

CONNECTICUT SCIENCE CONNECTION

JUNE 2016

THE CONNECTICUT BUILDING A PRESENCE FOR SCIENCE NETWORK IS SUSTAINED THROUGH THE ADVOCACY OF THE CCAT, CONNECTICUT SCIENCE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION, AND THE CONNECTICUT SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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NAMES AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES OF OUR POINTS OF CONTACT AND KEY LEADERS ARE NOT SHARED WITH ANY OTHER ENTITY

Resources

CSDE's <u>science curriculum web</u> site.

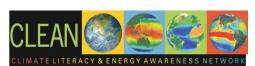
Visit the NGSS@NSTA Hub: IT now offers a dynamic version of the Next Generation Science Standards.. Nextgenscience.org

Subscribe to Green Teacher at http://greenteacher.com/subscribe/



Connecticut Green LEAF Schools www.ctgreenleaf.org

Would you like a complete list of grants that has been provided by the National Science Teachers Association? To view this list, please visit: NSTA GRANTS



www.CLEANet.org has more than 640 units, lessons, videos, and diagrams While their focus is on Middle and High school, there are some middle school activities that would be appropriate for both. http://serc.carleton.edu/k12/index.html



You can find all our newsletters at the Just ASK a Teacher website

justaskateacher.com
We are sharing assessment items for lessons most used by K-6 teachers.
Please share your own assessment items with us at matthewscc@umsl.edu

CONNECTICUT STATE



THE ULTIMATE BIODIVERSITY ENDEAVOR
RETURNS TO EAST HARTFORD

Part Contest + Part Festival + Part Educational Event

+ COMPLETELY AMAZING +

Saturday, June 4th, 10 am – 3 pm CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School

* FREE ADMISSION * OPEN TO THE PUBLIC *

Visit: http://web.uconn.edu/mnh/bioblitz/BioBlitz2016.html

Join Us And Experience

- The Caterpillar Lab/Insect Zoo
- Guided Nature Walks
- Hands-on Activities for Kids
- Pond Exploration
- iNaturalist Grassroots BioBlitz
- . Raptor (Bird) Rescue Program
- Interactions with BioBlitz Scientists Presentations

And Much More!

The Connecticut State BioBlitz is brought to you in part by:
The University of Connecticut's Center for Conservation and Biodiversity and
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Connecticut Geographic Alliance,
Connecticut State Museum of Natural History, Connecticut Science Center,
CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School, and the

Richard P. Garmany Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving



Engineering Program (CPEP) has just launched the search for a new **Executive Director. This executive** search is being conducted by Third **Sector New England's Executive Transitions Program with Transition** Consultant Michael Negrón. All submissions are confidential. **Interested candidates** should submit materials to: CPEP **DIRECTOR OPENING** Candidates should include a resume and a cover letter that describe how their qualifications and experience match the needs of CPEP, along with salary requirements, how they learned of the position and any other relevant information (such as published articles). All applications will be acknowledged. Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled. CPEP is an Equal Opportunity **Employer and actively seeks a** diverse pool of candidates. Located in Middletown, Connecticut, CPEP was founded in 1986 by a group of educators and engineers who recognized the dire need to attract, inspire, nurture and assist underrepresented students in their efforts to pursue careers in STEM. [OR...Located in Middletown, **Connecticut CPEP serves as a** catalyst to significantly change underrepresented students' knowledge, attitudes and behaviors relating to the pursuit of careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.] From its humble beginnings [in 1986], CPEP has grown across the state and now serves 14 school districts, 34 schools and over 1,700 students per year. The organization has been recognized with several awards, including the New York Life **Excellence in Summer Learning Award from the National Summer** Learning Association. CPEP is seeking an Executive Director who can build upon past successes to shape a

future strategy and vision for the organization.

Hank Gruner, Vice President of Programs, Connecticut Science Center 250 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103, Direct: 860.520.2118

ETHNICALLY-DIVERSE CONNECTICUT TEACHERS!

