

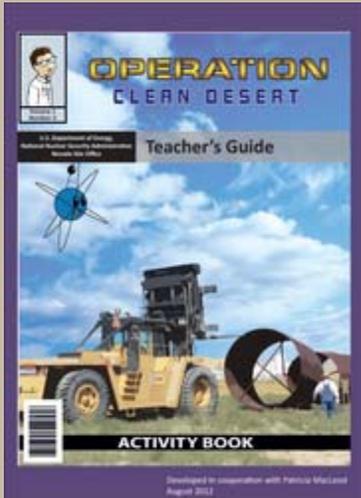


U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Site Office

EM NEWS FLASH



Kick-Starting the School Year with Operation Clean Desert

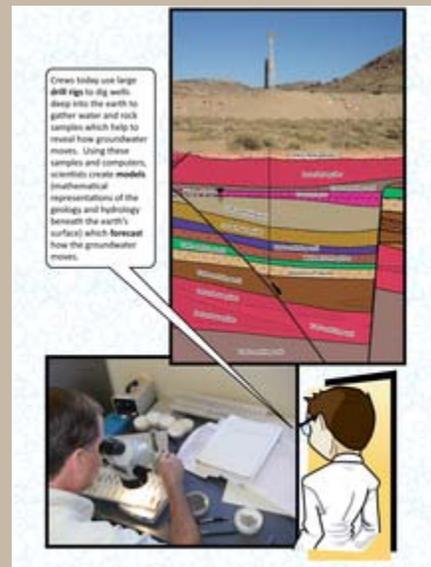


School is back in session and [Operation Clean Desert](#) was there to give it a kick start! On August 21, 2012, the Operation Clean Desert Teacher's Guide made its debut along with the recently revised companion [activity book](#) during the *2012 Educator Appreciation Day & Back To School Fair* at The Mirage in Las Vegas, NV.

Hundreds of teachers attended the event (hosted by MGM Resorts International) and approximately 150 of those teachers made their way to the Operation Clean Desert display. "This was a great opportunity to promote Operation Clean Desert and demonstrate how these materials can be incorporated directly into the classroom," said Navarro-Intera Public Involvement Manager, Dona Merritt. "I've already had one 8th grade science teacher follow-up with a request for 560 copies of the activity book and two more teacher guides."

Operation Clean Desert posters showcasing the groundwater characterization program at the Nevada National Security Site were a main draw at the Nevada Site Office Environmental Management station. Teachers, exhibitors, and Mirage Dolphin Habitat staff responded with interest to the colorful and education-oriented graphics, according to Merritt. "One teacher even requested the posters for his classroom."

While the event was a boon for getting the word out to educators on Operation Clean Desert, teachers were the real winners. In addition to the thousands of donated school supplies, approximately 20 organizations exhibited with offers of field trips, classroom speakers, and learning materials.



What is Operation Clean Desert?!

Operation Clean Desert follows the adventures of Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom as they visit the Nevada National Security Site and teach students how various environmental challenges are being tackled.

Available free learning materials include several versions of the activity book geared to different educational levels, a teacher's guide and student worksheet companion (Volume 1 Number 4 of the activity book targeting 6th to 9th grade students), an [on-line computer game](#), and various displays.

These learning materials are an excellent resource for educators, parents, after-school programs, community groups, libraries, and more!

For more information or to request materials, e-mail envmgt@nv.doe.gov or call 702-295-3521.

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