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Global Precipitation Measurement Mission

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GPM Rain EnGAUGE Event Frequently Asked Questions

When should I hold my Rain EnGAUGE event?

The satellite is scheduled to launch in February, so any time from March onward would be great – whenever it fits into your institution’s calendar. There’s no particular end to the window, either – spring, summer, next fall – we’re happy to have you celebrate the GPM mission at whatever time is best for you.

What size should my event be? Whom should I invite?

Your event could be large (as for an entire school or museum) or small (as for an after school club or scout troop). It could be just for students (as in an event during the school day or right after school) or include families (as in an event in the evening or on a weekend). We want you to help us spread the word about GPM and the importance of precipitation measurement – we don’t want to limit you to a single format or audience.

Where can events be held?

Wherever you’d like: schools, libraries, museums, rec or community centers, church gathering halls – anywhere you have connections and think you can draw in a crowd of participants, go for it.

Could these activities be used in other settings besides a single event?

Absolutely. Many of the choices in the [Activities Menu](#) are adapted from lesson plans developed for the classroom, but they would also be well suited to an after school club, summer camp program, or a sequence of evening events each showcasing a selection of the activities. Please be creative, and [let us know](#) what neat implementation ideas you come up with, so we can share them with others.

How many activities should I pick?

It’s up to you, but we recommend three to five depending on how you want to structure your event. See the [Rain EnGAUGE Toolkit](#) document for a sample schedule. You could potentially include more activities if you have them spread out in an open space, such as a cafeteria or to multiple classrooms, or you might want to focus on fewer activities but take them more in depth if you will have a smaller audience.



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What materials will be included in the mailed supply kit?

Check the [Activities Menu](#) for details for each activity. Most of the activities are designed to be completed with commonly available items, so in general we tried to include those things that would be the hardest to get hold of for potential hosts. We also didn't include items that were too bulky, perishable, or otherwise impractical to mail. If you think that lack of materials in the supply kit will prevent you from hosting an event, please get in touch with us and we will see what we can work out.

What quantity of materials will you send?

We will try to adapt the number of consumable materials ([droplets](#), [lithographs](#), etc.) to the projected size of your audience as much as possible, based on the information you send us. For activities that can be repeated multiple times with the same equipment, we will include enough for six groups to be working at once.

What if I want to hand out door prizes?

GPM can't provide door prizes. If you care to hand out such prizes, you might consider reaching out to your parent organization or local businesses to donate small items or gift cards.

How much notice do I need to give the GPM team to receive a supply kit?

We would like to have at least three weeks' notice before your event, to make sure we can put together your kit and get it sent to you with time to spare. If you can give us more lead time than that, it's all for the better.

What if I have more questions that aren't answered here?

We will be holding a series of open "office hours" sessions in the next several months, using a variety of distance learning platforms. The first will take place on Tuesday, February 4th from 4:00 to 7:00 EST. Just as for in-person office hours, there is no need to stay for the entire time, just drop in and out when you wish. Technical details about how to connect are forthcoming, but for now please use the [contact form](#) or get in touch with Kristen Weaver, GPM Education Specialist (kristen.i.weaver@nasa.gov or 301-614-6146) if you would like to be sent an email reminder, or for any specific questions you may have related to hosting a Rain EnGAUGE event.



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