

November 8 - 21, 2012
Science Matters Network in Michigan eBlast
<http://msta-mich.org/smn>

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Here are your science education resources and announcements for November 8 - 21, 2012 provided by the Michigan Science Matters Network. Please forward this eBlast on to other science educators in your school/district. If you have questions or comments, please forward them to:

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Please Note: If you do not receive the full e-blast you can view it at:
<http://msta-mich.org/smn>
or request a Word/pdf version by emailing: bydlowd@resa.net

1. Leadership

“And the trouble is, if you don’t risk anything, you risk even more.”
Erica Jong

Thank you to Herm Boatman, Science consultant and lecturer, University of Michigan-Dearborn, for contributing this leadership quote.

The Science Matters Network In Michigan

2a. Another Free Gift for You in the NSTA Learning Center

I hope you will enjoy these free gifts that you can access in the NSTA Learning Center. The gifts are a set of resources on the Oceans Effect on Weather and Climate, featuring Hurricanes. To access the high school collection, just visit:

<http://learningcenter.nsta.org/share.aspx?id=QEu2hv3Nqk>

To view the middle school collection, just visit:

<http://learningcenter.nsta.org/share.aspx?id=onK1qjfYzR>

To view the elementary school collection, just visit:

<http://learningcenter.nsta.org/share.aspx?id=7brgD3w5Gh>

I hope you like them!

If you have not joined the NSTA Learning Center yet, just look at your invitation, emailed to you on November 7, 2012. You will receive another invitation to join next month, on December 11 or 12. If you would like your invitation sent directly to you, just send an email to:
bydlowd@resa.net
and an invitation will be sent directly to you. Enjoy!!!

2b. Invitation to Attend a Web Seminar on the NSTA Learning Center

You are invited to attend a free web seminar on Tuesday, November 13, starting at 6:30 pm Eastern time, about the NSTA Learning Center. The program will provide a brief overview about the Learning Center followed by a description of NSTA collections, how to create them and how to share them with colleagues.

All attending will receive their choice of a SciPack (value: \$40) free of charge. Educators do not need to be members of NSTA to create a free account and use the Learning Center. Registration is required to attend a web seminar. You may register at the web address below:

http://learningcenter.nsta.org/product_detail.aspx?id=10.2505/9/WSNLC12_Nov13

Michigan Department of Education

3a. Science Item Reviewers Needed

David Bydlowski, State Coordinator: bydlowd@resa.net -- msta-mich.org/smn

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE), Office of Standards & Assessment (OSA), conducts numerous committee meetings throughout the year in support of the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), MEAP Access, MI-Access, English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA), Interim Assessments (K-12) and the Michigan Merit Exams (MME). Context and Item Writers are also needed to write Items for the above mentioned assessments.

OSA is looking to update their database with qualified educators and Michigan authors to possibly serve on these committees. To ensure our database is current, we ask that you complete this survey. This data collection should take approximately 10-minutes to complete. Please visit:

<http://www.cvent.com/d/pcq0t9>

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability. After clicking the survey link (above), scroll down and click on the start button to begin. They invite you to pass this survey on to your colleagues that might be interested in assisting OSA. If you have any questions, please contact Samantha Banker at 800-826-2368 or sbanker@datarecognitioncorp.com.

Right now, they are actively recruiting Science (and Social Studies) teachers to serve as item reviewers on either their Bias – Sensitivity Committee (BSC) or Content Advisory Committee (CAC) for the upcoming review of Interim Assessment items.

They will conduct BSC and CAC Interim Assessment item review on high school items during the first two weeks of December (Dec. 3rd thru 7th & Dec. 10th thru 14th). Come January (Jan. 14th thru 25th, not including the M. L. King holiday), they will conduct BSC and CAC review on items intended for Interim Assessment for grades 3 through 8.

Teachers will be paid a stipend for their service, as well have lodging, mileage, and meal expenses paid or reimbursed. Schools will receive compensation for substitute teachers. OSA retained Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) to coordinate the item review process. Teachers interested in serving on the Interim Assessment item-review committees need to complete the survey as listed above. If you have questions about Interim Assessment, please call OSA at 877-560-8378.

