



Celebrating Trees!

September 16, 2009 - Over 70 high school students crammed into the Mae Jemison U.S. Science Reading Room's auditorium to hear Sci-enza director Rudi Horak and two of her interns, Nadine Broodryk and Boitumelo Pitsi, discuss international ozone day and arbor week.

They also presented the tree of the year, *acacia galpinii*, and the two rare trees of the year, *halleria lucida* and *pterocarpus rotundifolius*.



Afterwards, the pupils helped Boitumelo plant an *acacia galpinii* and a *halleria lucida*, as well as two *portulacaria afra* trees — noted for their carbon-storing capabilities.

The program helped raised the students' awareness of the environment and climate change, and was one of the highlights of a packed year of programming at Mae Jemison.

Read about trees

Trees : a visual guide / Tony Rodd and Jennifer Stackhouse, 2008. Shelf no.: MR 582.16 ROD

Trees, truffles, and beasts : how forests function / Chris Maser, Andrew W. Claridge, and James M. Trappe, 2008. Shelf no.: M 577.3 MAS

Tree Planting Tips

http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco_info/topics/climate/tree_planting/

Billion Tree Campaign

<http://www.unep.org/billiontreecampaign/>

Trees of the Year

<http://www.dwaf.gov.za/events/ArborWeek/2009/trees.asp>

October Events

(Programs start at 2.45 p.m.)

Wednesday Oct. 14

Life Sciences revision for Grade 12s, with guest teacher Helene Deysel, Hendrik Verwoerd H.S.

Wednesday Oct. 21

Launch of Youth Crime Watch in Mamelodi.

Wednesday Oct. 28

Sci-enza presentation: Lego workshop, focusing on gears.

Statistics:

July

- 165 books checked out.
- 601 visitors.

August

- 193 books checked out.
- 1003 visitors.

September

- 174 books checked out.
- 562 visitors.



Year of Science 2009

Theme for October: Earth Science

YEAR 2009
of SCIENCE
Explore. Empower. Engage...

From the YoS Website (<http://www.yearofscience2009.org>):

Celebrate Geosciences and Planet Earth

Earth is our home. Its rock layers and interactions with the atmosphere, hydrosphere (water and ice) and biosphere (plants and animals) have shaped the way humans live. Our civilizations, energy, resources, food and our health are all directly related to this wonderful planet. The study of those interactions and the underlying structure of the planets' systems is the realm of the geosciences, or more commonly called Earth science.

An often misunderstood science, Earth science is the culmination of ideas from physics, chemistry and biology which are used to understand the history and dynamic nature of our home planet. It is the unifying and holistic science which helps us to understand our past, present and future.

Earth Science Week 2009

Join geologists in the celebration of Earth Science Week, October 11-17! Earth Science Week is all about connecting with the natural world and learning about the geosciences.



Since October 1998, the American Geological Institute has organized this national and international event to help the public gain a better understanding and appreciation for the Earth Sciences and to encourage stewardship of the Earth.

The theme this year is "understanding climate".

<http://www.earthsciweek.org>

Read about Earth Science

Earth / editor-in-chief, James F. Luhr, 2003. Shelf no.: **MR 550 EAR**

"How to catalog the earth? Luhr and fellow staff members at the Smithsonian Institution have put together an encyclopedic, picture-rich, beautifully designed compendium that draws on up-to-date research in numerous fields to tell the incredible story of our planet's birth, place in the cosmos, and evolution, noting all the primary characteristics that make this flourishing blue green planet unique within the solar system." — *Booklist*



The atlas of climate change : mapping the world's greatest challenge / Kirstin Dow and Thomas E. Downing, 2003. Shelf no.: **MR 551.6 DOW**

"Rigorous in its science and insightful in its message, this atlas examines the causes of climate change and considers its possible impact on subsistence, water resources, ecosystems, biodiversity, health, coastal megacities, and cultural treasures." — Amazon.com

