

Virtual Environments

The Evolution of Online Learning?



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What is Second Life?

Second Life is a virtual world entirely built and owned by its residents. Since opening in 2003, SL has grown explosively and today* is inhabited by 4,907,403 residents.



*Population as of
3/23/2007

Virtual Worlds

- The Horizon Report, 2007 Edition
 - Virtual Worlds
 - Time to Adoption: Two to Three Years
 - “Campuses and businesses have established locations in these worlds, much as they were creating websites a dozen years ago. In the same way that the number and sophistication of websites grew very quickly as more people began to browse, virtual locations will become more common and more mature as the trend continues.”

Creating a Second Life

- Register at <http://www.secondlife.com>
- Fill out some basic information
- Pick your avatar
- Download/install the software
- Login

JOIN NOW

MEMBERSHIP IS FREE

SECOND LIFE IS A 3D ONLINE DIGITAL WORLD IMAGINED, CREATED, & OWNED BY ITS RESIDENTS.

BUY & SELL LINDEN DOLLARS

OWN VIRTUAL LAND

REFER FRIENDS

VIEW INTERACTIVE MAP

UNDER 18? CHECK OUT TEEN SECOND LIFE



Total Residents:	4,882,799
Logged In Last 60 Days:	1,696,028
Online Now:	30,025
US\$ Spent Last 24h:	\$1,553,662
LindeX Activity Last 24h:	\$229,592

Headlines [read more news...](#)

Investors.com
Companies are Finding Second Life

LA Times
Virtual loses its virtues

USA Today
The king of alter egos is surprisinaly hum...

NEW WORLD NOTES

Wagner James Au
reports first-hand from Second Life



The official guide is here! Over 300 pages of crucial tips and resources, plus an exclusive content CD. Learn more and [pick up a copy today](#).

YOU MIGHT BE A LINDEN!



Work at Linden Lab

Where else can you help create a new world *and* have the time of your life doing it? Just visit our [jobs page](#) and follow the directions from there.

For even more info, read Philip Linden's recent [blog post](#) about why you should consider joining us at Linden Lab.



Second Life Videos

Check out resident-created Second Life videos at our [media page](#).

SECONDOpinion NEWSLETTER

» [Read the Current Newsletter](#)

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR RSS FEED →

Second Life Registration: Basic Details

Choose Your Second Life Name

Your Second Life name is your unique in-world identity. You're able to create your own first name and select from a wide variety of last names. Please choose your Second Life name carefully, since it can't be changed later.

First name:

*2-31 characters,
numbers and letters only*

[Check this name for a](#)

Last name:

- Szondi
- Takacs
- Tammas
- Tatham
- Taugog
- Tenk
- Theas
- Tomsen
- Torok
- Tripsa
- Ugгла
- Ultsch
- Umarov
- Upshaw
- Uriza
- Vella
- Villota
- Vollmar
- Voom
- Vuckovic

Enter Your Birthdate

Please provide an accurate birthdate for your own protection. We ask your birthdate to verify your account if you ever forget your Second Life name or password.

Month:

Day:

Enter Your Email Address

Please enter a valid email address. We will never share your email address with anyone without your explicit permission.

Email:

Enter again for verification:

Continue







GRID STATUS:	ONLINE
Second Life Time:	12:42 pm PDT
Total Residents:	4,884,388
Logged In Last 60 Days:	1,696,028
Online Now:	31,709

Want to Learn More About Second Life?

1. [Tech Support at Your Fingertips](#)
2. [Secrets of Scripting](#)
3. [Tools, Tutorials and Templates](#)
4. [Organize Your Out-of-control Inventory](#)
5. [Attend a Free Class going on now!](#)



News & announcements from blog.secondlife.com:

- [Rolling Restart on Main Grid](#)
- [First Look Update: 59558](#)
- [Short survey to be sent to a select group](#)
- [\[RESOLVED\] Temporary Outage affecting 150 Regions](#)

- Thu 22 Mar 10:27 AM PDT
- Wed 21 Mar 18:51 PM PDT
- Wed 21 Mar 14:38 PM PDT
- Wed 21 Mar 13:49 PM PDT

