

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Interactive Presentations - IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (IP)

Author: Ms. Riya Joshi
United States, riyajjoshi@yahoo.com

Ms. Monica Ebert
School for Independent Learners, United States, ebertmonica@gmail.com

COMPARATIVE PALEONTOLOGY AND TERRAFORMING AS 21ST CENTURY HIGH SCHOOL
CURRICULUM

Abstract

A high school Astronomy student researches the differences in terraforming Mars versus Venus in a project combining knowledge of comparative planetology with a terraforming curriculum that includes many interdisciplinary academic subjects (chemistry, geology, astrophysics, biology, health, engineering, business, finance, law). The topic becomes more complex considering the vast difference in environment between the two planets and our own. This contrast ignites creative thinking and encourages an appreciation for the ability for Earth to support life. Students world wide are encouraged to learn about terraforming, Earth ecosystems, and engage in the debate of terraforming Mars, Venus, or any other extraterrestrial destination. The subjects related to the topics are intriguing students to educate themselves and proclaim their recommendations for the future of humanity.