3b. Upcoming Deadlines

March 5, 2013: ACT Test

March 7, 2013: MME Science Test

March 19, 2013: Make-Up Date for the ACT

March 21, 2013: Make-Up Date for the MME Science Test

Information for Parents

4a. Tools and Resources for Exploring Science from PBS Parents

Most of the suggested explorations require few, if any, materials. If available, the following science resources can make for more extended investigation:

For exciting water play, visit your local hardware store for funnels, clear plastic tubing and a turkey baster. If you can, try to get tubing into which you can fit the funnel and the baster. You can also use empty, clear pump-style bottles such as for shampoo or soap.

A hand lens can be purchased from a number of sources including educational toy stores and shops at your local science museum or children's museum. They needn't be fancy for this purpose, as learning to use a magnifier is not a simple task for young children. Microscopes are generally not necessary at these ages.

A bug box is a particular kind of box-style magnifier. They too are often available at toy stores or your local science or children's museum. Bug boxes are useful because they can contain an insect for observation for a short period. Be sure to let the insect go within a reasonable amount of time!

A hand trowel will make digging in soil an easier task. If you don't have one handy you can always use a spoon.

Field guides focus on particular topics such as birds, insects, rocks and minerals, plants, etc. Guides written for adults are good to have around, but most series have some written especially for children. They can be found at children's book stores and at web sites of well-known nature organizations such as The National Audubon Society. A number of other field guide series for children can be found at the Online Nature Mall.

Thermometers that can be used safely and read easily by children can be difficult to find locally. These are not the thermometers one uses to take a person's body temperature. Do check with your local science or children's museum shop or order from an online source such as TeachChildren.com or Home4SchoolGear.com.

There are many sites for learning about making paper airplanes. The Exploratorium, a marvelous science museum in San Francisco, has useful ideas on its web site.

Wondering how to engage your child in the wonderful world of plants? The National Gardening Association's Kids Gardening web site has many suggestions.

For more ideas, from PBS Parents, please visit:
<http://www.pbs.org/parents/education/science/tips/science-resources/>

Information for Students (and Parents too!)

5a. Inspire Teen Students to Make a Collective Impact

WaysToHelp.org invites teens in the United States to apply for grants to fund their community service ideas across any one of these four issue areas: The Environment; Democracy & Equality; Health; Community. Applicants should summarize, in 5,000 words or less, how the project will involve others, who it will help, what effect it is expected to have, when it will start and how the funds will be used.

Deadline: Grant requests are reviewed and responded to on a monthly basis. Please visit:
<http://waystohelp.org/grants.php>

5b. Hack Your School Green for MS and HS Students

Sponsored by Youth Rock the Rebuild and Architecture for Humanity, the Guerrilla Green Sustainable Showdown invites teams of middle school and high school students across the United States to submit their ideas for making their school more eco-friendly. Ideas may range from a small change in a school garden to a new, crazy window system. However, this is not just an ideas competition; it is also an implementation initiative. Winning teams will be given cash to build or organize their ideas. The competition has three rounds. In round 1, The Elite Eight (best plan) will receive \$1,000; in round 2, The Final Four (best implemented project) will receive \$2,000; and in round 3, Overall Winner (best scaled project) will receive \$10,000.

Deadlines: December 3, 2012 is the last day to submit ideas; the winners of round 1 will be announced on December 10, 2012. Round 2 closes on February 1, 2013; round 2 winners will be announced on February 8, 2013. Round 3 closes on March 6, 2013; round 3 winners will be announced on March 18, 2013. Please visit:
<http://guerrillagreen.architectureforhumanity.org>

5c. The World's a Place of Living Things Art Contest for Students in Grades 2 - 4

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, or IGES, invites young scientists and artists to explore biodiversity. There are many different types of life on Earth -- from bacteria to insects to plants and animals. Biodiversity is everywhere. Students in grades 2-4 are encouraged to learn more about the forms of life in a

particular place -- what types of life can be seen? What types of life are hard to see? Do the different types of life interact with each other?

Students should investigate these questions, and create a piece of artwork (no larger than 16"x20") to show what they have learned. First-, second-, and third-place artists will receive a \$100, \$75, and \$50 gift card, respectively, framed color certificates and their artwork will be showcased on the IGES website.