Enhance your environmental education methods and knowledge. We are awarding SIX 80% Scholarships for summer 2016

WHAT: <u>Sharing Nature: An Educators' Week Workshop</u> WHERE: Hog Island Audubon Camp, Muscongus Bay, Maine

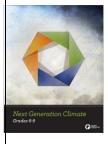
WHEN: JULY 17 - JULY 22, 2016, SCHOLARSHIP: \$900 towards \$1,095 registration fee (*Price includes program, lodging, boat travel, all meals*)
Features of Educators' Week:

- Designed for science and non-science educators to generate exciting ideas for creating and incorporating environmental education activities into your curriculum.
- Inspiring and experienced instructors will share their favorite approaches, methods, and activities for engaging you, and your students, with nature.
- Workshop presentations and guided field trips on the island share techniques in field biology, art, music, photography, theater, journaling, and other disciplines. Interactive workshop: "Increasing Diversity in Environmental Education" led by Chandra Taylor Smith, Ph.D. Vice President, , National Audubon Society.

TO APPLY: E-mail letter of interest and names & contact info. of 2 professional references to Camp Director Pete Salmansohn at psalmansohn@audubon.org. Awards given on a rolling basis, so early application is strongly suggested. For details, photos, videos about the camp visit: poss.ppalmansohn@audubon.org.

EESMARTS SUMMER INSTITUTE – FREE ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE, RECYCLING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTEversource and The United Illuminating Company, as partners of the Energize Connecticut initiative, are accepting registrations for the eesmarts Summer Institute. The eesmarts program offers free-of-charge professional

development workshops, led by the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC), to K-12 Connecticut educators. Workshops are interactive and cross disciplinary, featuring inquiry-based, hands-on activities. Eesmarts lessons align with NGSS and CCSS for Math and E/LA. Held annually in July, the eesmarts Summer Institute gives educators content knowledge, confidence and skills for teaching students about energy, energy conservation, climate change, and recycling. eesmarts continues its partnership with Project Learning Tree (PLT) GreenSchools! Investigations with select PLT workshops offered at the Summer Institute. The eesmarts Summer institute is free to enroll with educators receiving \$100/day stipend, curriculum, and classroom materials to conduct eesmarts inquiries. Visit www.eesmarts.com/workshops for specific workshop and registration information. See you this summer!



Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and the fact that they include climate change. Our newest curriculum, Next Generation Climate for grades 6-8, supports NGSS and we want to help you incorporate both these new standards and climate change into your educational setting. Register today for our 11th annual Summer Institute for Climate Change Education to get hands-on training to teach climate change and network with other educators. For more information, click here: CLIMATE SUMMER INSTITUTE



5th Annual STEM Forum & Expo, hosted by NSTA IN Denver: July 27–29, 2016! STEM Forum & Expo

hosted by NSTA, brings together educators and organizations who are actively implementing STEM programs in their schools or districts. Held in Denver next July 27-29, come prepared to learn tactics that work, build your professional learning network, connect with effective outreach programs and partnerships, discover new resources, and build a strong curriculum. Keynote Speaker: **Derek Muller, Australian-Canadian** science communicator, filmmaker, and television presenter created the leading science YouTube channel, Veritasium,

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE TEACHERS' DISSEMINATION PROGRAM

Applications are now being accepted for the annual Engineering **Technology Challenge Teachers'** Dissemination Program on July 11, 2016 through July 15, 2016 at **Tunxis Community College in** Farmington, CT. This is a great professional development opportunity for community college faculty and high school teachers to engage in problem based learning exercises while learning how to successfully integrate professional skills into curriculum. Professional and technical skills include teambuilding, understanding behavioral diversity, 3D printing, computer-aided drafting (CAD), and microcontrollers. The Connecticut College of Technology's Regional **Center for Next Generation** Manufacturing, a National Science Foundation Center or Excellence, is a proud sponsor of this workshop! **Application Deadline: June 3, 2016 Teachers' Dissemination Workshop**

Application

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE TEACHERS' DISSEMINATION PROGRAM

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Teachers' Dissemination Workshop Application

YOUR SCIENCE ORGANIZATIONS ARE CALLING ON YOU FOR YOUR EXPERTISE!
SHARE WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES AND BECOMES PRESENTERS AT THE FALL
CONFERENCE. READ THE SMALL PRINT BELOW TO SEE HOW TO GET INVOLVED.

