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Nevada Site Office Environmental Management

# EM NEWS FLASH

## Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom Return to Rosemary Clarke Middle School

Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom love to learn, share, and have fun – that's why they visited Rosemary Clarke Middle School in Pahrump, Nevada, on May 20 and 21, 2009!

Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom are characters portrayed in the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office Operation Clean Desert exhibit. Operation Clean Desert follows the adventures of Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom as they visit the Nevada Test Site, and learn about environmental issues. Approximately 400 sixth graders at the school learned about the history, environmental concerns, and cleanup activities which take place at the Nevada Test Site.

In addition to the Operation Clean Desert display, students were taken on a visual journey of Nevada Test Site missions, past and present, through a multi-media presentation and posters on groundwater and radioactive waste management.



“We appreciate the community partnership with Rosemary Clarke Middle School in helping area children learn about scientific activities and the environmental management efforts at the Nevada Test Site,” says Kelly Snyder, Public Involvement Task Manager for the U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Site Office. “Our display connects children with local history and the ongoing Nevada Test Site environmental work.”

The annual, two-day event is part of a lesson plan developed by Rosemary Clarke Science Department Chair, Carol Hunn, and Kim Syverson to address Nevada Department of Education science objectives. Following the presentation by Susan Krenzien, an experienced science professional at the Nevada Site Office, students were required to complete a worksheet based on the Operation Clean Desert activity book provided. Each student was also given a CD of the accompanying interactive computer game. “Thanks for all your work,” Carol Hunn stated as she expressed her appreciation, “the kids really enjoyed it!”

The success of the event was most evident from the enthusiasm displayed by the students, many who have friends or family that work at the Nevada Test Site. Using fun characters like Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom help facilitate awareness of the important environmental cleanup activities occurring at the Nevada Test Site. The Operation Clean Desert exhibit has also been displayed at numerous elementary and middle schools in the Las Vegas Valley, and at libraries and community events.

More information on the Operation Clean Desert learning trio can be found at [www.nv.doe.gov](http://www.nv.doe.gov). The Operation Clean Desert exhibit is available for loan to schools, libraries, museums, and public events. For more information, contact the Office of Public Affairs: (702) 295-3521 or [envmgt@nv.doe.gov](mailto:envmgt@nv.doe.gov).

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