

## Developing a Smart Economy and Building on Ireland's Proud Astronomical History

5,500BC Newgrange - The world's first astronomers.

12th Century  
Irish monks observe and record supernova explosions.

19th Century  
The 3rd Earl of Rosse builds what becomes the world's largest telescope for the next 50 years at Birr castle.

1833  
Thomas Grubb (Dublin) - Founded the Grubb telescope company.

1967  
Jocelyn Bell (Armagh) - Discovers pulsars.

1970  
Irish Scientists in Dublin work with NASA on the manned Apollo 16 and 17 missions to the moon.

1975  
Ireland joins the European Space Agency (ESA).

1990  
Astronomy Ireland is founded by David Moore  
Goal: To promote astronomy to the general public.

2005 - 2009  
Growth in Irish space industry sector.  
47 Irish companies secure ESA contracts to the value of €31 million.

2009  
Astronomy Ireland launch education programme.  
Goal: To increase the number of young people learning the subject, and get astronomy established as a widely-studied subject in the Irish Curriculum.

Present  
NUI Galway, DCU, TCD, UCC, NUI Maynooth, UCD, all offer astronomy degrees.  
Enterprise Ireland support 3rd level students with internships at ESA's research centre in Holland, and offer scholarships to enable students to attend the International Space University.

Astronomy Ireland continues to visit hundreds of primary schools around the country -  
**Discovering the Scientists of tomorrow.**

For further information,  
and price quote please contact:

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## EARTH DAY APRIL 22

### Earth Day 2011

Get involved!

See [www.earthday.net](http://www.earthday.net) for more details

Astronomy helps us understand our place in the universe and the uniqueness of life on our planet.

Learning about our place in space promotes good stewardship and an appreciation of our planet. Why not have one of our education officers visit your school around Earth Day 2011?

Astronomy lectures can also complement the 'Green-Schools Seven Step Programme'



**To me, it underscores our responsibility to deal more kindly with one another, and to preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known.**

**- Carl Sagan, Pale Blue Dot, 1994**

# ASTRONOMY IRELAND

## Education Programme 2010/2011

### Observe, Question, Investigate, Understand

### Bringing the wonders of the Universe to your school