Connecticut Science Educators Annual Conference



8 am - 3 pm

Hamden Middle School, 2623 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden CT







Call for Presenters!

Do you have a great idea that you would like to share with K-12 educators?

Have you been making 3-D connections?

All disciplines and grade levels are accepted - Present alone or as a team!

First time presenters are welcome!

Sign up by July 15 to present at our Fall Conference.

CSTA-US.org

http://bit.ly/1W5l3jz - link for presenter's form

Email questions to Heather Toothaker heather.toothaker@new-haven.k12.ct.us

Diane Hart dhart@torrington.org

Louise McMinn lou.mcminn@gmail.com

NEW MATERIALS AND PROJECTS FROM NASA!

https://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/index.html

A great place to hang out! Hubble Hangouts can also be found on HubbleSite: http://hubblesite.org/get_involved/hubble_hangouts/

IF YOU TEACH ABOUT MATTER, HERE IS A RESOURCE

www.mysteryofmatter.net The Mystery of Matter: Search for the Elements. The three-hour NSF-funded series CAN BE USED BY TEACHERS. (When you get to the site, click on <For Teachers> in the top menu bar.)



Are you a high school teacher looking to give your environmental class a great challenge? Check out the new **Our Town Microgrid Challenge** for great NGSS engineering connections beyond the usual "....compare and contrast renewables and nonrenewables." What are microgrids and why would you want one? This unit leads students to understand and apply the answers to that question. The unit includes a multiple step process, with industry and policy readings, investigation of town maps and properties, consideration of emergency needs in the event that electric power is lost, and design of a system that will meet that need. Students hold a "public hearing" with their peers to discuss and fine-tune their ideas, and a capstone presentation to town leaders to discuss their solutions in a realworld context. The unit is supported with readings and background information, suggested "building" and energy "generator" cards, and a suggested process to lead students to an understanding of the unit question. This lesson is listed at CT Energy Education www.ctenergyeducation.com

THIS SUMMER< WHY NOT VISIT YOUR LOCAL NATURAL HISTORY MUSEM AT UCONN? GREAT PROGRAMS! Below is the list of titles with details on a few sample programs...go to the web site for details on dates and times for activities

at the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center at UConn. Advance registration with full payment to FOSA is required prior to trip. To request a registration form, contact David Colberg at david.colberg@uconn.edu or 860.486.5690.

SUMMER 2016 PROGRAMS:

http://www.cac.uconn.edu/mnhcurrentcalendar.html

Elizabeth Park Conservancy's Rose Sunday

Sunday, June 19, 10 am to 4 pm – Elizabeth Park, Hartford, CT
Stop by and visit the Museum and Archaeology Center at the Elizabeth Park
Conservancy's Rose Sunday and learn about natural and cultural history through
our ethnobotany exhibit! This event celebrates the park's 15,000 blooming roses
in America's oldest municipal rose garden. Explore the world famous rose garden,
a two and a half acre park that has about 800 varieties of roses. There will be a
number of cultural, arts, and heritage organizations participating as well as
performing arts and children's activities! For more information and directions
visit http://elizabethparkct.org.

Explore New Haven's Historic Grove Street Cemetery

Patricia Illingworth, Friends of Grove Street Cemetery

Saturday, June 25, 12:30 pm - New Haven, CT

Advance registration required: \$20 (\$15 for Museum members)

The Grove Street Cemetery, the first chartered burial ground in the United States, succeeded the previous common burial site at the New Haven Green. Its creation was prompted by the yellow fever epidemics in 1794 and 1795, which led to as many as 5,000 burials on the already crowded city green.