Entries are due Nov. 16, 2012. For full details on the contest, resources on biodiversity and to download an entry form, visit:

<http://www.strategies.org/artcontest>

5d. Neuroscience for Kids Drawing Contest Now Open for Students in Grades K-12

Get out your pencils, pens and markers! The NEUROSCIENCE FOR KIDS DRAWING CONTEST is now open to students in kindergarten through high school. This year, TEACHERS and PARENTS can enter too! Use your imagination to draw a picture about the nervous system and you might win a prize. The complete set of rules and the official entry form for the contest are available at:

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/contest13.html>

Here is a brief description of the drawing contest rules:

A. Drawings must be done by hand using pencils, pens, markers, and/or crayons and submitted on an official entry form (or copy of the form).

B. Entries will be divided into five categories based on age. Complete one of the following sentences and draw a picture to illustrate the sentence; if you are in:

Kindergarten to Grade 2: "My brain helps me _____."

Grade 3 to Grade 5: "Brain Fitness: I keep my brain healthy by _____."

Grade 6 to Grade 8: "My brain is like a _____ because _____."

Grade 9 to Grade 12: "My favorite part of the brain is _____ because _____."

College students, teachers (all grades) and parents: "My favorite neuroscientist is _____ because _____."

Web sites for teacher and parent drawing ideas:

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/nobel.html>

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/hist.html>

SPECIAL HINT: if you are in grade 6 to 8, do NOT draw a picture that compares the brain to a computer, a book, a sponge or a robot. These comparisons are very common and are unlikely to win. Be creative!

C. To enter the drawing contest, mail your completed entry form to the address listed on the entry form.

D. Entries must be received by February 1, 2013, and will not be returned. Winners will be announced no later than March 1, 2013.

E. Drawings will be judged by the staff of Neuroscience for Kids or by other individuals designated by Dr. Eric H. Chudler. Drawings will be judged on the basis of originality, scientific accuracy and overall design.

F. There will be several winners in each age group. Winners will be awarded a neuroscience book or other prize related to the brain.

Good luck to everyone!

5e. Innovative App Challenge for MS and HS Students

Verizon Foundation and Technology Student Association have partnered to offer the Verizon Innovative App Challenge, a competition that provides the opportunity for middle school and high school students to use their STEM knowledge to come up with an original mobile app concept that addresses a need or problem in their school or community.

The top ten "Best Overall" schools each receive \$10,000 for their school; a Samsung Galaxy Tab for each team member; and support in bringing their apps to the marketplace. Selected finalists will present their winning apps at the 2013 national Technology Student Association conference in Orlando in June.

To learn more and register a team, visit www.verizonfoundation.org/appchallenge
The deadline to enter is January 18, 2013.

5f. President's Environmental Youth Award

Since 1971, the President of the United States has joined with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to recognize young people across the country for protecting our nation's air, water, land, and ecology. The President's Environmental Youth Award, or PEYA, is a program that promotes awareness of our nation's natural resources and encourages positive community involvement.

Youth from all 50 states as well as all U.S. territories are encouraged to enter. One outstanding project from each region of the U.S. will be selected for national recognition, both in regional ceremonies as well as at the White House Summit on Environmental Education. Past winning projects have covered a wide range of subject areas, including:

- environmental science projects
- recycling programs in schools and communities
- construction of nature preserves
- major tree planting programs
- videos, newsletters, and skits that focused on environmental issues

The deadline to enter is December 31, 2012. Please visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/peya/#PIAEEreqs=0>

There is also a Certificate Program that runs year-round. All qualified applicants in this program receive a certificate signed by the President honoring them for their efforts to protect human health and the environment.

5g. Upcoming Deadlines

November 15, 2012: Deadline for students ages 10 – 18 to enter the Humans in Space Youth Art Competition. Please visit:

<http://www.lpi.usra.edu/humansinspaceart/>

November 16, 2012: Deadline for students in grades 2 – 4 to enter “The World’s a Place of Living Things” Art Contest. Please visit:

<http://www.strategies.org/artcontest>

December 2, 2012: Deadline for K-12 students to enter the Name that Asteroid Contest. Please visit:

<http://planetary.org/get-involved/contests/osirisrex/>

December 3, 2012: Deadline for MS and HS Student’s to Hack Their Schools Green and Make Them More Eco-Friendly. Please visit:

<http://guerrillagreen.architectureforhumanity.org>

December 16, 2012: Deadline for 6th – 9th grade students to enter the eCybermission Challenge. Please visit:

<https://www.ecybermission.com/public/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fDefault.aspx>

December 17, 2012: Deadline for MS and HS Students to enter the Climate Challenge. Please visit:

