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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Vineyard STEM Magnet School, in the Ontario-Montclair School District is a partner and participating in the Earthwatch Institutes newest program, Operation Healthy Air.

Vineyard STEM Magnet **seventh and eighth grade students** in Mrs. Timassy-Nelson's and Ms. Schreiner's science classes are currently participating in Operation Healthy Air. This is a partnership between a number of groups including NASA, UCR, the Earthwatch Institute, Amigos De Los Rios and the Chino Water Basin. Operation Healthy Air seeks to increase understanding of the role of vegetation such as trees in decreasing air temperature and improving air quality at scales that communities make decisions – in this case, the cooling of local neighborhoods and reducing ozone formation.

Sensors have been placed around Vineyard STEM campus to get accurate temperature data from a variety of urban landscapes. Students will be working to identify how different environments influence local air quality. This is an opportunity for Vineyard's students to apply their STEM learning to a difficult real world problem that requires effective communication skills, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity.

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