



Hello Science Education Leaders,

I hope you're doing well and looking forward to spring!? Snow in mid-April is never my favorite, but perhaps it provides a phenomenon for your science classes!

Below are a few science education resources I've heard about. If you have announcements to share about science or STEM-related professional learning and resources, please send them my way for the next edition. A record of these emails can be found on my website: dpi.wi.gov/science/social-media.

Cheers,
Kevin

Learning Opportunities

- [Review WI Forward Exam Items for Science](#) - Aug 1 & 2 in Madison
- [OpenSciEd Teacher Training](#) - Mauston Aug 7-10 & Green Bay June 26-29
- [American Geosciences Institute](#) - Summer Academy in GA - Elem and MS
- [Great Lakes Literacy Workshop](#) (Aug 16-17) and Bioblitz (starts Apr 22)
- [Physics of Climate Change Initiative](#) - experts visit your classroom!

Resources

- [PBS Meet the Lab Collection for Educators](#)
- [Environmental Learning Opportunities](#) and Classroom Grant
- [What are you doing about ChatGPT?](#)
- [WSELA - notes from April meeting](#)
- [Phenomena](#) - Webb Telescope Overview Video from 60 Minutes
- [Feedback That Students Will Actually Use](#) - Edweek article

Student Opportunities

- [Go For Launch](#) - May 20-21 Event at Hudson HS, grades 8-12
 - [State Water Inquiry Project](#) - ongoing through 2024
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Details

Learning Opportunities

- Review WI Forward Exam Items for Science - Aug 1 & 2 in Madison
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<https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward/educator-involvement> - DPI is recruiting Wisconsin educators to participate in "New Item Review"

in-person meetings for the Forward Exam. Eight applicants will be selected for science for grades 4 and 8. We are looking for a diverse group of educators from all over Wisconsin, including EL and special education teachers. This review is critical for standards alignment, content, grade level appropriateness, cultural inclusivity, and bias/sensitivity issues. This is a great opportunity to be a part of assessment development and take knowledge back to your district about the process. Includes food, travel reimbursement, hotel, and stipends. Complete [the application](#) by May 12 and then submit your resume to osamail@dpi.wi.gov.

- OpenSciEd Teacher Training - Mauston Aug 7-10 & Green Bay June 26-29

<https://www.einsteinproject.org/professional-learning> - This four-day training will provide teachers with the key tools and resources to begin implementing OpenSciEd in their own classrooms. While this is middle school focused, it can also support implementation of the new high school units and soon-to-be-released elementary units. These materials are all free/OER and ranked as fully "green" by EdReports. Workshops are only \$200 each! You can also tag along facilitator training to these events. [Registration for both](#) and [agenda](#).

- American Geosciences Institute - Summer Academy in GA - Elem and MS

The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) is recruiting K-8 teachers for the AGI/ExxonMobil Geoscience and STEM Teaching and Learning Academy (TLA), which will be held this summer in **Atlanta, Georgia**. It is designed for teachers who have recently entered Earth and space science teaching roles. There will be two sessions: an [Elementary School Level TLA](#) for K-4 teachers will take place on July 16-19 and a [Middle School Level TLA](#) for 5-8 teachers will take place on July 19-22. Travel costs (up to \$200) for travel to and from Atlanta will be reimbursed to participants. Room and board in Atlanta during the academy will be provided. Along with the face-to-face academy participants will take part in webinars throughout the following academic year to support them and build their professional networks and enhance the impact of the overall experience. Applications due Apr 30th (or until the academy is filled).

- Great Lakes Literacy Workshop (Aug 16-17) and Bioblitz (starts Apr 22)

[Information and Application](#) - This Summer Institute from the Center for Great Lakes Literacy and Wisconsin Sea Grant will explore how coastal engineering can shape and strengthen our coasts and shorelines, using Milwaukee as the case study. Takes place Aug 16-17 at the [UW Milwaukee School of Freshwater Sciences](#) and aboard the R/V Neeskay on Lake Michigan, with applications due June 15th. Designed for grades 6-12 educators. Stipends will be provided to offset costs of attendance and travel. Shipboard Science Workshop flyer: <https://bit.ly/3BFsRTA>. And, [Great Lakes Bioblitz!](#) - Sign up on iNaturalist, become a member of the group, and take wildlife pictures with your students from Apr 22 to May 20.