<http://lexus.scholastic.com>

December 31, 2012: Deadline for students to apply for the President’s Environmental Youth Award. Please visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/peya/#PIAEEreqs=0>

January 18, 2013: Deadline for MS and HS Students to enter the Innovative App Challenge. Please visit:

<http://appchallenge.tsaweb.org>

January 31, 2013: Student projects are due for the Toshiba/NSTA Exploravision Competition. Please visit:

<http://exploravision.org>

February 1, 2013: Deadline for K-12 Students to enter the Neuroscience for Kids Drawing Contest. Please visit:
<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/contest13.html>

February 8, 2013: Deadline for 4th and 5th graders to enter the Michigan Severe Weather Safety Poster Contest. Please visit:
<http://www.mcswa.com>

February 8, 2013: Deadline for K-5 students to enter the MDNR Earth Day Poster Contest. Please visit:
http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3307_3580-157914--,00.html

February 15, 2013: Deadline for HS students to enter the NASA REEL Science Communciation Contest. Please visit:
<http://aura.gsfc.nasa.gov/reelscience.html>

March 5, 2013: Deadline for students to enter the Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge. Please visit:
<http://wecanchange.discoveryeducation.com/registration/>

March 14, 2013: Deadline for students in grades 6 – 8 to enter the Explore the Blue Water Challenge. Please visit:
<http://exploretheblue.com>

March 15, 2013: Deadline for 6th – 12th graders to enter the NASA Space Settlement Contest. Please visit:
<http://settlement.arc.nasa.gov/Contest/>

Grants For K-12 Teachers

6a. Educate Youth for Future Success – Lockheed Martin

Lockheed Martin provides grants for K–16 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education. The grants program includes Lockheed Martin’s K–12 STEM Education Initiative, Engineers in the Classroom as well as STEM-focused curricular and extracurricular programs that provide employee engagement opportunities in a community in which Lockheed Martin has employees or business interests. All 501(c)(3) organizations that deliver standards-based STEM education to students in K–16 are eligible for an award. The amount of the award varies.

Deadline: Applications are accepted year-round. Evaluations are typically performed quarterly. Some grant applications may not be able to be considered until the next year’s budget cycle, particularly those received in the second half of the year. Please visit:
<http://www.lockheedmartin.com/us/who-we-are/community/philanthropy/funding-guidelines.html>

6b. Lexus Eco-Challenge

LEXUS AND SCHOLASTIC Grants for middle school and high school teams (teacher-advised) to learn about the environment and take action to improve it. Projects focus on air/climate. Teams define an environmental issue that is important to them, develop an action plan to address the issue, implement the plan and report the results.
Deadline: Challenge 2 (air/climate) submissions due by Dec. 17, 2012
Grant Amounts: \$10,000 to \$30,000
Please visit:
<http://lexus.scholastic.com>

6c. School Garden Grants Program

Supports school gardens. Priority is given to programs that help kids learn about complex topics like sustainability and conservation, food systems and community awareness.
Grant Amounts: \$2,000
Deadline: Extended until Nov. 15, 2012
Please visit:
<http://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/gardengrants.php>

6d. Upcoming Deadlines

November 12, 2012: Deadline for MS and HS teachers to apply for the Shell Science Lab Challenge. Please visit:
<http://www.nsta.org/shellsciencelabchallenge>

November 15, 2012: Deadline for apply for the School Garden Grants. Please visit:
<http://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/gardengrants.php>

November 16, 2012: Deadline for elementary teachers to apply for the Raytheon-Engineering is Elementary Teacher Scholarship Program. Please visit:
<http://www.mathmovesu.com>

December 1, 2012: Deadline to apply for the Maley/FTEE Technology and Engineering Scholarship. Please visit:
<http://www.iteea.org/Awards/scholarshipmaley.htm>

December 5, 2012: Deadline for K-12 Teachers to apply for the Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship. Please visit:
<http://www.trianglecoalition.org/einstein-fellows>

December 13, 2012: Deadline to apply for the New Teacher Survival Central Sweepstakes. Please visit:
http://www.discoveryeducation.com/survival/enter_sweepstakes_1.cfm

December 17, 2012: Deadline for MS and HS teams to apply for the Lexus and Scholastic Eco-Challenge. Please visit:
<http://lexus.scholastic.com>

December 31, 2012: Deadline for students to apply for the President's Environmental Youth Awards. Please visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/peya/>

