

let's talk
science
inspiring discovery



Let's Talk Science is now
proudly operating Tomatosphere™!

Looking for an out-of-this-world science experiment for your class?

Tomatosphere™ uses the excitement of space exploration as a context for teaching K-12 students the skills and processes of science experimentation and inquiry.

Register online at
www.TOMATOSPHERE.org





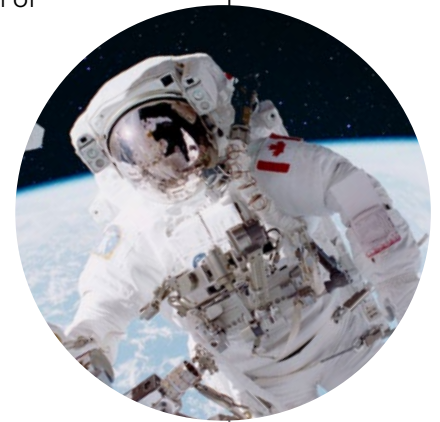
Tomatosphere™ is:

- ↳ free for classroom and homeschool educators
- ↳ accessible for students in Kindergarten to Grade 12
- ↳ available in French and English

How does it work?

A free program, Tomatosphere™ is offered annually to Kindergarten to Grade 12 classrooms across Canada. Students investigate the effects of the space environment on the growth of food that will inevitably support long-term human space travel.

Tomato seeds, both treated and untreated, are provided along with educator resources and classroom materials. Students and teachers will not know which of their seeds have been in space or if they've been treated or untreated until the germination process is complete and results are submitted to www.tomatosphere.org. (Note: Some seeds will have undergone treatments that simulate the extreme conditions of interplanetary travel). Seeds arrive in February/March for spring or fall planting.



How do students benefit?

By participating in Tomatosphere™, students will:

- ↳ develop science process skills (e.g., questioning, observing) through inquiry
- ↳ learn about growing plants in space and the research needed to inform future space exploration
- ↳ learn about the challenges of long-term space travel and the requirements for life support systems for astronauts
- ↳ participate in a national data collection science project with a hands-on component

Curriculum Connections

Tomatosphere™ connects with the curriculum for science inquiry and process skills, as well as the following science content strands:

Grades K-2: needs and characteristics of living things

Grades 3-4: plants, soil, habitats, nutrition

Grades 5-6: space, human needs, weather

Grades 7-8: Mars, careers, environmental studies

Grades 9-10: space exploration, nutrition, environmental studies

Grades 11-12: ecosystems, agriculture/agriculture, photosynthesis, sustainable development, planetary science, space exploration, plant biology



For more details and to register, visit www.tomatosphere.org
or contact educators@tomatosphere.org.

