Video Conferencing

Student Programs

Thanks to a new partnership with Polycom, VSSEC can now offer programs for students and teachers through video conferencing. VSSEC has developed a range of programs specifically for this mode of delivery. These programs are based on the latest research-based strategies for effective science teaching and learning. They expose students to experts; encourage hands-on, minds-on learning; and incorporate teacher professional learning.

**STARS! Search**

- **Year Levels:** Year 5 – 8
- **Maximum group size:** 24 students
- **Duration:** Session 1: 20 min / Session 2: 40 min
- **Cost:** $30 plus GST per class

**Session 1:** This program begins with an introduction to stars by VSSEC staff (20 minutes). Students will then ‘play’ STARS! Search, an online game developed by VSSEC in conjunction with La Trobe University ACRI Games Technology Lab, which allows students to travel to the stars and collect information about them, including temperature, brightness and mass. There will be obstacles to avoid and dangers to face during their journey. Students will then plot their data on a simplified graph.

**Session 2:** Students discuss their findings with VSSEC staff and are introduced to the classroom activity; building a model of the stars of the Southern Cross (30-40 minutes).

**Mars Rocks!**

- **Year Levels:** Year 5 – 8
- **Maximum group size:** 24 students
- **Duration:** 45 min
- **Cost:** $50 plus GST per class

Mars Rocks! is an interactive session with a geologist, introducing students to geology on Mars and how it relates to Earth.

Before the program students collect rocks from their local area. The teacher will select three rocks for discussion during the session.

The video conference will start with an investigation of the geology of Earth and compare it to the geology of Mars. The students whose rocks were selected will then have a conversation with the geologist to discuss the environment where their rocks formed on Earth and what that environment would look like on Mars. The student’s understanding will then be tested with a game. When presented with a 3D image, will they be able to correctly identify Earth and Mars? The sessions conclude with student questions.
Video Conferencing – Booking Form

Bookings can also be submitted online at [www.vssec.vic.edu.au](http://www.vssec.vic.edu.au)

All VSSEC’s Video Conferencing programs are listed on CAPspace [www.projects.twice.cc](http://www.projects.twice.cc) and Polycom’s VC Content Providers Database [www.vccontentproviders.org](http://www.vccontentproviders.org)

Name: ______________________________________________________________________________________

School Name: ______________________________________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Telephone: ___________________ Fax: ___________________

Email address: _______________________________________________________________________________

Number of Groups/Classes: ______

Please select one of the following programs:

- ☐ **STARS! Search** (max 24 students, $30 plus GST per class.)
- ☐ **Mars Rocks!** (max 24 students, $30 plus GST per class.)

Please nominate three dates/times in order of preference.

1. ______________________________________________________________________________________
2. ______________________________________________________________________________________
3. ______________________________________________________________________________________

VSSEC uses an IP-based system. Before booking a program, please confirm that you are able to connect to our VC system by contacting us and performing a simple test session. Technical enquiries should be directed to Shaun Clarke [shaun.clarke@vssec.vic.edu.au](mailto:shaun.clarke@vssec.vic.edu.au)

Your reservation will be confirmed via email and an invoice will be issued for payment prior to your booking.

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**Please make cheques payable to:**
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Ref: VSSECVideo
ABN: 52 165 055 724