January 14, 2013: Deadline to nominate teachers and administrators for the 2013 Alan Shepard Technology in Education Awards. Please visit:
http://www.amfcse.org/alan_shepard_award/default.html

January 15, 2013: Deadline to apply for the Captain Planet Foundation Grant. Please visit:
<http://captainplanetfoundation.org/apply-for-grants/>

January 20, 2013: Deadline to apply for the Lawrence Scadden Teacher of the Year Award in Science Education for Students with Disabilities. Please visit:
<http://www.sesd.info/scadden.htm>

January 31, 2013: Deadline for teachers to apply for the Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators. Please visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/education/teacheraward/>

February 29, 2013: Deadline for K-8 Teachers to apply for the Nickelodeon Big Help Grants. Please visit:
<http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/nea-foundation-green-grants/>

March 1, 2013: Deadline to apply for the Association of American Educators Classroom Grants. Please visit:
<http://www.aetechers.org/index.php/member-benefits/scholarships-and-grants>

Information for K-12 Science Teachers

7a. Green Schools and Recycling Clothing

The IICD Michigan Clothes Collection is interested in a partnership with the Michigan Green Schools to educate students on the importance of recycling their clothes, shoes, books, and toys. Students would have a better understanding of how their unwanted items could positively impact someone else's life. They would also have a

better understanding of the impact textile waste has on the environment. There are a few options of how they could present the information:

- Schools could host an IICD Michigan Clothes Collection box at their school. Families of students, and the community could use the box to donate their unwanted clothes, and shoes.
- They could offer the schools two pennies per pound donated, which could be used for necessary school supplies, or however the school thinks suitable.
- If the schools are not able to host a collection box, IICD could organize a school clothes drive. The classes could compete to see who collects the most clothes, shoes, and books. They could offer the school two pennies per pound donated, and the winning class could win a pizza party. If the students and teachers enjoy the clothes drive, it could be an event that IICD hosts on a bi-yearly basis.

For more information, please visit and contact:

<http://www.iicdmichigan.org>

Janine@iicdmichigan.org

313 443 9786

7b. Special Days For Students in November and December

Nov. 9, 1934: Carl Sagan was born.

Dr. Sagan helped pick the sounds and images for the Voyager spacecrafts' "Golden Record." See and hear samples at:

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/voyager-to-stars>

Nov. 13, 1946: Vincent Joseph Schaefer made the first artificially induced snowstorm.

It's easy to predict a snowstorm if you make it yourself. If nature makes it ...not so much. Check out a little booklet that explains in the simplest possible terms how to make a weather-prediction satellite. It's at:

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/story-weather-satellite>

The booklet is also in Spanish and Italian.

Nov. 29, 1803: Birthday of Christian Doppler

He described the Doppler effect, a good analogy for the expansion of space and understanding why the sky is dark at night. Check it out at:

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/classroom-activities#bluesky>

Dec. 14: Geminids Meteor Shower

Get tips on the best meteor viewing techniques at:

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/meteor-shower>

Dec. 25, 1642: Birthday of Isaac Newton

He understood how orbits work, and so can you by firing a cannon into space. With enough gunpowder, you, too, can achieve orbit! Go to:

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/how-orbits-work>

Dec. 31, 1705: First recorded sighting of Halley's comet

Play "Comet Quest" and learn about comets at:

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/comet-quest>

7c. GVSU K-12 Teacher Conference – Fall Science Update

The Regional Math and Science Center at Grand Valley State University invites you to attend the 28th annual Fall Science Update. This year's theme is "Transitioning to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)".

The keynote speaker is Dr. Joseph Krajcik from Michigan State University. Dr. Krajcik is the Director of the Institute for Collaborative Research in Education, Assessment, and Teaching Environments for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (CREATE for STEM) and professor of Science Education. He is currently serving as the head of the Physical Science Design Team developing the NGSS and has authored and co-

authored curriculum materials, books, software, and over 100 manuscripts. He has earned national and international recognition and awards for his work in science education.