- Physics of Climate Change Initiative - experts visit your classroom!

The Physics of Climate Change initiative, a collaboration between the UW–Madison Department of Physics and Wisconsin’s 4-H program (sponsored by a [Wisconsin Idea Collaboration Grant](#)), is offering classroom visits for middle and high school STEM classrooms! Adding climate science concepts into your curriculum this school year is made

easy with an engaging, NGSS-aligned activity, easy-to-use teacher materials, and in-class support from the project team. A small stipend is available for participating teachers. If you are interested in having the project team join your class for a session, or if you're simply interested in receiving the activity instructions, please [fill out this form](#). Please reach out to Mallory Conlon (mallory.conlon@wisc.edu) with any questions.

Resources

- PBS Meet the Lab Collection for Educators

pbswisconsineducation.org/meetthelab Scientific research impacts everyday life with PBS Wisconsin Education's *Meet the Lab!* This online collection for middle school science classrooms introduces students to real-world issues and the Wisconsin scientists researching solutions. Each lab includes learning media resources and discovery activities that invite students to see themselves as scientists. Hear from members of the team who created *Meet the Lab* and get educator insights into their experiences using the resources: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgVmlckx60s>. Access all the labs for **free** and discover possibilities for school year or summer school activities: pbswisconsineducation.org/meetthelab.

- Environmental Learning Opportunities and Classroom Grant

<https://www.wisconservation.org/grants/teachers-outdoor-environmental-education-fund/> - get students outside with grants up to \$1000 from the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin. See a thoughtful list of environmental-related learning and resources at Victoria Rydberg's EE events page - <https://dpi.wi.gov/environmental-ed/events/upcoming> - including Earth Day and Green & Healthy Schools.

- What are you doing about ChatGPT?

There are definitely [pros and cons](#) about ChatGPT. Some suggest [using it to your advantage](#) for writing prompts or changing the lexile level of an article. Some are [very worried about implications](#) for the world. Brian Bartel [shared some nice ideas in a presentation](#) at the WSELA meeting. Regardless of your opinion, it's time for your school to have a discussion about [policy](#) and practice if you haven't yet!

- WSELA - notes from April meeting

Have you participated in the Wisconsin Science Education Leadership Association? It's a subcommittee of WSST where classroom teachers, instructional coaches, department chairs, higher ed faculty, and other interested in science ed come together to share resources and learn together. In April we had good conversations about instructional resources, AP classes, standards-based grading, dual credit, and ChatGPT. Email me to get on the mailing list. Here's a [link to the notes](#).

- Phenomena - Webb Telescope Overview Video from 60 Minutes

This was an interesting video about the James Webb telescope, providing an nice overview and sharing some of the early images and findings - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dC1-ggR7Y00>

- Feedback That Students Will Actually Use - Edweek article

<https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/heres-how-to-give-feedback-that-students-will-actually-use/2023/04> - Useful article on how to give better feedback to students (a research-based practice!).

Student Opportunities

- Go For Launch - May 20-21 Event at Hudson HS, grades 8-12

<https://higherorbits.org/events/go-for-launch-hudson-wi> - Students in grades 8-12 are invited to attend the *Higher Orbits Go For Launch!* event taking place at Hudson High School on May 20-21, 2023. Special guests include Christopher Mick and astronaut, Dottie Metcalf-Lindenberger, a former High School Teacher before becoming an astronaut. General information on this website - <https://higherorbits.org/>

- State Inquiry Project, Water - ongoing through 2024

<https://dpi.wi.gov/science/water> - this ongoing project can engage students in meaningful, local phenomena, and give them an opportunity to make a difference in their communities. Through the GIS platform, you can share data and information on what you're doing with other across the state.

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“Science is not a body of facts, [it] is a method for deciding whether what we choose to believe has a basis in the laws of nature or not.” – Marcia McNutt

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