

Mars for Earthlings

LESSON 20: ET in the Universe***In-Class Activity 1****Calling Earth*

Purpose: Learn the mission of SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) and their protocols.

If you made first contact...

You are an astrophysicist. If you hear what you think to be communication from outside our solar system, what protocol would you follow to make a conclusive determination? Come up with at least 5 steps.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Telling the World...

1. After you have determined a conclusive ET signal, what steps would you take to inform the world (list them in order of what you would do first)?
2. Compare your above steps to what SETI has published as their protocol for ET detection (<http://www.seti.org/post-detection.html>). How do they differ?
3. What ethical implications are involved if such an occurrence were to happen?

