



Hello Science Education Leaders,

Here are the latest resources and opportunities 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](http://dpi.wi.gov/science/social-media).

Hooray for spring!  
Kevin

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### Learning Opportunities

- [Inquiry Workshops in Environmental Education](#) - Apr 16 and 18 - Register by Apr 1
- [State Computer Science Summit @ Wis Math Conference](#) - May 1st
- [Biomedical Engineering Speaker Series](#) - Tuesdays in April across the state
- [Inquiry in Elementary Science and Social Studies](#) - Summer workshops - July 30, 31

### Resources

- [WSST Conference](#) - Session handouts, resources, slides
- [WSELA Notes from Feb 26 Meeting](#)
- [Achieve Task Annotation Project in Science](#) - not to miss!
- [How People Learn II](#) - New report from National Academies
- [EdReports](#) - Release of science instructional materials review tools and evaluations
- [Are You Doing Citizen Science?](#) Opportunity to share your work!

### Student Opportunities

- [Einstein STEAM Fair](#) - Green Bay - register by Mar 30th
- [Girl Scouts](#) - lots of STEM Camps this summer!

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## Details

### Learning Opportunities

- Inquiry Workshops in Environmental Education - Apr 16 and 18 - Register by Apr 1

<https://dpi.wi.gov/environmental-ed/events/connect-explore-engage-inquiry> - April 16 in Trempealeau and <https://dpi.wi.gov/environmental-ed/events/connect-explore-engage-inquiry-0> -

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Apr 18 in Kaukauna. DPI is partnering with National Geographic Certified Educators and Wisconsin Green Schools Network to help educators learn more about using inquiry to drive student learning. These workshops are open to *all educators in any subject area* who are interested in integrating more inquiry into their classrooms. Read more about [inquiry in the standards](#). In these workshops you will: Become familiar with inquiry in the new *Wisconsin Standards for Environmental Literacy & Sustainability, Social Studies*, and other content areas; Learn about the “[geo-inquiry process](#)” and other resources from National Geographic; complete Step 1 of [National Geographic Educator Certification](#) process if educators wish to participate in this free certification program. Registration is due April 1st. There is also a [series of inquiry workshops in the Dells](#) on July 29-31.

- State Computer Science Summit @ Wis Math Conference - May 1st

<http://www.wismath.org/CS-Summit> - The CS Summit will take place during the pre-conference events of the WMC Annual Conference from 8:30 - 4:00 on May 1st.

Keynote speakers include Jill Westerlund, Abstracting CS and Assistant Chief Reader of APCSP, and Jake Baskin, Executive Director of The Computer Science Teachers Association. It's only \$50 due to a grant received.

- Biomedical Engineering Speaker Series - Tuesdays in April across the state

<https://ahwendowment.org/AHW/Learning-Center/Learning--Events/Conversations-with-Scientists/Biomedical-Engineering-Designing-tools-for-a-healthy-future.htm> - Conversations with

Scientists is a four-part lecture series at the Medical College of Wisconsin campuses in Milwaukee, Green Bay, and Wausau. This spring the series is titled “Biomedical Engineering: Designing tools for a healthy future,” and will be held 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Tuesdays April 2-23, and also streaming online. The series is ideal for high school and college students who are interested in science, medicine, health, and research, and for educators who are interested in new advancements in these areas. Complimentary snacks and refreshments are served at the MCW campuses, and free parking is available.

- Inquiry Connecting Science and Social Studies - July 30 and 31 workshops

<https://widpi.myquickreg.com/register/event/event.cfm?eventid=14922> - This link is for registration to the Madison workshop on July 30th, but there will also be one in the Dells on July 31st (save the date!). In this workshop Kris McDaniel, DPI Social Studies Consultant, and I (science guy) will facilitate conversations and work on connecting the concepts of inquiry in both the new science and social studies standards. We'll have an elementary focus, though ideas will be relevant to secondary as well. It's exciting to consider the use of phenomena in each subject and the importance of systems thinking (contextualization).

## Resources

- WSST Conference - Session handouts, resources, slides

<https://wsstconference2019.sched.com/> - We had another fabulous WSST conference a couple weeks ago! It was great to see many of you there. Whether you attended or missed it this year, this link to the conference schedule connects you to handouts, resources, and slides from many of the sessions. Mine are posted.