Conference Overview

- All day format 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- GVSU Eberhard Center, Downtown Grand Rapids
- Two keynote lectures, elementary and secondary
- Multiple hour-long breakout sessions
- Lunch included

To view the brochure on-line or to register, please visit:

<http://www.gvsu.edu/rmsc/2012-fall-science-update-129.htm>

As always, this will be a great day of learning and connecting with colleagues and they look forward to your participation. Questions? Please call the Regional Math & Science Center at 616-331-2267 or email mthscctr@gvsu.edu

7d. America Recycles Day – November 15

Don't forget that November 15 is America Recycles Day. Please visit:

<http://americarecyclesday.org>

7e. Upcoming Deadlines

November 10, 2012: Metropolitan Detroit Science Teachers Association Conference (MDSTA) in conjunction with the Detroit Area Council of Teachers of Mathematics (DACTM) at Woodhaven High School in Woodhaven, MI. Please visit:

<http://mdsta.org>

November 13 – 14, 2012: Place-Based Education and Stewardship Conference at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, MI. Please visit:

<http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevoid=232932>

November 14, 2012: Fall Science Update at Grand Valley State University. Please visit:

<http://www.gvsu.edu/rmsc>

November 15, 2012: America Recycles Day. Please visit:

<http://americarecyclesday.org>

November 16, 2012: Deadline to register for the December 1 - Project WET Workshop Workshop at the DeVries Nature Center in Owosso, MI. Please visit:

<https://sites.google.com/a/devriesnature.org/home/teacher-resources>

December 5, 2012: MSELA (Michigan Science Education Leadership Association) Fall Dinner Meeting in Berkeley, MI. RSVP to Anthony Sky:

asky@ltu.edu

by December 1, 2012

March 8 – 9, 2013: 60th Annual Michigan Science Teachers Association Conference in Ypsilanti, MI. Please visit:

<http://msta-mich.org>

March 15 – 16, 2012: Life Discovery – Doing Science Conference in St. Paul, MN. Please visit:

<http://www.esa.org/ldc/>

March 20 – 22, 2013: MACUL (Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning) Conference at the Cobo Center in Detroit, MI. Please visit:

<http://www.macul.org/conferences/2013-macul-conference/>

April 11 – 14, 2013: NSTA National Conference in San Antonio, TX. Please visit:
<http://www.nsta.org/conferences/future.aspx>

Information for High School Science Teachers

8a. Southeast Michigan Chemistry Teachers Meeting on November 12

The Southeast Michigan Chemistry Teachers' Organization (SEMCTO) will be having its fall meeting on Monday, November 12 at Plymouth High School. Join them from 4:30-6:30 to network with other teachers and share ideas and concerns.

WHO: Anyone who teaches chemistry or is interested in teaching chemistry. Bring a colleague or student teacher with you.

WHEN: November 12, 2012 from 4:30-6:30pm

WHERE: Plymouth High School--Specific directions to the location within the school will follow

WHY: To share with other teachers and get new ideas or to pass yours along
Scott Milam will be hosting the meeting.

Please RSVP by emailing Peg Convery at:
peg.convery@farmington.k12.mi.us

If you have a demo, lab, or teaching idea to share, please bring it. If you have a question or concern about chemistry teaching, ask it. If you have some books or equipment you want to ask about or get rid of, you can bring them- However, if no one takes them, you must take them home with you!

If you just want to come to listen and meet people- do that, too!

Feel free to pass this along to anyone you think might be interested.

8b. New Fish Watch Lesson Plans for High School from NOAA

NOAA Fisheries Service, an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), recently published online the Fish Watch Lessons and Activities. This set of 16 teacher tested, science standard correlated, lesson plans challenges high school students and their teachers to use the NOAA Fisheries Service's FishWatch website to locate, manipulate, and analyze data to make informed decisions about sustainable seafood consumption.

Students examine catch data and correlate trends with fisheries management measures to understand overfished, overfishing, and the stock rebuilding process for various species. Habitat uses and impacts found on the FishWatch website are compared with fishing gear use and improvements to add to the understanding of ecosystem-based management. Students also participate in simulated fishing seasons and modify their gear to reduce by catch. By the end of the activities, students are informed seafood consumers and can share their knowledge with their families and friends. Please visit:

<http://www.fishwatch.gov>

8c. Upcoming Deadlines

November 12, 2012: Southeast Michigan Chemistry Teachers Organization Meeting at Plymouth High School, in Plymouth, MI. Please contact Peg Convery at:
Peg.convery@farmington.k12.mi.us

November 17, 2012: Robot Thanksgiving Parade at Macomb Community College. Please visit:
<http://www.robofest.net/roboParade.htm>

November 19, 2012: Genetic Update Conference with Dr. Sam Rhine at the Kirkhof Center at Grand Valley State University's Allendale campus. Please visit:
<http://www.samrhine.com>

