



# 2009 Members Summit

January 23-24, 2009

Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center  
Dallas, TX

## Our Give Back Promoting Education in Math & Science

Presented by

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2008 DFW RLF Graduates

**SIM Regional Leadership Forum**  
Charting the Course for Tomorrow's IT Leaders...and Your Company's Future

January 24, 2009

# An Ambitious Class Project

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- Class mates at DFW Regional Leadership Forum (RLF) decided to focus on the Math and Science education in our schools
- The project lives on even after graduation, and is now adopted by several groups such as SIM Education Committee, RLF Reunion Group
- Pilot is in progress at Heritage Elementary in Lewisville, with several other school districts interested

# What is this project about?

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- Increasing awareness of shortfall in producing qualified graduates in Math, Science and Engineering
- Providing help to local schools in getting students interested in Math and Science

Primarily targeted toward elementary school students (grades 3-5)

- Developing a community of teachers and students who collaborate to generate lessons and exercises based on World Wide Telescope (WWT)

# Ever increasing demand in IT

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- Only 2% unemployment in IT compared to national average of 6+%
- By 2014 there will be 2 million job openings in the US in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields
- IT Salaries are several times higher than national average

# US cannot meet this demand

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- The number of undergraduate engineering degrees awarded in the United States fell by 15% during 1995-2005
- The U.S. ranks 21st in the world in science and 25th in math among 15 year-olds
- Economists estimate that the country's economy would grow by 4.5 percentage points over 20 years if Americans caught up to the leaders in math and science.



71% of 4th grade students

68% of 8th grade students

89% of 12th grade students

performed **BELOW** the proficient level  
in science.

Source: The National Academies of Science; 2005 blue-ribbon panel  
report: *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*




The US ranks

**NEAR THE BOTTOM**

of 17 nations in the proportion of 24-year-olds who earn degrees in natural science or engineering as opposed to other majors.


Source: The National Academies of Science; 2005 blue-ribbon panel report: *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*



In the US, those undergraduates who switch **FROM** science and engineering **TO** other majors

“are often among the most highly qualified college entrants...”.

Source: The National Academies of Science; 2005 blue-ribbon panel report: *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*



## The future is in South Korea

Smart investments in broadband there have paid off in the form of a hyperconnected society -- here's how we can start reaping the benefits.

By [Chris Taylor](#), Business 2.0 Magazine senior editor

June 14, 2006: 3:37 PM EDT

**BUSINESS 2.0**  
MAGAZINE

We must do something!!

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**In a global economy, the best jobs are not going to go to the best in your class but to the *best in the world***

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**What can  
we do?**

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**Convince our  
children that math,  
science &  
technology are**

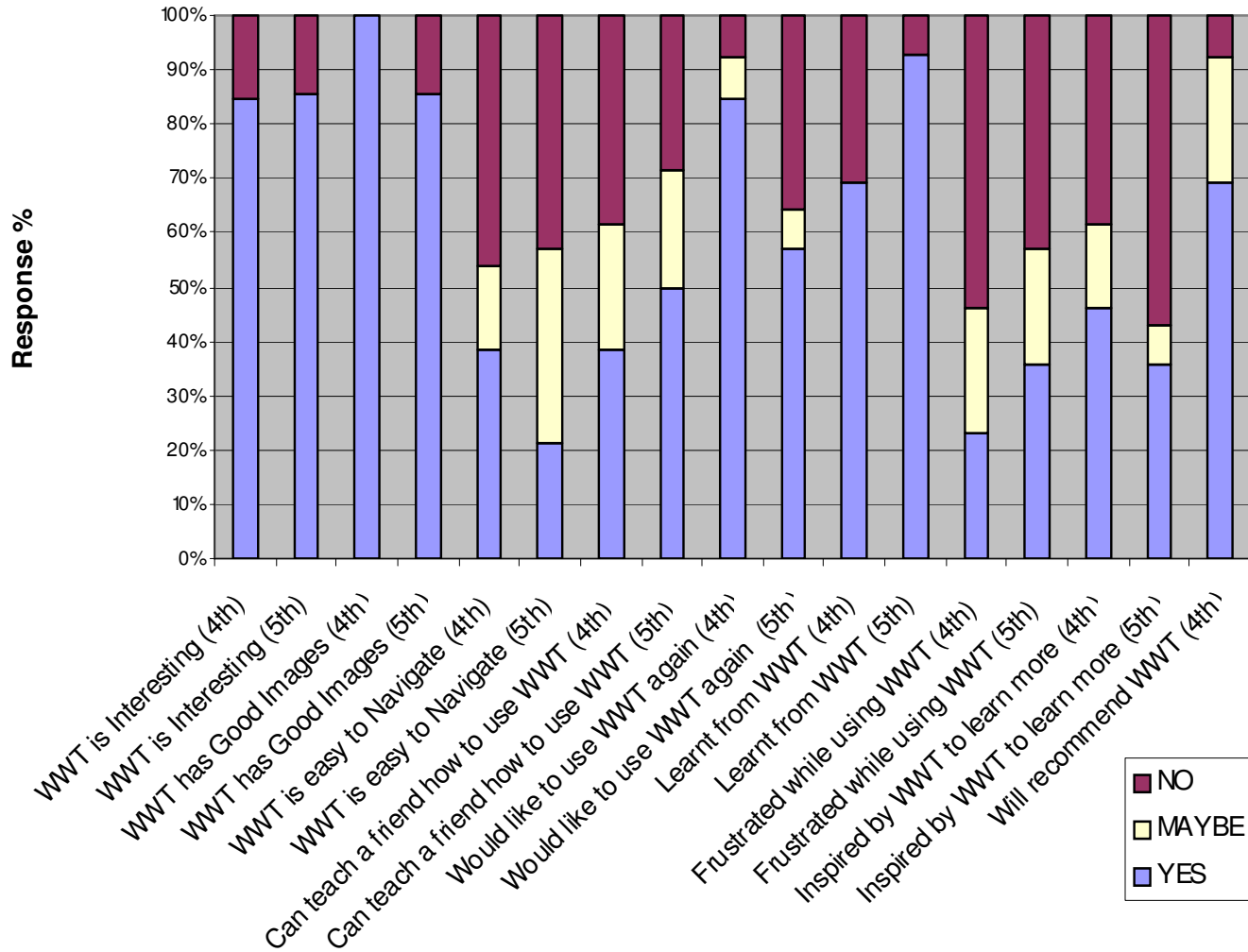
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**How**



- Early results indicate that students like WWT
- It would be a challenging and fun exercise for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders

### WorldWideTelescope First Impressions



# Join Us!

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- Contact the curriculum development team at your School District
- Educate them about your professional organization such as AITP

The fact that a lot of IT professionals are involved in this organization lends additional credibility

- Our approach is to “quit complaining and do something” about the widening gap in Math and Science skill levels
- To learn how to get involved, contact:

Sanjay Parikh at [S.Parikh@tx.rr.com](mailto:S.Parikh@tx.rr.com)

Praful Mainker at [Praful.Mainker@tx.rr.com](mailto:Praful.Mainker@tx.rr.com)



[www.worldwidetelescope.org](http://www.worldwidetelescope.org)

[www.OurGiveBack.Com](http://www.OurGiveBack.Com)