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- WSELA Notes from Feb 26 Meeting

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QvG6tQ-dsl-vvQwFmUbWR0TmPbjrSQONGOjL04JbkZ4/edit?usp=sharing> - We had a great meeting on Feb 26th to network around current work in leading science programs. Thanks for Hartford J1 for hosting! We discussed how to work with challenged science topics in science, professional development opportunities, coaching conversations, current work in WSS/NGSS implementation, and the latest from DPI. We expect the next meeting will be at the end of July, though specifics are TBD. If you're not on the WSELA listserv, you can send a request to join to Kevin Niemi - [kjniemi \[at\] wisc.edu](mailto:kjniemi[at]wisc.edu).

- Achieve Task Annotation Project in Science

<https://www.achieve.org/our-initiatives/equip/tools-subject/science/task-annotation-project-science> - Achieve recently released a series of annotated science assessment tasks and brief resource documents on effective NGSS-based science assessment. The annotations detail how tasks connect to the NGSS (WSS) and where those connections could be better. I highly recommend collaboratively digging into these resources. And, here's an article on NGSS assessment from Aneesha Badrinarayan, the lead author of the project - <https://medium.com/@aneeshabadrinarayan/we-love-to-hate-science-assessments-lets-do-something-about-it-6a8881b57ac3>

- How People Learn II - New report from National Academies

<http://sites.nationalacademies.org/dbasse/bbcss/how-people-learn-2/index.htm> - this new report digs into the importance of contexts and culture in effective learning design. You can also read the highlights here: [http://sites.nationalacademies.org/cs/groups/dbassesite/documents/webpage/dbasse\\_189180.pdf](http://sites.nationalacademies.org/cs/groups/dbassesite/documents/webpage/dbasse_189180.pdf)

- EdReports - Release of science instructional materials review tools and evaluations

<https://edreports.org/reports/rubrics-evidence> - I think the most important part of this work is the process and tools released by EdReports to review instructional materials and thoughtfully dig into their alignment to the NGSS (WSS). you can also see the first round of reviews of grades 6-8 materials - <https://edreports.org/compare/results/science-68> - another round of 6-8 reviews and a review of 3-5 materials is underway.

- Are You Doing Citizen Science? Opportunity to share your work!

If you, your students, or members of your community are engaged in a citizen-science project, Wisconsin Citizens for Science would LOVE to hear about it and link to you social media.

Connect on Twitter [@WIC4SCI](https://twitter.com/WIC4SCI) or Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/wisccitizens.forscience.7> or by email [wic4sci@gmail.com](mailto:wic4sci@gmail.com)

## Student Opportunities

- Einstein STEAM Fair - Green Bay - register by Mar 30th!
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<https://www.einsteinproject.org/steam-fair-2> - This event showcases student's skills & abilities by having various competitions and different interactive activities, including the traditional Science Fair, a Chain Reaction Competition (also referenced as a Rube Goldberg Machine), an Instant Engineering Challenge, and Tinkering Space activities. Throughout the day, student participants, between their judging times, can enjoy the Tinkering Space activities, Instant Engineering Challenge participation, and have fun watching and learning from other student's projects. Family and friends of the students are also encouraged to hang out to enjoy this day of fun, competition and STEAM activities. Takes place April 27th from 9am - 2pm at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) in the Student Center.

- Girl Scouts - STEM Summer Camps

<https://www.gsbadgerland.org/content/dam/gsbadgerland/documents/Program/Girl%20Scout%20STEM%20Programs.pdf> - All over Wisconsin there are fabulous opportunities to engage girls in STEM programming this summer. The Girl Scouts are tremendously expanding STEM related summer camps. This link is particular to Southwest and South Central Wisconsin, but you can find details for your region with the following links: <http://www.gsmanitou.org> - Eastern, <http://www.girlscoutslp.org> - Far North, <https://www.girlscoutsvr.org> - West (Eau Claire to St. Paul), Northeast - <http://www.gsnwgl.org>, Southwest and South Central - <https://www.gsbadgerland.org>, <http://www.gswise.org> - Southeast. Please, share with your students!

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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