Information for Middle School and High School Science Teachers

9a. Lake Superior Youth Symposium

Lake Superior Youth Symposium- Grades 8-12
May 16-19, 2013
Michigan Tech's Great Lakes Research Center.
<http://lakesuperioryouth.org>

This event will showcase the stewardship work of middle and high school students and teachers from throughout the Great Lakes watershed and the cutting edge research, taking place at Great Lakes Research Center. The goal of the symposium is to enhance the ability and motivation of middle and high school students, teachers, and community to understand and act on environmental issues facing Lake Superior and the other Great Lakes, both now and in the future. To accomplish this goal, symposium participants will participate in hands-on investigations, field trips, challenge courses, workshops and exhibits that will also highlight careers that further the protection of Lake Superior and other Great Lakes.

9b. Upcoming Deadlines

November 30, 2012: Deadline for MS and HS Students to produce climate related papers. Please visit:
<http://www.instesre.org>

January 1, 2013: Free Flinn Lab Safety Course Begins Online. Please visit:
Middle School: <http://www.solutionwhere.com/misdtraining/cw/showcourse.asp?3923>
High School: <http://www.solutionwhere.com/misdtraining/cw/showcourse.asp?3924>

May 16 – 19, 2013: Lake Superior Youth Symposium for students in grades 8 – 12. Please visit:
<http://lakesuperioryouth.org>

Information for Middle School Teachers

10a. International Space Station EarthKAM Fall 2012 Mission

Middle school educators are invited to join NASA for the International Space Station EarthKAM Fall 2012 Mission from Nov. 13-16, 2012. Find out more about this exciting opportunity that allows students to take pictures of Earth from a digital camera aboard the International Space Station.

International Space Station EarthKAM is a NASA-sponsored project that provides stunning, high-quality photographs of Earth taken from the space shuttle and the space station. Since 1996, EarthKAM students have taken hundreds of thousands of photographs of Earth by using the World Wide Web to direct a digital camera on select spaceflights and, currently, on the space station.

For more information about the project and to register for the upcoming mission, visit the EarthKAM home page at:
<http://www.EarthKAM.ucsd.edu>

Information for Elementary and Middle School Teachers

11a. Upcoming Deadlines

February 15, 2013: Deadline to register for the March 2 – Project Learning Tree Workshop at the DeVries Nature Center in Owosso, MI. Please visit:
<https://sites.google.com/a/devriesnature.org/home/teacher-resources>

Information for Elementary School Teachers

12a. Elementary Science Olympiad

"The Elementary Science Olympiad has NOT changed its name! The Elementary Science Olympiad program continues to grow and prosper across the nation and especially in Michigan! The new name change is meant only for the LCC Elementary Science Olympiad.

Please visit:

<http://www.soinc.org/>

to learn more about the Elementary Science Olympiad program."

12b. Upcoming Deadlines

December 28, 2012: Deadline to register for the January 12 – Growing Up WILD Early Childhood Workshop at the DeVries Nature Center in Owosso, MI. Please visit:

<https://sites.google.com/a/devriesnature.org/home/teacher-resources>

Science Humor

13. Top Science Jokes

Q: Why did the physicist disconnect his doorbell?

A: He wanted to win the no-bell prize.

Q: What did one uranium-238 nucleus say to the other?

A: Gotta split!

Q: Where does a chemist put the dishes?

A: In the Zinc!

14. November Contest

This month we have three great prizes to give away. The prizes are 3 - \$10 iTunes Gift Cards.

To win one of these prizes, send an email to:

David Bydlowski

bydlowd@resa.net

State Coordinator for the Michigan Science Matters Network

You MUST INCLUDE your name AND mailing address AND your school name/district.

You may only enter once and only one entry per email address. Respondents 3, 18, and 33 will receive a prize. We will post all of the winners in our next E-Blast. Good luck to you and thank you for being part of the Michigan Science Matters Network.

If you don't win, try again next month. Thanks to everyone for being part of the Michigan Science Matters Network.

To subscribe to the Science Matters Network in Michigan e-blast, please visit:

<http://nsta.org/sciencematters>

Click on Teachers, and then click on Become a Point of Contact.

To unsubscribe from the Science Matters Network in Michigan e-blast, please email David Bydlowski, Michigan Coordinator for the Science Matters Network, at bydlowd@resa.net.