

Solar System Ambassadors Celebrate Apollo 11 50th Anniversary

Since the countdown to the Apollo 11 50th Anniversary began on July 20, 2018, Solar System Ambassadors have been celebrating the occasion nationwide.

379 Ambassadors conducted 1,005 events reaching 260,374 people directly. Among the events were...



Apollo 11 today for the kids...projected about 150, had 230!! Wow. This was held at the main library in Greenville, SC. I started with a short intro by telling the story of Apollo 11 with just pictures. Along the way, I had the kids yell out what each picture represented. I had Nathan, a teen volunteer, narrate and act out a video of the launch and got them all up for the countdown! They loved it. We then had them go visit the various stations for activities. I ended up staying at the front with a line of folks for photos.





Happy to say, I got asked to do a private in-home Apollo presentation by a church friend that remembered my presentation on the Parker Solar Probe last year. It was last minute, so I pulled together any memorabilia I had, plus showed the Apollo 11 documentary. While the documentary was running, I demonstrated how the Saturn V, CM, SM and LM worked using the LEGO models. Boy did they have a lot of questions!





I had my big talk "The Next Giant Leap: Apollo and Space Life Sciences Research for the Journey to Mars" on Wednesdayl I did a summary of all the Apollo missions and discussed various Wisconsin connections to them. I also talked about the work being done at UW-Madison to study plant growth in space. One of the labs (in my department) was awesome enough to lend me one of their growth chambers used aboard the ISSII I was geeking out!!



During the week's celebration (July 16-24, 2019), 229 Ambassadors held 283 events that reached 115,466 people directly.