Use the NASA Airborne Science Program Mission Tools Suite in your K-12 Classrooms

The NASA Airborne Science Program provides unique opportunities for students and teachers to connect with ongoing earth science research campaigns. The Mission Tools Suite (MTS) is web-based software used by mission personnel to monitor and assist with real-time decision making during the course of a mission. The Airborne Science Program has created a scaled down version of the tool called MTS-Mini, which is aimed at supporting core K-12 classroom science curriculum.

The screenshots (above) show how the Mission Tools Suite Mini website appeared during the Hurricane and Severe Storm Sentinel (HS3) campaign. Students were able to watch a live camera feed from the Global Hawk aircraft, track the plane’s location near Hurricane Nadine, and chat live with HS3 Mission Scientists, Pilots and Airborne Science educational staff.

For more information about the NASA Airborne Science Program and other opportunities for students visit airbornescience.nasa.gov.

At a glance
• Live flight following
  • Track the position of NASA aircraft on a map (2D or 3D) in real-time
  • Live camera feeds from the aircraft
  • Real-time satellite data products
• Environmental data from the aircraft
  • Students can plot aircraft altitude, speed, temperature, wind speed, etc. in real-time
• Ask questions through the website’s chat feature
  • Receive rapid responses from NASA mission scientists, pilots, and education staff
  • Already used for over 60 chats reaching more than 1000 students and teachers!

FOR MORE INFORMATION and to connect your classroom with NASA Earth Science missions all over the world, email Dr. Emily Schaller (emily.schaller@nasa.gov).