First Name: Last Name: Password:



Modifying your Avatar

Click image to view “Modifying Your Avatar” video



Focus Move Edit Create Land
 Drag to move, shift-drag to copy

- Position Use Grid [Options...](#)
- Rotate (Ctrl) Stretch Both Sides
- Stretch (Ctrl-Shift) Stretch Textures
- Select Texture
- Edit linked parts

Ruler mode: [World](#)

[« Less](#)

[General](#) [Object](#) [Features](#) [Texture](#) [Content](#)

  Transparency:

Texture Color Full Bright

Mapping: [Default](#) Shininess: [None](#) Bumpiness: [None](#)

Repeats Per Face: Horizontal (U) Flip
 Vertical (V) Flip

Rotation (degrees)

Repeats Per Meter [Apply](#)

Offset: Horizontal (U)
 Vertical (V)

Align media texture (must load first) [Align](#)

Building Your Second Life

Click image to view “Building Your Second Life” video



Creating a Classroom

Traditional vs. Non-Traditional

- 1. Introduction
- 2. What is foreign d ...
- 3. FDI - Flow versus ...
- 4. Why is FDI import ...
- 5. Trends in FDI
- 6. Form Of FDI. Gree ...
- 7. Two forms of FDI
- 8. FDI when and why?
- 9. VDI, when and why ...

Chapter 6

Foreign Direct Investment









Boulder Brain Coral
[Colpophyllia natans]

Pillar Coral
[Dendrogyra cylindrus]

Pink Tip Haitian Anemone
[Condylactis sp]
and inside is a
Pederson Cleaner Shrimp
[Periclimenes pederson]



Student Interaction



Thursday's Child
Dancer Morris

Rick Liebkecht

[Click here for Assignment 1](#)





FGG Sugar Maple
Fate Gardens
Owner: Ansible Berkman
Script Touch Phantom (R)

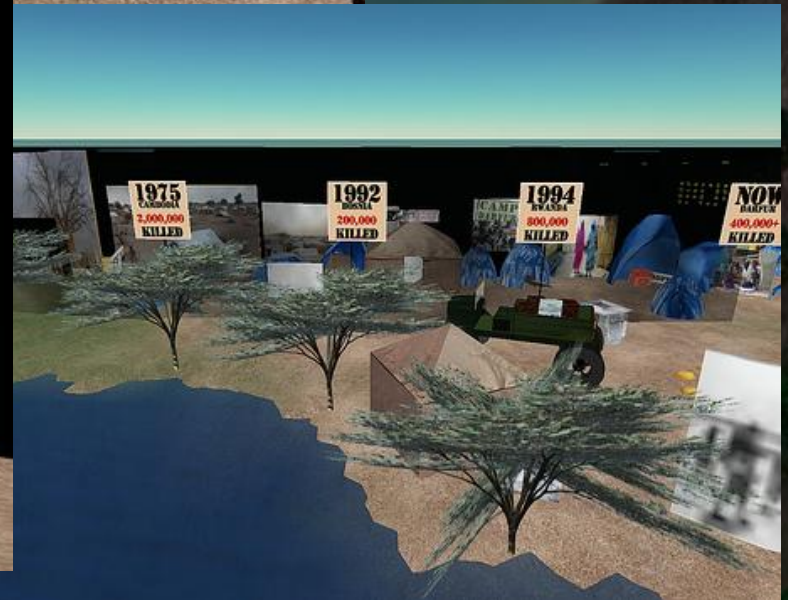
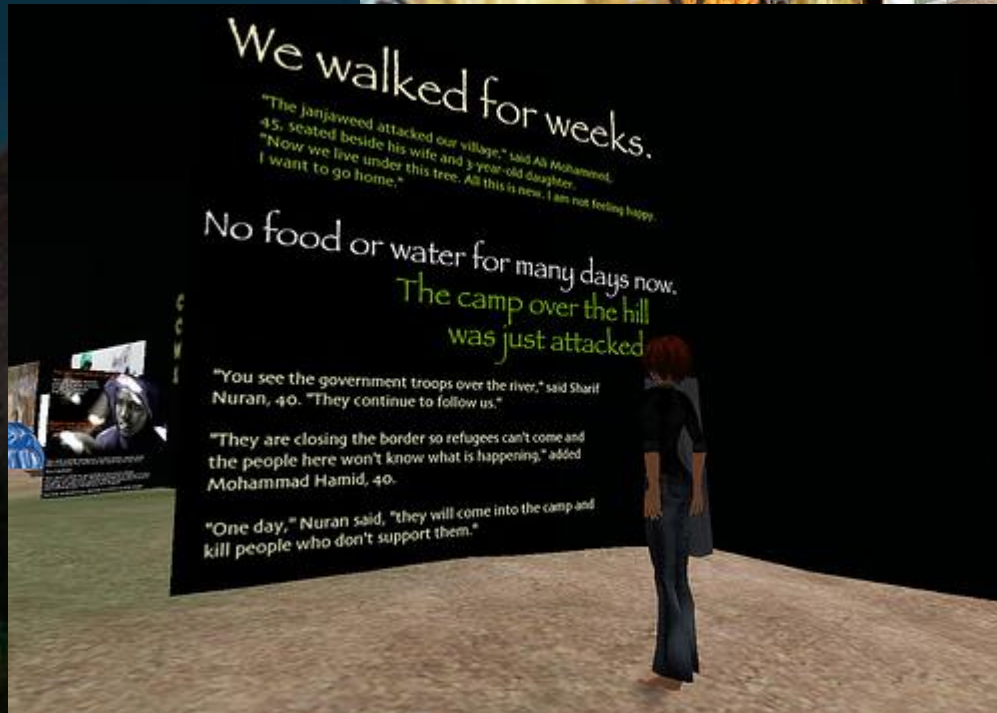
Pedagogical Strategies

