



# Plant the Moon CHALLENGE



## NASA Space Grant Plant The Moon Challenge

### Who can apply

Virginia Middle or High School Teachers and Organizations offering STEM educational programming at these grade levels.

### Application

Opens - September 1, 2023  
Closes - October 10, 2023 (11:59PM)  
Apply at:  
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VSGC\\_PlantTheMoon\\_2024](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VSGC_PlantTheMoon_2024)

### Participating educators will receive the following:

- Mentoring from Virginia Space Grant Consortium (VSGC) and the Plant the Moon Challenge
- Lunar regolith simulant kit with digital project guide, 10 small pots, 10 N95 masks and pH meter - one per approximately 10 students
- \$100 stipend for project supplies (per kit)
- Professional development on NASA's Artemis mission to return humans to the Moon and related STEM
- Opportunity for students to engage in weekly activities, special speakers and virtual events highlighting NASA's Artemis mission

## About

Students and their educators can be part of NASA's efforts to return humans to the Moon to stay by joining a teacher-led, student global science experiment, learning activity and inspirational project-based learning challenge to see who can grow the best crops using lunar regolith simulant.

NASA Space Grant Plant the Moon Challenge allows educators and their students to take a giant leap into lunar exploration by developing and conducting plant growth experiments with lunar soil simulant. By joining the NASA Space Grant Plant the Moon Challenge your students will engage in research that can assist NASA scientists in understanding how to use lunar soil to provide crops for future missions to the Moon.

The best overall Virginia team winner will compete in a regional selection for the top regional prize of an all-expense paid trip to Kennedy Space Center for the Visitor Center Complex experience and a bus tour to the Saturn V Complex. While at KSC, the top winning teams will do a presentation on their projects and be awarded their prize certificates at a ceremony that will include NASA, PTM and Space Grant invitees. Up to 8 state winners will receive a state STEM experience with some expenses covered.

The Challenge begins in January 2024 with the crop grow period from February 5 through March 31. This opportunity is offered at no cost to educators through the Virginia Space Grant Consortium in a multi-state Space Grant partnership with the Institute for Competition Sciences under a NASA grant.

*"Plant The Moon Challenge is so much more than growing plants! We grew our curiosity in all things science while also growing our ability to work as a team and become better students. The pride my students took in taking care of their plants and the sheer joy of growing "something" successfully was priceless!"*  
Cindy Watson, Forest Middle School, Forest, VA

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