SPACE LIFE SCIENCES SYMPOSIUM (A1)

Public Outreach and Education in Space Life Sciences (8)

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THINK GLOBAL – ACT LOCAL: SPACE LIFE SCIENCES FOR EDUCATION AND OUTREACH AT THE GERMAN AEROSPACE CENTER DLR

Abstract

DLR is Germany's national research centre for aeronautics, space, transportation, energy and security. As Germany's Space Agency, DLR is also responsible for the forward planning and implementation of the German space programme. DLR has a social and public duty to encourage the next generation of young scientists and engineers. Hence, a wide range of programmes for children and young people is offered.

Since 1998, DLR has been producing attractive teaching materials for primary, secondary and high schools for both teachers and pupils, designed to be used in the classroom. In 2000, the idea of a laboratory for pupils was born: the DLR School Lab. At the DLR Institute of Aerospace Medicine in Cologne, the School Lab uses fascination with Space Life Sciences to inspire young people. Secondary and high school pupils and their teachers experience the excitement of research in a unique environment.

Based on the great success of this ongoing initiative, new projects are planned that will use Space Life Sciences to motivate young people not only to take an interest in science and technology but also in healthy lifestyle.