Do you like uncovering evidence to solve mysteries? Do you like the idea of getting your hands dirty while exploring the past? Spend a week with UConn archaeologists exploring the world of field archaeology. You will learn about the science, tools, and methods used by archaeologists and be part of a real archaeological field crew! Participants will be doing hands-on fieldwork and laboratory research at a professional, ongoing archaeological dig. We have been opening new areas of our on-campus

UConn's Kids Are Scientists & Engineers Too: A whole series of summer activities. Check at http://www.cac.uconn.edu/mnhcurrentcalendar.html

Marine Explorers

Investigate how marine plants and animals adapt to their ocean environment during two mornings of hands-on activities in Storrs. On the third day, take a full-day trip to Project Oceanology at Avery Point for a lab with live animals and explore Long Island Sound aboard a research vessel. *This is a 3-day module: 2 mornings and one full-day field trip.

Explore unseen worlds that are all around you. Discover microscopic organisms that make your food taste good, and those that make your food go bad. Trek outside and hunt for microbes in lawns, ponds and woods! Watch gas production by the microbes living inside live termites. We'll isolate DNA from bacteria and look at them with powerful microscopes. Join us and open your eyes to an

exciting new world! Presented by the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology and Connecticut State Museum of Natural History.

Celebrate over 400 years of telescopic astronomy by building your own small telescope and learning what's to be seen in the night sky. We'll also track planets, a comet and one of the largest asteroids, make and test sundials and a moon dial, explore Mars using the latest NASA software, and make an iMovie of you flying around a planet of your choice. In addition to activities in UConn's Planetarium and astronomy labs, you'll get to use a telescope at the night observing sessions, and use a solar telescope to observe daytime sunspots if available. Presented by the UConn Physics Department. * Plus a nighttime observatory session.

AND MANY, MANY MORE ... such as ...

- Professional Learning: Archaeology Field School for Educators
- Special UConn Bug Week Event
- CSMNH Adult Archaeology Field School
- Behind the Scenes Tour: Stony Creek Quarry
- Hammonasset Shoreline Ecosystems
- Museum Lecture:
- Food and Diet at Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine 1790-1819
- Fall Preview: Jamestown Settlement, Arlington National Cemetery, and Old Town Alexandra, VA

Register and pay for your programs online, or download a registration form

to mail to the Museum with your payment.

http://www.cac.uconn.edu/mnhcur rentcalendar.html

PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS:

Attention, Kid Scientists! – The President Wants Your Ideas on Science and Technology! MAY 19, 2016 AT 9:00 AM ET BY JOHN P. HOLDREN

You may remember Jacob Leggette, the 9-year-old innovator at this year's White House Science Fair who suggested that the President have a kid's science advisor. Well, the President liked his idea and today the White House is asking students from across the country to advise us on the science and technology issues they think are important!

Kids can submit their input by visiting www.whitehouse.gov/KidScienceAdvisors Please feel free to share this link broadly with kids and organizations who are interested in science, technology, and innovation!

Watch the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rotgpSM-BFw
Summary:

The White House is inviting kids from around the country to submit ideas on important science, innovation, and technology issues.

President Barack Obama blows a bubble while talking with nine-year-old Jacob Leggette about his experiments with additive and subtractive manufacturing with a 3D printer, his project that was part of the White House Science Fair in the Blue Room of the White House, April 13, 2016. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

At the 6th White House Science Fair in April, President Obama met nine-year-old inventor Jacob Leggette, who, with the help of a 3D printer, has created everything from a bubble-blowing wand to a mini model of the White House.

When he was talking to President Obama, Jacob also made a recommendation: that the President should have a kid science advisor. The President loved the idea, and suggested that we bring together a group of kids to share their thoughts on what they think is important in science, technology, and innovation. Kids know first-hand what's working inside and outside of their classrooms and how to better engage students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields.

So now President Obama wants to hear from YOU – kid scientists and innovators across the country – about what we can do to help shape the future of science, discovery, and exploration. Whether you care about tackling climate change, finding a cure to cancer, using technology to help make people's lives better, or getting a human to Mars, we can't wait to get your input!

The President has been a champion for engaging young people in science and technology since he first took office because he recognizes that the future of our country depends on the innovations and advances of today's students. As he said at this year's Science Fair:

"One of the things I find so inspiring about these young thinkers is that they look at all these seemingly intractable problems as something that we can solve. There is a confidence when you are pursuing science. They don't consider age a barrier. They don't think, well, that's just the way things are. They're not afraid to try things and ask tough questions."

