

EarthStation Library: A new millenium teaching tool in the earth sciences

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EarthStation Library is state-of-the-art interactive multimedia courseware for earth and environmental science education for students in grades 6 through 12+ and a resource for teachers of grades K through 5. The six *EarthStation Library* Volumes (two complete, four in development) are comprehensive geology, oceanography and meteorology teaching tools that provide an interactive CD-ROM environment for students to explore earth science from a remote sensing perspective. The Library is brimming with 3D and 2D animations, movies, slide shows, narrations, photographs, charts, graphs, projects, plus many interactive exercises and games in which students and educators explore a

fun (and challenging) new medium. *EarthStation Library* CD-ROMs are supplemented by traditional User's Guides and Teacher's Manuals, Lab Manuals and a Rock and Mineral Kit. *EarthStation Library* CD-ROMs act as a springboard into the *EarthStation WebChannel* (in development) to link students and teachers to a hub of on-line worldwide earth science information.

The dynamic nature of scientific discovery and the accelerating pace of development in the information technology industry, combine to provide an exciting environment from which educational sector learning outcomes can be satisfied (a local example is the learning outcomes of

the Oceans 11 course in Nova Scotia). *EOA Scientific Systems* multi-media products are developed through the collaboration of scientists, educational experts, programmers, 3D and 2D animators, and graphic artists. Gathering, organizing and presenting earth science material in a dynamic multi-media

framework is a challenging endeavour that requires collaboration between experts in diverse fields. In addition to the existing well-received interactive multi-media favoured by educators, *EOA Scientific Systems* has begun to incorporate cutting-edge virtual reality into its products.