.”

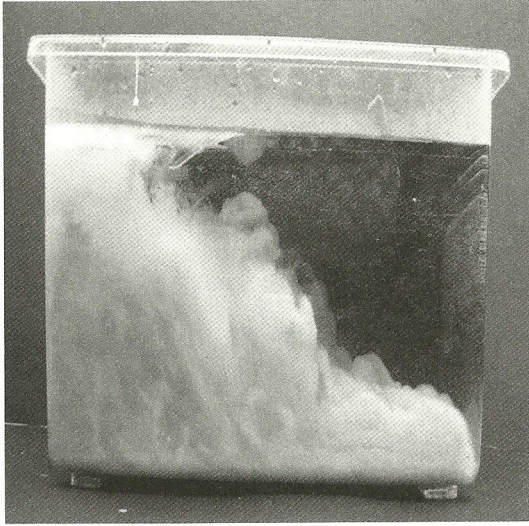
From Taiwan – “I think there are many teachers from Taiwan who have visited this excellent blog and used the activities. I think the language is not a problem for teachers in Asia.”



This photo is from the Earthlearningidea 'Dinosaur death – did it die or was it killed? Was this a Cretaceous crime scene? – using rock and fossil evidence to find out'.

From UK – “I just wanted to say what an excellent activity this latest dinosaur forensic geology activity will make for my A level (16 – 18 years) students. Great idea. Thanks for the resource.”

Photo: Susannah Lydon



This photo is from Earthlearning-idea 'High flow, low flow?: atmosphere and ocean in a tank. Hot, cold and particle-filled density currents as they flow in the atmosphere and ocean'

From USA - The activity was great fun and provided a lot of meat for discussion and anticipation/prediction of what might occur; a good thought-provoking activity with a lot of different applications - atmosphere, oceans, deltas, turbidity currents, and fun as well.

Photo: Peter Kennett

We have added three new links to the website: a list of associated, useful websites, and an acknowledgements page. In the latter, we mention particularly our friends and colleagues who are translating Earthlearningideas into Spanish, Norwegian, and Italian. Is there anyone else who could do some translations for us? Also, please look at the third new link showing 'ELI around the world,' the countries and cities where ELI is most being used. Can you help Earthlearningidea to reach the countries still shown in white on the world map?