So let us know your ideas below: what you've tried, what's worked and tough questions you've asked! And stay tuned for more ways to share your input with the White House!

Please submit your input by Friday, June 17, 2016 at 11:59 pm ET.

New Women in STEM Resource Available The Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame is pleased to announce the release of STEMfems: Women Transforming Our World, a new module in our award-winning DIY History series. Specifically designed to help educators bring women's perspectives into the classroom, **STEMfems includes Common Core**aligned information and activities related to pioneering Connecticut women in diverse STEM fields from 3D printing and architecture to biology and astronomy. Training and support in how to incorporate STEMfems content into your existing lesson plans is also available from **CWHF staff. Register and download** STEMfems today by visiting www.cwhf.org/DIY! It's free! **Contact Bambi Mroz, Director of** Education, for more details or with any questions (203-392-9013 |).



Here is what you were looking for the 2016 CIC Finals Recognized Inventors and Sponsor Awards The lists of Recognized Inventors and

Sponsor Awards are posted on our website.

http://www.ctinventionconvention.

Random unedited pictures Pictures, Pictures, Pictures



CIC Wins 2016 CT Science Center STEM Achievement Award CIC wins the 2016 Organization Award for STEM Achievement, in

recognition for outstanding contributions in STEM and STEM Education in Connecticut.

READ ALL ABOUT IT



CASE HONORED CONNECTICUT'S TOP STUDENT SCIENTISTS

Rocky Hill, CT — Connecticut's most talented young scientists and engineers were honored by the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering (CASE) at its 41st Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at the University of New Haven. Winners of this year's Connecticut Science & Engineering Fair, Connecticut Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, and Connecticut Invention Convention were recognized during the evening ceremonies.

The H. Joseph Gerber Medal of Excellence, established by CASE and presented in partnership with the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, was awarded to the top winners of the Connecticut Science & Engineering Fair. The medal was created to recognize and honor H. Joseph Gerber's (1924-1996) technical leadership in inventing, developing and commercializing manufacturing automation systems for a wide variety of industries, making those industries more efficient and cost-effective in a worldwide competitive environment.

Student winners honored:

The 2016 H. Joseph Gerber Medal of Excellence:

Aakshi Agarwal, Hamden High School, Hamden, CT

2016 Connecticut Science & Engineering Fair – 1st Place, Life Sciences-Senior Division

Project: CRISPR Based Gene Editing Confers Resistance to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

Christopher Popham, Greenwich High School, Greenwich, CT 2016 Connecticut Science & Engineering Fair – 1st Place, Physical Sciences-Senior Division

Project: Increased Charge Rate and Capacity for Olivine Lithium-Ion Batteries Using Efficient, Upcycled Nanoscale Electrodes

Maya Geradi, Wilbur Cross High School, New Haven, CT 2016 Connecticut Science & Engineering Fair – Urban School Challenge High School Winner

Project: Exploring Conditions for Struvite Precipitation and Crystal Growth

Lasya Josyula, Westside Middle School Academy, Danbury, CT
2016 Connecticut Science & Engineering Fair - Middle School Winner, Urban
School Challenge

Project: Study of Various Starch-Based Biopolymers

2016 Connecticut Junior Science and Humanities Symposium

1st Place: Aakshi Agarwal, Hamden High School, Hamden, CT Project: CRISPR Based Gene Editing Confers Resistance to Human

Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

2nd Place: Paul Hansel, Greenwich High School, Greenwich, CT

Project: An Antibody-Functionalized Graphene Transistor Lab-On-A-Chip for Selective Detection of Malaria Pathogens

3rd Place: Sarishka Desai, Darien

High School, Darien, CT

Project: Identification of Novel Small Molecules that Bind to K-Ras and PI3Ky RBDs, Two Major Protein Components Involved in the Deregulation of the Cell Cycle in Hematological Cancers

4th Place: K<mark>atherine Handler,</mark> Amity Regional High School, Woodbridge,

CT

Project: Succession Variations in Kenyan Scavenger Communities and the Importance of Wildebeest Carcasses

