AN EDUCATIONAL PROJECT IN METEORITICAL TOPICS AT THE GIMNASIO CAMPESTRE SCHOOL, COLOMBIA. A. V ARAUJO1,2, P. DE GAMBOA1, M.GÓMEZ1, F. MORENO1, S. ROJAS1
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Introduction: Planetary science is the perfect definition for an array of scientific disciplines that together try to seek answer about how the solar system formed. Around this latter, until now, thanks to the SENTRY of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), we know that there are more than 30 thousand near-earth objects (NEO) [1]. Objects causing fireballs are usually not large enough to survive passage through the Earth’s atmosphere intact. Likewise, around the latter there is a relevant topic, sometimes it is possible to recover fragments of meteorites on the ground giving the opportunity to research such impactors. Meteorites are important because most are as old as the Earth. Likewise, these materials are the only tangible materials of the formation of the Solar System and from the Universe as well. For children, being able to touch them, and better analyze them, represents an important and unique opportunity in their education develop around it. In Colombia, the meteoritical topics are unusual at the schools. So, based on the interest that children have in it, the Gimnasio Campestre has developed and implemented learning spaces around this topic. Likewise, the researchers at the school have improved the research of the fireball’s historical events in the country [2,3].

In [4], a work from a school laboratory reporting a method for the identification of nickel in meteorites, promoting from early ages the research and knowledge of meteorites as part of a research activity of the students and professors. Likewise, in [5] has been collected all the results related to the only certified meteorite event in Colombia the 1810’s Santa Rosa de Viterbo meteorite event [6,7]. From the school and as part of the research activities, we are developing a new student’s program for hunting micrometeorites and categorizing them, considering variables, like form, color, and composition following the method proposed in [8].

This poster presentation will give a summary of the activities of this student’s program at the school, and what is more important the impact that this kind of work has on the academic development of the students in this topic of investigation.

Acknowledgments:

References