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Webworthy - Science Sites

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WEBWORTHY — Science Sites

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Welcome to the inaugural issue of this column! We have selected interesting, educational Websites both for content and uniqueness. In some cases, the topic of interest is part of a more general Webpage, in which case pointers are added to guide you to the specific link.

Internet sites are reviewed and then revisited just prior to publication to ensure they are still active. Please let the editor know of any sites that are not accessible.

Comments and suggestions welcome! Unless otherwise noted, all listings this month were listed in *Science, NetWatch* column edited by **Jocelyn Kaiser**.

Alternative Medicine — Check out medical fads from acupuncture to wild yam cream. — www.quackwatch.com

Archaeology — National Archaeological Database—a database of databases, including NADB-NAGPRA: National Park Service documents related to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act plus a huge database of "gray literature" on U.S. archaeological sites. — www.cr.nps.gov/aad/nadb.htm

Stone Pages — Stone circles, dolmens, standing stones, cairns, barrows and hillforts: Welcome to the most comprehensive online guide to European megaliths and other archaeological sites. — www.stonepages.com

University of Connecticut — gateway to hundreds of archaeology Web sites by subject and geographic region in seven languages. — archnet.uconn.edu

Astronomy — National Geographic Return to Mars Site—animations of Pathfinder's landing and more. — www.national-geographic.com/features/98/mars

Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (SEDS) — A group effort by SEDS members from all over the world. Thousands of pages packed with stunning images and text. Includes a scientific precis on each planet and its mythology, numerous links covering CNN's technology updates and NASA's international space station homepage, SETI, and a history of artificial satellites. — sed.s.lpl.arizona.edu

Virtual Trips ... — Visually wild, relativistically correct movies of, for example, how it would look if you travelled to a black hole. — antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/htmltest/rjn_bht.html

Web space library, including a Solar System Simulator — Location and phase of any of 32 planets and moons from the view of any other—and zoom-in global texture maps of planets and moons. — space.jpl.nasa.gov

Biology — Biodiversity and Conservation — Web book created for a class at U. of California, Irvine. — darwin.bio.uci.edu/~sustain/bio65/Titlpage.htm

Biological Procedures Online — Free-access electronic journal that examines previously published methods of research. — www.science.uwaterloo.ca/~mwreimer/bpo.htm

Biotechnology — Indiana University BioTech — Eclectic page with primers and links in genetics, nanotechnology, and lab protocols maintained by evolutionary engineer **Angy Ellington**. Includes a hyperlinked life sciences dictionary, **Cyberbotanica** (a guide to anticancer compounds derived from plants), and links to sites like the FDA's **Bad Bug Book**. Goal is to enrich the public's knowledge of biology and chemistry. — biotech.chem.indiana.edu

Chemistry — 3-D Crunch — VLS (very large scale) protein modelling, displaying three-dimensional protein structures. — www.expasy.ch/swissmod/SM_3D_Crunch.html

WebElements — The best known periodic table on the Web, sprinkled with interesting factoids, and links to **ChemDex**, a directory of over 3500 chemistry sites. — www.shf.ac.uk/chemistry/web-elements/

Computer Science — Nanotechnology Research Centers — Up-to-date sources of information on nanotechnology in the following areas: major research centers, funding agencies, major reports and books. — itri.loyola.edu/nanobase

Electronic Publishing — Proceedings of the Int. Conf. on The Impact of Electronic Publishing on the Academic Community. — tiepac.portlandpress.co.uk/tiepac.htm

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Embryogenesis — FishScope — Movies of embryonic development. — weber.u.washington.edu/~fishscope/

Entomology — Web museum of dragonflies, scanned images, and field photos of damselflies. — stephenville.tamu.edu/~fmitchel/damselfly/index.html

Environmental Science — Air Quality Monitoring System — EPA simulation of how pollutants interact and travel—tutorial and program ordering site. — www.epa.gov/asmdnerl/models3/

Checklist of Online Vegetation and Plant Distribution Maps — Includes links to maps of the world's rainforests, California's redwoods, protected forests in Bangladesh. — www.sul.stanford.edu/depts/branner/vegmaps.htm

The Ultimate Tree-Ring Web Pages — Can you say Dendochronology? An exhaustive supply of info on how tree-ring researchers unlock the environmental histories hidden in the rings of trees. — www.valdosta.edu/~grissino

Exhibits — Museums — San Francisco Online Exhibits — Everything from sports to sunspots. — www.exploratorium.edu

Geosciences — NASA Global Fire Monitoring Site. — modarch.gsfc.nasa.gov/fire_atlas/fires.html

Oceanography and related geosciences glossary with hyperlinks. — www.ocean.tamu.edu/~baum/paleo/paleogloss/paleogloss.html

REVEL (Research and Education: Volcanoes, Exploration and Life) — Includes Submarine Expedition chronicle of day-by-day accounts of retrieval of "black smokers" (mineral chimneys formed by undersea hot springs). — www.ocean.washington.edu/outreach/revel

