

Global Precipitation Measurement Mission

GPM Rain EnGAUGE Event Toolkit

Introduction

Celebrate the launch of the Global Precipitation Measurement Mission by hosting a GPM Rain EnGAUGE Event - a family science night at your school, outdoor education center, library or museum. A format that works well is to have a large group session with a keynote speaker (and/or GPM's introduction video) followed by break-out sessions with hands-on or interactive computer activities. For the keynote, you could invite a scientist from a nearby university, a meteorologist from a local news station, or just show our introductory video. The GPM Education and Public Outreach team may also be able to get you in touch with a nearby scientist affiliated with the mission – just let us know and we'll see what we can do! For the most up-to-date information and new activities as they are developed, check <http://gpm.nasa.gov/education/rain-engauge>.

Suggested timeline for planning an event

(NOTE: This is offered only to aid in preparation, and should not be seen as required if your circumstances call for modification.)

- As soon as possible:
- Get event on institution master calendar (GPM is expected to launch in mid to late February, so any time from early March until May or June would be good timing)
- 2 - 4 months ahead:
- Look over activities menu (try them if needed) and make selections – you probably want to pick no more than 4-5 activities
 - Contact a keynote speaker (if you wish one above and beyond the GPM video)
 - Start creating a room schedule
 - Seek permission to use appropriate spaces (cafeteria, classrooms, computer labs, etc.)
 - Make a plan for any technology which will be required (i.e. computer and projector for introduction video)
 - Think about whether you want to have visitors chose which activity station they attend or to assign them to a group and have them rotate to all stations
 - Start collecting materials (especially water bottles and juice/milk cartons if using)
 - Create posters, send announcements on email lists to ask parents to start collecting supplies
 - If you wish to have door prizes, you may want to ask parents and/or local business to donate items or gift cards
- 3 - 4 weeks ahead:
- Recruit student volunteers (a great opportunity for student service learning hours if your district records that for graduation)
 - Send out a first round of fliers, put up posters, get on the school announcements, in the school or local newsletter (see sample press release), etc.
- 1 - 2 weeks ahead:
- Hold training sessions for student volunteers
 - Double check on room arrangements and A/V requirements
 - Send out a second round of fliers/posters/announcements
 - Make sure you have all needed materials
- Day of event:
- Supervise student volunteers setting up stations
 - Check in on groups to ensure a smoothly running event
 - Make sure evaluations are given out and collected

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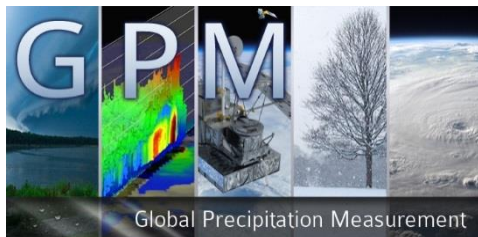
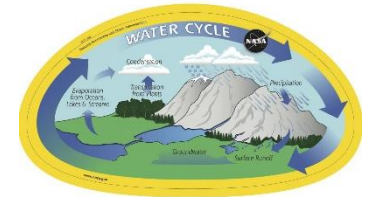
Other resources you'll find in the electronic kit: <http://gpm.nasa.gov/rain-engage>

- A menu of activities to choose from, with information about materials needed, age level recommendations, and approximate time required.
- A sample flier to advertise the event (picture at right)
- A sample description of the GPM mission and the purpose of the event, to use for a press release for local media, to put in a school newsletter, or to adapt as needed for other purposes (see below)
- A sample schedule showing one way to organize an evening event (next page)
- A sample evaluation form, to measure the effectiveness of your event
→ *Share your data (and a few photos of your event) with us and you'll receive a special GPM education tool to use with your students or future visitors!*
- Templates to make extra "GPM Ambassador" stickers for volunteers (they say "Ask me about GPM!")
- A presentation with basic information about the GPM satellite, its mission and technology, to train your volunteers or use during the event, or both



Items that will arrive in your mailed kit, if requested from GPM:

- GPM lithographs and water cycle droplet handouts
- A few sheets of GPM Ambassador stickers
- Supplies for some of the activities (see the Activities Menu for details)



Description of the Global Precipitation Measurement Mission:

The Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM) mission is an international network of satellites that are all looking down on Earth and measuring precipitation from above around the world every three hours. The GPM concept centers on the deployment of the GPM Core Observatory, a satellite carrying two advanced instruments to measure precipitation with unprecedented accuracy. The data from these two instruments will be used to standardize precipitation measurements made by an international network of partner satellites. Not only will this data give us a better picture of global precipitation, it will help advance our understanding of Earth's water and energy cycles and improve forecasting of extreme events like floods, droughts, landslides and hurricanes.



Sample description: (modify based on the details of your event)

Celebrate the launch of NASA's Global Precipitation Measurement mission and learn about the science behind measuring precipitation from space, as well as what it means for us on the ground. Join us on [insert your date and time] at [insert location event will be held] for this fun- and learning-filled evening. There will be hands-on activities, door prizes, and even the chance to make your own edible satellite! For more information contact Mr. / Ms. Sponsor Teacher at steacher@publicschool.org or 301-555-1234.

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Sample schedule to help with planning – adapt as needed to suit your circumstances:

6:15 – 6:30 – Attendees start arriving and are handed a program and raffle ticket (if doing door prizes – it's also a good way to count how many people attend) as they come in

6:30 – 6:55 - Brief introduction by event host and then showing GPM video and/or keynote speaker. Could draw raffle tickets now, or have winning names/ticket numbers on a display as people leave.

7:00 – 8:25 – Breakout sessions with different activities.

Option 1: Guests are assigned a group as they arrive, perhaps by handing out different colored programs, or by a colored sticker or letter written in the corner of the programs. They will then rotate through the activities with their group. This could work especially well if you are expecting a smaller audience. For a larger group, you might have two breakout rooms doing each of your chosen activities.

Time	Activity Room 1	Activity Room 2	Activity Room 3
7:00 – 7:25	Group A	Group B	Group C
7:30 – 7:55	Group B	Group C	Group A
8:00 – 8:25	Group C	Group A	Group B
8:25 – 8:30	All groups fill out event evaluation forms as they leave		

Option 2: If you have enough room and volunteers, you can also just list all the available activities and their locations and allow guests to choose where they go throughout the evening. This would allow you to include more activities if you wish, and to choose a combination of activities that take a different amount of time. Be aware of crowd flow problems, however, if many people chose one activity and few or none another. Don't forget to have attendees fill out their evaluation forms at the end!

8:25 – 8:30 – Wrap-up and evaluation