

Development Team & Contributors

The 4Frontiers Corporation would like to thank all of the individuals who took part in the creation of this curriculum and supplemental materials. This package was developed in 2007 and 2008 and involved internal 4Frontiers staff as well as paid consultants.

Development Team

Melissa Palaia – Education Package Developer

Melissa graduated from Rowan University with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Psychology and a Certificate of Graduate Study in Early Childhood Education. For the last four years, Melissa has served as coordinator of the Elementary Extended Day Program for the YMCA. In the summers, she has been Assistant Director of the Summer Camp Program. Prior to this, she was a coordinator of a mentoring program which aided high school students in running an afterschool Ecology Club and a Summer Science Camp. Melissa also has classroom experience and has served as an administrative assistant within an Early Childhood Education Center. Since Melissa was a small child, she has loved books and the endless information they provide to the reader. Her many years of experience and her love for teaching and learning made Melissa the perfect choice for 4Frontiers' Education Package Developer.

Joseph E. Palaia, IV – 4Frontiers Corporation Vice President

Joe holds a bachelors degree in Electrical Engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and a masters degree in Nuclear Engineering from MIT. A long time Mars and space exploration enthusiast, he has helped to design and build five robots, competing in the FIRST National Robotics Competition. He was responsible for the nuclear and electrical engineering disciplines on the Gen I Mars settlement programming study, and served in a management role on the recent Gen II design effort. He is co-author of three technical papers on the topics of Mars surface nuclear power plant design, Mars settlement architecture and space economics. Joe developed the user interface for this education package and assisted in technical content development and guidance throughout.

Contributors

Tom Baird, Education Consultant - Provided insight into the science related needs of Florida grade schools.

Vernon Kramer, Geologist and Mining Engineer – Career video developer and presenter.

Sheryl Bishop, Ph.D., Social Psychologist – Career video developer and presenter.

Nathan Owen-Going, Ph.D., Agricultural Consultant – Career video developer and presenter

Marianne Dyson, Author – Short story author.

Jim Denney, Author – Short story author.



Michael Carroll, Artist – Short story illustrator and editor for short stories.

Brian Enke, Author – Assisted in package conceptualization & short story creation & editing.

David Schwab, CEO of Darkhorse Ventures – Assisted in video editing.

Grant Ray, Creative Director of Darkhorse Ventures – Assisted in video editing.

Rebecca Braaten, District Curriculum Coordinator for Science with Polk County Schools – Assisted in package conceptualization.

Laura Hill, Supervisor of Science for K-12 with Pasco County Schools – Assisted in package conceptualization.

Jackie Ballas, Teacher on Assignment for Science with Marion County Schools – Assisted in package conceptualization.

Mark Homnick, 4Frontiers CEO - Assisted in package development and review.