5th Place: Jennifer Schwartz, Ridgefield High School, Ridgefield, CT

Project: The Induction of Apoptosis in Leukemia and Lymphoma Cell Lines by Small Molecule Inhibitors through Inhibition of Antiapoptotic Proteins

2016 Connecticut Invention Convention

Avon -- Talcott Mountain Academy of Science, Mathematics and Technology: Dashiell Corning East Granby -- East Granby Middle

School: Jade Kiang

East Haddam -- Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School: Jessica Stricker East Hartford -- CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School: Paige Gray

and Alexander Jonsson

East Windsor -- East Windsor Middle

School: Cameron Turley

Farmington -- Irving A. Robbins Middle School: Hannah Zink

Lakeville -- Indian Mountain School: Damian Ding
Rye (NY) -- Rye Country Day School: Abhinav Kumar

Shelton -- Shelton Intermediate School: Ian Pleasant and Kyle Young

Torrington -- Torrington Middle School: Megan Bishins

New Haven -- Engineering and Science University Magnet Middle and High

School: Charlotte Chen

Wallingford -- Dag Hammarskjold Middle School: Audrey Larson
Willington -- Hall Memorial Middle School: Nathaniel Wrona-Lytwyn

Free, Online Access to JASON Learning's Award-Winning Programs Available to Public School Educators in CT. Through generous support from the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, JASON Learning is providing complimentary access to JASON's gated website to all public school educators in CT through August of 2017. Each comprehensive JASON program highlights a diverse group of STEM role models, their research and real-world phenomena to engage students and motivate deeper interest in learning. JASON's online platform includes reading selections, hands-on labs and field assignments, videos, digital simulations and learning games for students; and lesson plans, implementation tips, and a powerful classroom management tool for educators. Live, interactive events throughout the year connect JASON participants with inspirational STEM role models. Educators will have access to a host of downloadable resources from all 7 JASON Learning curricula. Sign-up today by visiting www.jason.org: Logon and create teacher account.

JOIN YOUR STATE SCIENCE ORGANIZATIONS AND SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE. WE ALL LEARN FROM ONE ANOTHER AND SUPPORT THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE EDUCATION

IN CONNECTICUT. GO TO THE CONNECTICUT SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE https://www.csta-us.org/

WHY JOIN JUST ONE GROUP? TEACHER LEADERS AT ALL
LEVELS ARE GREAT CANDIDATES TO JOIN THE CONNECTICUT

SCIENCE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION! LEARN HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR

COLLEAGUES AND BE A LEADER IN YOUR SCHOOL! JOIN CSSA AT

HTTP://WWW.CSSAONLINE.ORG/

HOW TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER BY BECOMING A POINT OF CONTACT.

We welcome new recipients to NSTA's Science Matters network! Please click on: http://bap.nsta.org/ and sign up! You will receive information from NSTA and get this State newsletter each month. You can also email me at eloisef302@gmail.com so that I make sure you are on our mailing list. NSTA sends our newsletter to all the recipients on our State list of Points of Contact. Please join us!



What Is Science Matters? Science Matters is an initiative by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) to bring content, news, and information that supports quality science education to parents and teachers nationwide. Science Matters builds on the success of the Building a Presence for Science program, first launched in 1997 as an e-networking initiative to assist teachers of science with professional development opportunities. Building a Presence for Science—now Science Matters—reaches readers in 34 states and the District of Columbia. Why does Science Matter? Science is critical to understanding the world around us. Most Americans feel that they received a good education and that their children will as well. Unfortunately, not many are aware that international tests show that American students are simply not performing well in science when compared to students in other countries. Many students (and their parents!) believe that science is irrelevant to their lives. Innovation leads to new products and processes that sustain our economy, and this innovation depends on a solid knowledge base in science, math, and engineering. All jobs of the future will require a basic understanding of math and science. The most recent ten year employment projections by the U.S. Labor Department show that of the 20 fastest growing occupations projected for 2014, 15 of them require significant mathematics or science preparation to successfully compete for a job. This is why Science Matters. Quality learning experiences in the sciences—starting at an early age—are critical to science literacy and our future workforce. Feel free to publish this information in school newsletters and bulletins, and share it with other parents, teachers, and administrators.