

A Hypermedia Supported Problem-based Learning Environment: *Alien Rescue*

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*Alien Rescue* is a hypermedia program that draws on the principles of problem-based learning to engage students in grades 5 and 6 in an inquiry approach to science learning. Its science fiction premise takes students to a newly operational international space station where they are charged with developing a solution plan for a complex problem. In the course of their work, students learn about both our solar system and the tools and procedures scientists use to gather that information. *Alien Rescue* is designed according to the standards set forth in the National Science Education Standards. This poster session focuses on the program features afforded by the CD ROM format, particularly the narrative presentation of the problem situation and the variety of cognitive tools students can use in the collection and analysis of data and presentation of findings.