Immersion & Simulations











International Spaceflight Museum

Soviet N-1 Rocket

Rocket Ride to Space

Robotic Arm

Landing Point

Satellite Propagator

Planetarium

Telescope Trainer

Saturn V Rocket

Rocket Ring

Viewing Platform

Central Stage

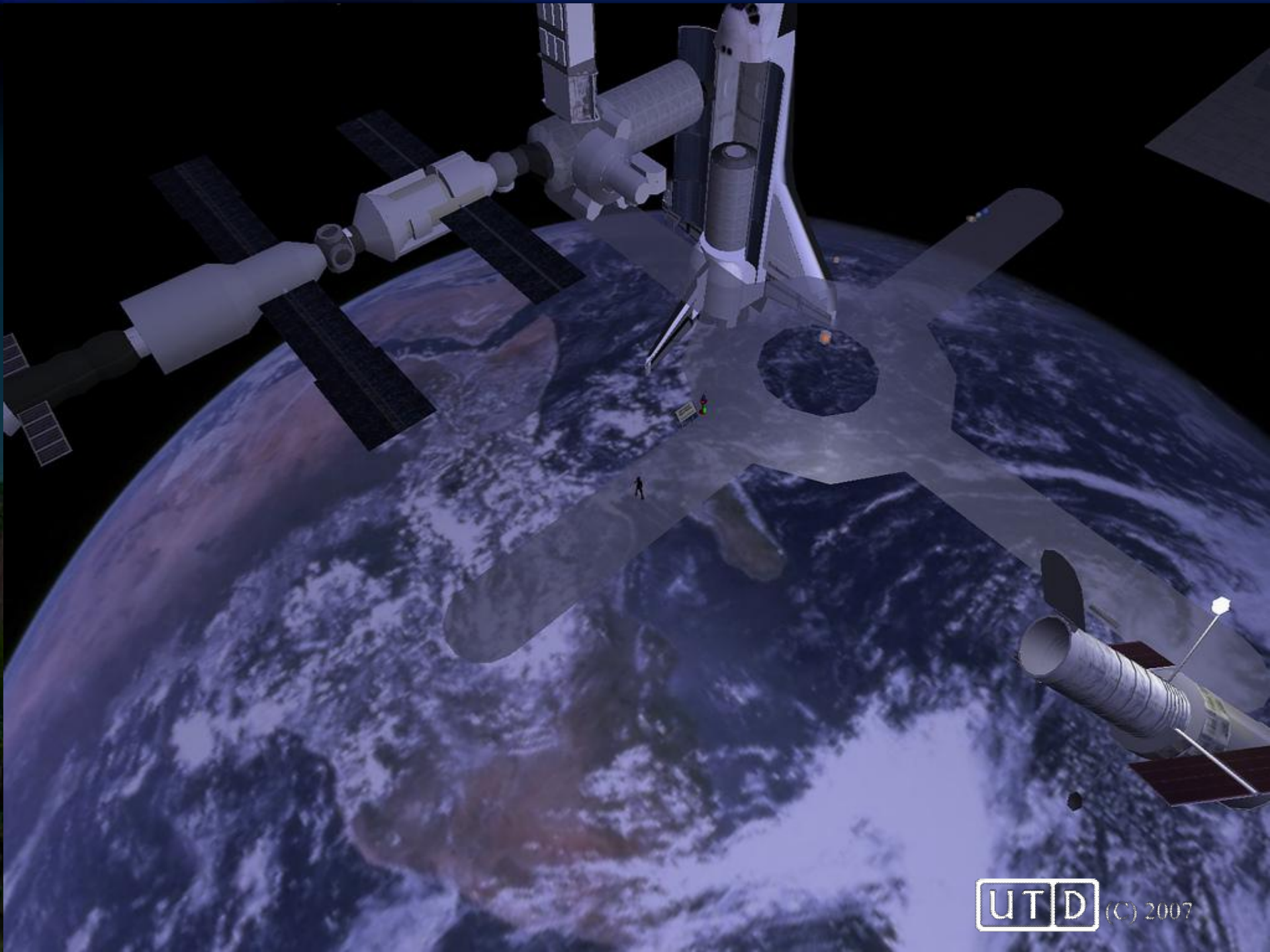
Space Shuttle

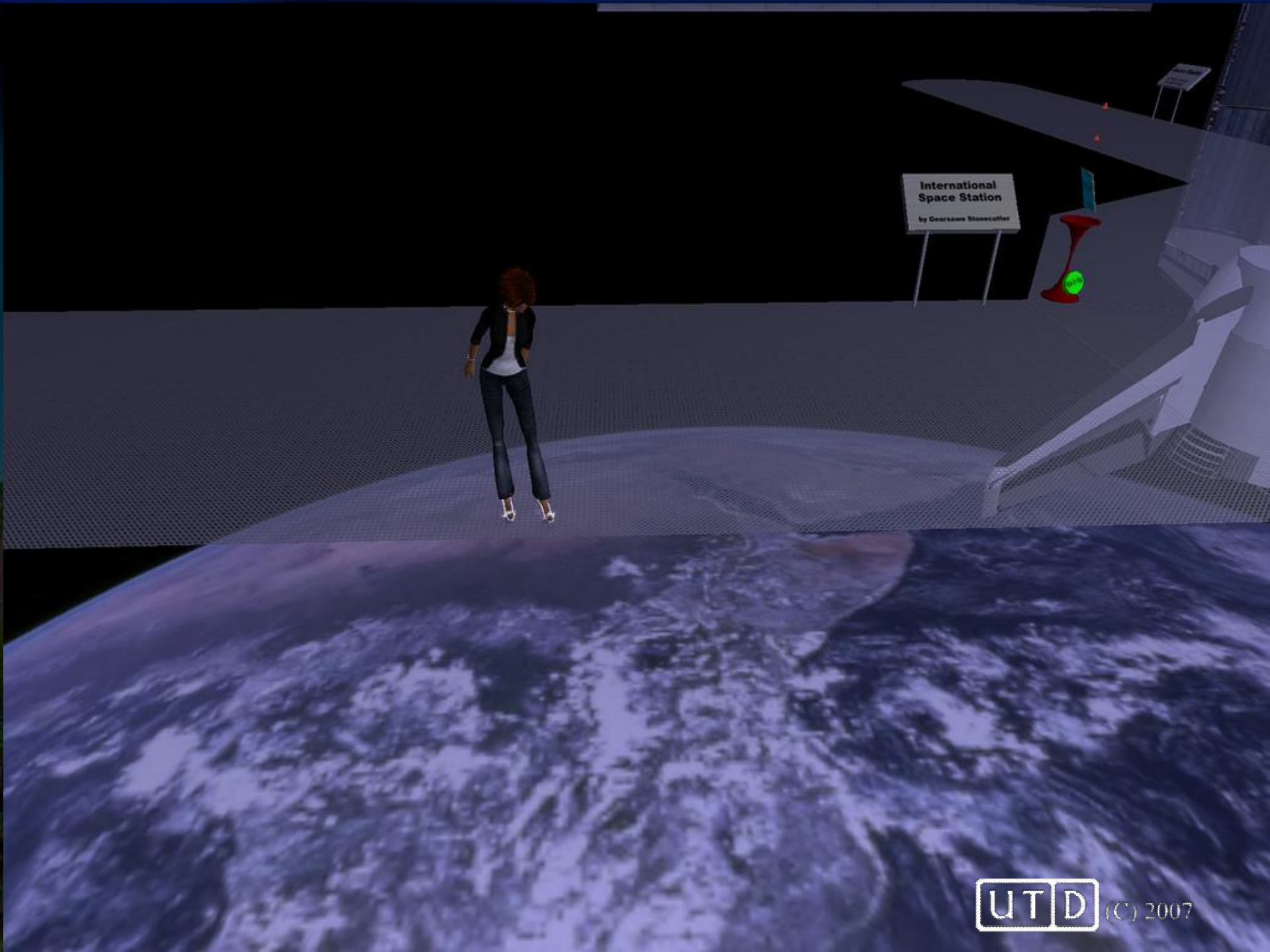
Cape Photo Gallery

NPL TRUTHS Exhibit

Cape Canaveral Map

Gift Shop





Click image to view “Glacier Simulation” video



Potential Benefits

- Hands-on learning
- New form of interaction
- Experience your school in a “physical manner”
- Marketing
- Recruiting (virtual information sessions)

Potential Benefits

- Virtual field trips
- Develop your own immersive environment
- Socialization
- Networking