USGS site of Tsunami Models — Computer simulations, animations, and photos of the tsunami that hit Papua New Guinea on July 17th. — walrus.wr.usgs.gov/docs/tsunami/PNGhome.html

Infectious Diseases — Influenza Sequence Database — Virus genetic information. — www-flu.lanl.gov/index.html

Mad Cow disease (bovine spongiform encephalopathy) — Information (including how beef is made!). — www.cyber-dyne.com/~tom/mad_cow_disease.html

Outbreak (successor to The Ebola Page) — News and information on emerging diseases. — www.outbreak.org

Information Science — "A rose by any other name..." *Science* magazine's Next Wave Website details information science alternative careers for employees with a science background. Click on Career Transitions, and scroll down for articles on information science. — www.nextwave.org

Intellectual Property Issues — Andrew Odlyzko: Papers on Electronic Publishing and Electronic Commerce — www.research.att.com/~amo/doc/eworld.html

American Scientist Free Internet Access to Traditional Journals — www.amsci.org/amsci/articles/98articles/walker.html

Mathematics — KnotPlot — All loopy shapes with theoretical underpinnings in algebraic topology. — www.cs.ubc.ca/nest/imagery/contributions/scharein/KnotPlot.html

Mathematics in Biology — "The purpose of these pages is to press our noses against some of the windows that look upon biological systems, and to do it in as interactive and stimulating a way as possible..." — www.bio.brandeis.edu/biomath/top.html

Microscopy — Electron micrographs colored by microscopist Tina Carvalho, University of Hawaii, Manoa. Aphids, spiders, and gecko toes. — www.pbrc.hawaii.edu/bemf/microangela/

Molecular Biology — CMS Molecular Biology Resources — 1900+ public domain bio Web tools organized by the task at hand. — www.sdsc.edu/ResTools/cmshp.html

Making PCR — Archive of key papers on this DNA amplification technique. — sunsite.berkeley.edu/PCR/

Paleontology — PaleoNet — Both a site and email list covering the entire breadth and depth of paleontology. Includes hundreds of links to museums, fossil databases, and job ads, plus info organized by geologic period; also connected is a digital journal **Palaeontologia Electronica** (www.odp.tamu.edu/paleo). — www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/Paleonet

Patents — Links to patent databases, searching guides, legal resources, etc. — www.sul.stanford.edu/depts/swain/patent/pattop.html

Trademark filings and post-1976 patent texts — www.uspto.gov

Physics — American Institute of Physics Graphics page — www.aip.org/physnews/graphics/

Bose-Einstein Condensation (BEC) — A state in which individual atoms merge and

act as a single giant atom. A chaotic site including bulletins on major condensate results, bibliographies, e-clippings from newspapers, magazine profiles of scientists, and conference and talk info. — amo.phy.gasou.edu/bec.html/

IBM Almaden Research Center — Site displaying images of atoms. — www.almaden.ibm.com/vis/stm/gallery.html

Naval Research Lab Plasma Formulary — "The mini-Bible of plasma physicists" — wwwppd.nrl.navy.mil/nrlformulary/nrlformulary.html

Primateology — The Primate Gallery — A collection of photos and drawings of all 234 living species, including a link to some copyright free images available for public use. — www.selu.com/~bio/PrimateGallery

Reference — Martindale's Reference Desk — Science resources including multimedia courses, databases, calculators. — www.sci.lib.uci.edu/HSG/Ref.html

Online scientific glossaries — By planetary scientist Eric Weisstein, including math, physics, astronomy, and a history of rockets. — www.astro.virginia.edu/~eww6n/TreasureTroves.html

Science — INASP (International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications) — Includes **African Journals Online**: a pilot project to promote African-published scholarly journals by means of the Internet. — oneworld.org/inasp/ajol/index.html

Mad Scientist Network - Washington U. St. Louis Graduate Students archive — Answers to queries like "do fish sleep?", "why are jellyfish clear", plus a tour of the Visible Human. — www.madsci.org

The Why Files — Explains the science behind the news. — whyfiles.news.wisc.edu/

Sleep Research — Sleep Home Pages — Online textbook, research updates, bibliographies etc. — bisleep.medsch.ucla.edu

Space Exploration — Satellite and MIR space station locations and paths. — liftoff.msfc.nasa.gov/academy/rocket_sci/satellites/

Virology — All the Virology on the WWW—links and information on viruses and the diseases they cause. — www.tulane.edu/~dmsander/garryfavweb.html

Volcanology — A chronicle of eruptions around the world and a few places in the solar system with a glossary, maps, movies, and lava flow images. — volcano.und.edu

Weather — TOPEX/Poseidon — Understanding our oceans and climate from space—color-enhanced still images and Web movies of global climatic images. — topex-www.jpl.nasa.gov