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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATTENTION: News/Science/Education/Family Section Reporters

SUSTAINABLE SPRING BREAK TEACHES KIDS TO REDUCE FOOTPRINT WITH WORMS, WIND FARMS, FUEL CELLS AND OTHER FUN STUFF

Vancouver, BC, March 11, 2008 – H.R. MacMillan Space Centre’s Sustainable Spring Break will teach kids how to reduce their eco footprint while minimizing little footprints around the house for parents while school’s out.

Sustainable Spring Break kicks off next Monday, March 17 and runs through to Saturday, March 22, with each day focusing on a different theme – from food to recycling.

“Our Sustainable Spring Break team has gathered a week’s worth of experts who make living green simple and fun for everyone. Come down and learn how to “house-train” worms, harness the energy of the wind, or launch recycled rockets -- all while reducing your eco foot print,” said Cam Cronin, public programmer for the Space Centre.

Here are highlights of next week’s events:

Monday, March 17 – FOOD

- 100 mile diet – eating locally, how your food travels to get to your table
- Worm composting – how red wigglers turn organic waste into rich, life-giving soil
- How to build your own solar cooker

Tuesday, March 18 – CLIMATE

- How climate change affects all of us and what you can do to reduce your impact
- Interactive climate modules for kids to adjust their eco footprint
- Kite-making workshop where kids can build, fly and take home a simple kite

Wednesday, March 19 – ENERGY

- Fuel cell testing station with compact fuel cell kits kids can assemble
- Wind farm workshop where kids can generate electricity from wind power

Thursday, March 20 – TRANSPORTATION

- Ford Focus fuel cell vehicle available for limited rides in Space Centre parking lot
- Green World Electric Vehicle electric bicycle on display and draw to win one of five \$200 vouchers towards purchase of an electric vehicle
- Smart Car on display in lobby and examples of alternative fuel vehicles

Friday, March 21 – RECYCLING

- Recycled rocket workshop (bring your own two-litre pop bottle!)
- Water bottle challenge. Take the bottled water taste test and ask yourself: does bottled water make sense in a place like Vancouver?
- Battery usage and recycling

Saturday, March 22 – WATER

- Fraser River Discovery Centre hands-on demonstration of where the water that falls on Vancouver actually ends up
- UNICEF workshop on global sustainability issues and how actions in one country can affect the lives of millions of people around the world.

For more information about Sustainable Spring Break, call 604-738-7827 or visit www.spacecentre.ca

The H.R. MacMillan Space Centre is a non-profit community resource that brings the wonders of space to Earth, while providing a personal sense of ongoing discovery. Through innovative programming, exhibits and activities, our goal is to inspire sustained interest in the fields of Earth science, space science and astronomy from a Canadian perspective.

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