- Virtual collaboration

Obstacles

- System requirements
 - ✓ Hardware
 - ✓ Network Connection
- Stability
- Maintenance/Updates
 - 🙄 “Black Wednesdays”
- Learning Curve
- Pricing

Obstacles

- “Griefing”
- Vandalism
- Inappropriate materials
- Keeping students on-task



Pricing

- Basic Account is free
 - Access to events, shopping, building (temporarily in sand boxes), scripting & more
- Premium Account Costs \$9.95/mo
 - Allows you to own land in SL
- Private Island Ownership
 - Education Discount
 - Small island = \$980 for 65,536 sq. meters (about 16 acres)
 - Monthly land fee for maintenance = \$150/mo
- Renting space

Resources

- SLED (SL EDucators mailing list)
- Second Life
the official guide
- SL Knowledge Base
<http://secondlife.com/knowledgebase>
- SimTeach.com



Resources

- Info Island
- EduNation
- NMC Campus
- Groups within SL
 - Real Life Educators in SL
 - Academy of Second Life



Coming Soon!

- Integrated voice functionality
 - Volume dependent on proximity
 - Phone bridging
 - Control who speaks
 - Lip synching
- HTML on a prim
- Better translators
- Open source possibilities



What is UTD SOM doing?

Click image to view “UTD SOM Island” video



A 3D rendered landscape featuring rolling hills and a variety of trees. The scene is set against a dark, twilight sky. The hills are covered in sparse vegetation, and a path winds through the lower part of the terrain. The overall atmosphere is quiet and somewhat mysterious.

Questions?

Thank You!

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