Solar System Exploration Timeline 2003-2006

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Educational Product	
Teachers and Students	K - Post Doc

EP-2004-03-024-JPL

Mercury

Venus

Moon

Earth

Mars

Asteroids

Jupiter

Saturn

Uranus

Neptune

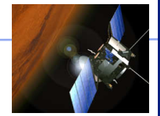
Pluto

Comets

2003

09/27/03 SMART-1
Launch:
Europe's First
Moon Orbiter

06/02/03 Mars Express/Beagle 2
06/10/03 Spirit
07/07/03 Opportunity
Mars Launches



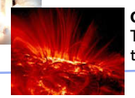
12/24/03 Mars Express
European Orbiter
Arrives at Mars

05/09/03 Hayabusa (MUSES-C)
Launch: Japanese Asteroid Sample Return

09/21/03 Galileo
Jupiter Impact:
End of 14-year
Orbiter Mission

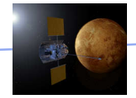
2004

05/04 MESSENGER
Launch: NASA Mercury Orbiter



06/08/04
Transit: Venus Crosses
the Face of the Sun

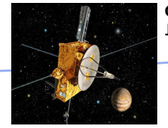
08/04 LUNAR-A
Launch: Japanese
Moon Orbiter



11/04 MESSENGER
Venus Flyby 1

09/08/04 Genesis
Sample Return:
Mid-Air Capture of
Solar Wind Capsule

01/03/04 Spirit
01/24/04 Opportunity
Twin NASA Robot Geologists
Land on Mars



02/04 Ulysses
Jupiter Flyby

06/12/04 Cassini-Huygens
Moon Flyby: NASA Orbiter at
Saturn's Phoebe

07/01/04 Cassini-Huygens
Saturn Arrival:
NASA Orbiter & European Probe

12/24/04 Cassini-Huygens
NASA Orbiter Deploys
European Probe

10/26/04
Cassini-Huygens
Titan Flyby

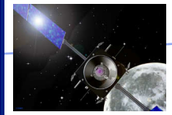
01/14/05 Huygens
Probe Descent:
Huygens Explores
Titan (3 hours)

01/02/04 Stardust
Comet Encounter:
NASA Collects Samples
from Comet Wild 2

03/02/04 Rosetta
Launch: European
Comet Chaser

12/04 Deep Impact
Launch: NASA
Comet Excavator

2005



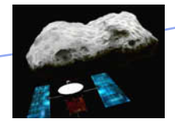
02/05 SMART-1
Moon Arrival:
Europe's First
Lunar Orbiter

8/05 MESSENGER
Venus Flyby 2

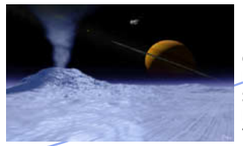
09/05 SELENE Launch:
Japanese Lunar Probe

11/05 Venus Express
Launch:
European Orbiter

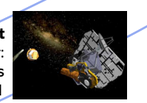
08/05
Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter
NASA Launch



10/05 Hayabusa (MUSES-C)
Asteroid Arrival:
Japan Collects Samples
From Itokawa

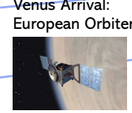


03/09/05 Cassini
NASA Orbiter Begins Extended
Saturn Tour with Enceladus
Flyby. Activities Continue
Through 2008.



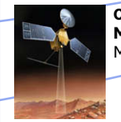
07/04/05 Deep Impact
Comet Encounter:
NASA Excavates
Tempel 1

2006



04/06 Venus Express
Venus Arrival:
European Orbiter

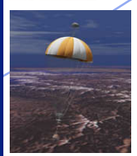
10/06 MESSENGER
Venus Flyby 3



03/06
Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter
Mars Arrival

06/06 Dawn
Launch:
NASA Asteroid
Orbiter

01/06
New Horizons
Launch: NASA
Pluto-Kuiper Belt
Flyby Mission



01/06 Stardust
NASA Comet Sample Return

Extreme Exploration, Extreme Education

An unprecedented era of exploration is underway. A fleet of more than a dozen international spacecraft is making headlines from across the solar system. These back-to-back historic events offer teachers a unique chance to showcase the real science behind the headlines. NASA's education team has rounded up a suite of classroom activities - aligned to the National Science Education Standards - to help teachers capitalize on these teachable moments. To learn more, flip to the back of this poster.

For the whole story, visit: **http://solarsystem.nasa.gov**