

NASA's Eyes on the Earth puts the world at your fingertips

November 17 2021



Credit: Unsplash/CC0 Public Domain

NASA's real-time 3D visualization tool <u>Eyes on the Earth</u> got a recent upgrade to include more datasets, putting the world at your fingertips. Using the tool, you can track the planet's vital signs—everything from



carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide to sea level and soil moisture levels—as well as follow the fleet of Earth satellites providing those measurements.

Eyes on the Earth offers an engaging, interactive resource to learn more about environmental phenomena and their impacts.

For instance, to see measurements of the greenhouse gas <u>carbon dioxide</u> in a particular part of the globe, navigate to the Vital Signs menu and click the <u>carbon</u> dioxide button. Eyes on the Earth will show a visualization of data from NASA's Orbiting Carbon Observatory 2 (OCO-2) satellite, which measures the gas from the ground to the top of the atmosphere. (To ensure the greatest accuracy, the mission reprocesses the data in the months prior to it appearing in Eyes.) Click "animate data," specify a date range and see how levels shift over time.

There are eight <u>vital signs</u> to choose from, with background information on the role each plays.

The newest version of Eyes on the Earth also provides snapshots of significant events in the natural world. For instance, you can see details about the maximum wind speeds of a tropical storm, the impacts of a northern California fire, even see the scale of a phytoplankton bloom off of New Zealand and why it matters.

The improvements also include upgrades for a more seamless user experience.

"With the latest advancements in technology, we are able to harness these innovations to combine larger amounts of data and imagery for users to visualize how our planet is constantly changing," said Jon Nelson, group supervisor of the Visualization Technology Applications and Development at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern



California, which developed Eyes.

If you want to know more about the Aqua satellite, just click the icon that shows the spacecraft's course around the globe. Along with background information about the mission, there's an interactive 3D model to provide a closer look.

While you're at it, you can check out the recently launched <u>Landsat 9</u> as well as two powerful forthcoming missions: <u>NISAR</u> (short for NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) and <u>SWOT</u> (Surface Water and Ocean Topography).

Provided by Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Citation: NASA's Eyes on the Earth puts the world at your fingertips (2021, November 17) retrieved 11 May 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2021-11-nasa-eyes-earth-world-fingertips.html

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.