

Engaging Students in Ocean Studies



The NASA Mission

To understand and protect our home planet
To explore the universe and search for life
To inspire the next generation of explorers
... as only NASA can

A. Richardson
M. Jasnow
M. Srinivasan

Jet Propulsion Laboratory,
California Institute of Technology
Pasadena, California, USA

Contact — Annie.Richardson@jpl.nasa.gov
Fax: 818-393-4555

The Topex/Poseidon and Jason (TPJ) Education and Public Outreach team continues to develop unique products to promote ocean literacy in the United States.

Many schools in the U.S. require students to cover their textbooks. A traditional method has been to use brown paper bags or to spend money on commercially produced book covers. The TPJ outreach team has produced a book cover that will make teachers happy and at the same time satisfy their students' need for adventure.

The front of the "Discovering the Oceans" book cover provides just the spark needed to imagine diving into the study of our oceans. Students can read the cool comic on the back to learn that NASA uses satellites to study the surface of the ocean and to track marine life. If they want to find out more about satellite oceanography, the book cover lists some online resources to help — a great starting place is <http://sealevel.jpl.nasa.gov>.

In conjunction with the book cover, we have developed the "Become a Junior Oceanographer" Web site. Students take a short quiz on oceanography and marine science. When they pass the quiz, they can print out their own Junior Oceanographer certificate, and their first name and city can be added to the Junior Oceanographer Hall of Fame. One of NASA's goals is to inspire the next generation of explorers. The "Discovering the Oceans" book cover is designed to be an important step towards that goal.

For more information, visit —
<http://sealevel.jpl.nasa.gov>
<http://www.spacescience.org>
<http://education.nasa.gov/>

Discovering the Ocean

- "Discovering the Oceans" book cover is targeted for students ages 8–12.
- Educators may request student copies from topex@jpl.nasa.gov



http://sealevel2.jpl.nasa.gov/jr_oceanographer/bookcover-educators.html

- The front of the book cover provides just the spark needed to imagine diving into the study of our oceans.
- Students can read the whimsical comic on the back to learn about satellite oceanography.



Junior Oceanographer

- At the "Be a Junior Oceanographer" Web site, students take a short quiz on oceanography and marine science. When they pass the quiz, they can print out their own Junior Oceanographer certificate and be added to the Junior Oceanographer Hall of Fame.

