

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION, FLORIDA  
AEROSPACE EDUCATION

**VISIONS OF EXPLORATION**

August 3, 2009

**Preparing your students for tomorrow:** The Air Force Association (AFA) and USA TODAY Education have partnered to bring the Visions of Exploration Program to 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms nationwide.

**Visions of Exploration Program:** Provides educators with curriculum resources that motivate students to explore topics in science, technology engineering and math (STEM). These resources are designed to enhance students' reading, writing and comprehension skills. You will find additional resources at [www.education.usatoday.com](http://www.education.usatoday.com) and [www.afa.org](http://www.afa.org)

**The Program Includes:**

Standard-driven STEM Lessons using USA TODAY articles available on the Visions of Exploration website at:

<http://usatodayeducate.com/wordpress/index.php/visions-of-exploration-sponsored-by-the-air-force-association>

USA TODAY helps students develop higher-order thinking skills and engages them in real-world learning. The newspaper requires students to analyze, evaluate and interpret information. Since a major portion of state assessments tests involve comprehension of non-fiction material, USA TODAY is a valuable resource when preparing students for these exams.

USA TODAY newspapers delivered to your classroom. Each four weeks project provides an in-depth exploration of a current issue and helps students hone their creative and critical thinking skills. The projects require students to use research, analysis, synthesis and evaluation. This feature appears every other Month.

Weekly e-newsletters sent to the inbox of each subscribing teacher offering additional news-related activities, lessons and classroom resources.

Additional curriculum resources online with aerospace, aviation, science, technology, engineering and math activities at [www.education.usatoday.com](http://www.education.usatoday.com) and [www.afa.org](http://www.afa.org)

Educator Grants in the amount of \$250 each, awarded to five teachers who have creatively integrated the Visions of Exploration Program into their classrooms. For more information on how your classroom can receive the Visions Program please contact:

Debie Dodge, USA TODAY at 1-800-872-3415, Extension 5917

Julie Parslow, USA TODAY, at 407-851-2900, Ext. 271 or

Laine Martens at AFA HQ, at 1-800-727-3337 Ext. 4891 or email at: [lmartens@afa.org](mailto:lmartens@afa.org)

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