



## Mohawk Valley teachers welcome to become GLOBE certified

By Rob Juteau  
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Herkimer, N.Y. — For the first time in a decade, a Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment program training session will be held in upstate New York.

The program, more commonly known as GLOBE, is a worldwide hands-on, primary and secondary school-based science and education program. It promotes and supports students, teachers and scientists to collaborate on inquiry-based investigations of the environment and the Earth system working in close partnership with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and National Science Foundation Earth System Science Projects in study and research about the dynamics of Earth's environment.

The free training session will be held March 18 and 19, 2011, at Onondaga Community College in Syracuse and has openings for 30 middle and high school-level teachers.

Only one teacher per school district will be accepted in the certification program.

"This session will give teachers access to state, national and international resources that encourage kids to learn," said Mary Eileen Wood, director of the Dr. Nelson Yin Tri Region Science & Engineering Fair and a member of the International Science & Engineering Fair Advisory Council. "It's a wonderful opportunity for a teacher to become certified and join an inspiring and engaging support network."

The GLOBE program increases student scientific awareness of their environment and involves students in conducting local scientific research investigations on the environment — taking measurements, analyzing data and participating in research in collaboration with scientists.

"The program allows students to contribute scientific data to scientists to use in their research, and can create a mechanism for expanding the pipeline of potential future scientists," said Wood.

The GLOBE network includes representatives from 111 participating countries that coordinate activities that are integrated into their local and regional communities.

There are more than 54,000 GLOBE-trained teachers representing over 23,000 schools around the world. Over 1.5 million students have participated in GLOBE, contributing more than 21 million measurements to the GLOBE database for use in their inquiry-based science projects.

"For students, GLOBE provides the opportunity to collect scientific data on their local environment focused on the atmosphere, water, soil and land cover; share their data with others over the Internet; publish the results from their research projects; create maps and graphs of data on the GLOBE website and collaborate with other GLOBE students and scientists around the world," said Wood.

Teachers, said Wood, are able to connect with other teachers, students and scientists worldwide.

"This certification session is a wonderful and unique opportunity, and one that I hope educators in Herkimer County take advantage of," said Wood during a visit to the Telegram and Times office on Friday. "This is an opportunity for upstate New York to become part of a worldwide network, and there is no reason that part of that link cannot be made here in Herkimer County."

She said acceptance in the teacher certification session will be on a first come, first served basis.

For more information about GLOBE, visit [www.globe.gov](http://www.globe.gov) or [www.trsef.org/globe](http://www.trsef.org/globe).

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