



Hello Science Education Leaders,

Below are a few science education resources I've heard about lately - there's a lot going on this month, just pick something and explore it! 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. Please, let me know if any links don't work for you and if you could use any support with your school or district science efforts.

Cheers,
Kevin

Learning Opportunities

- [Monthly Book Study on Equity in Science Education](#) - Feb 15 at 4pm
- [PBS Wisconsin Meet the Lab](#) - MS Teacher Opportunity
- [WSST Virtual Learning Sessions](#) - ongoing
- [Science of Vaccines Webinar](#) - UW-Madison/Morgridge - Feb 24, 4:30pm
- [EdCamp Elmbrook](#) – Sat, Apr 24
- [Darwin Day 2021](#) – Resources and Scientist talks - through Feb 17th
- [Water Week](#) – Mar 8th to 12th
- [PFAS Webinar from Wisconsin Green Fire](#) - Feb 25, 11am
- [Okhee Lee Webinar](#) - Language Learning in Science/STEM (recording)
- [NSTA Conference and Social Justice in Science Webinars](#) - Apr/June
- [PAEMST Nominations](#) (self or other) - due by Mar 1

Resources

- [Kevin's Blog Posts](#) - "Scientific Method" and "Supporting Student Questioning"
 - [WSELA](#) - meeting notes from 2/10/21
 - [Four Strategies for Virtual Project-Based Learning](#) - Edutopia
 - [Environmental Education and WCEE Announcements](#)
 - [NCWIT Wisconsin](#) - Aspirations in Computing Awards
 - [Go Outside Fund](#) - next round of grants due Mar 31, \$100-\$500
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- [ASEE Engineering Newsletter](#) for Teachers - sign up

Student Opportunities

- [National Youth Science Camp](#) - student applications due Feb 28
 - [WSST Essay contest](#) - due April 1
 - [Rockets 4 Schools Competition](#)
 - [Women in Aviation Virtual Event](#) - Mar 6, 10:30am
 - [UW-Madison School of Pharmacy](#) Educational Events
 - [SpaceSet](#) - Student competition to design a settlement in space
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Details

Learning Opportunities

- Monthly Book Study on Equity in Science Education - Feb 15.

<https://forms.gle/ChkVDbzgGBm82yge6> - Anyone can sign up for the book study, member or not. Our next discussion on equity will be today, Feb 15th, at 4pm. This month's topic will be "Indigenous Ways of Knowing." Sign-up to get links to resources and our Zoom connection.

- PBS Wisconsin Meet the Lab - MS Teacher Opportunity

The [Meet the Lab](#) collection is growing! They recently released resources for a third lab, and they are gearing up to add four more labs to the collection this year. As part of that process, they are recruiting a cohort of middle school science educators to help develop and test activities and be part of project videos. Here's a [flyer](#) about the cohort opportunity. They will be accepting applications for the next week.

- WSST Virtual Learning Sessions - ongoing

<https://www.wsst.org/conference-2021> - WSST is not holding an in-person conference this year. Instead, they are providing a series of webinars throughout the year. Check out this website for past recordings or details on what's coming up.

- Science of Vaccines Webinar - UW-Madison/Morgridge - Feb 24, 4:30pm

<https://morgridge.org/event/covid-19-the-science-of-vaccines/> - Want to better understand new COVID vaccines and previous technologies? Join a panel of UW-Madison and Morgridge Center scientists and doctors for this webinar.

- EdCamp Elmbrook – Sat, Apr 24
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<https://sites.google.com/elmbrookschoools.org/edcampelmbrook> - This year's EdCamp will be all virtual through Zoom instead of at Brookfield Central HS. It will take place from 8am to 12pm. The pitch and plan of session will be done in February and March through [Flipgrid on this session pitch page](#). The session board will be complete and ready to view on April 1st, to help with your planning for the event.

- Darwin Day 2021 – Resources and Scientist talks - through Feb 17th -

<https://evolution.wisc.edu/darwin-day/> - Hear researchers and find resources related to evolution. The events are mostly in the evening and happen through Feb 17th events.

- Water Week – Mar 8th to 12th

<https://wisconsinwaterweek.swoogo.com/wisconsinwaterweek> - Each day there will be one free educator session, highlighting work teachers are doing in their classrooms related to water, along with an children's author talk. There will also be a range of learning opportunities each day, with a daily registration of \$20. Stay tuned for further details and links!

- PFAS Webinar from Wisconsin Green Fire - Feb 25, 11am

<https://wigreenfire.org/events/> - Join co-hosts Wisconsin's Green Fire and [Clean Wisconsin](#) along with Wisconsin DNR leaders for a 90-minute webinar on *PFAS: Past, Present, and Future – Forever Chemicals in Wisconsin*. Learn about PFAS in Wisconsin including the history, fate, and transport of these chemicals; the latest proposals in the Governor's 2021 State Budget; action items outlined in the Wisconsin PFAS Action Plan; and, key policy recommendations and opportunities for the near and long term. There will be Q&A time with the panelists. Scroll down on the website to find details. You can go back later for the recording.

- Okhee Lee Webinar - Language Learning in Science/STEM (recording)

[Link to webinar](#) - this 75 minute webinar highlights current strategies for science instruction in general and builds on that to discuss effective instruction for multilingual learners. This STEMScopes groups has [several other recorded webinars](#) from national experts as well.

- NSTA Conference and Social Justice in Science Webinars - Apr-June

<https://www.nsta.org/engage-spring-21> - NSTA is not having its regular annual conference this year, but is instead having a series of one-week virtual conferences, with each focusing on a different grade level. There is also a series of [webinars focused on social justice and equity](#).

- PAEMST Nominations (self or other) - due by Mar 1

<https://www.paemst.org/> - You can apply yourself or nominate another grades 7-12 science or STEM teacher for this year's Presidential Awards. Applications will be due April 1. Two state awardees receive \$10k and a trip to DC. Mentoring and application support is available - a great learning and reflection opportunity.

Resources

- Kevin's Blog Posts - "Scientific Method" and "Supporting Student Questioning"

<https://wisdpiscience.blogspot.com/2021/01/is-scientific-method-still-way-to-go.html> - in this article Kevin brings back an NSTA blog he wrote that provides an overview on current perspectives on the "scientific method." It notes that traditional thoughts on that process need to be reconsidered. In the next article - <https://wisdpiscience.blogspot.com/2021/01/supporting-students-in-asking-questions.html> - Kevin describes ideas and shares resources on how to better support students in asking their own questions (one of the most overlooked science practices and critical for equity and identity development).

- WSELA - meeting notes from 2/10/21

The Wisconsin Science Education Leadership Association (WSELA) had a virtual meeting on February 10th. [We took notes](#) during the conversation that you can review. Anyone can join these meetings (email Kevin to join that listserv). The next meeting will be in late July or early August.

- Four Strategies for Virtual Project-Based Learning - Edutopia

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/4-strategies-make-virtual-pbl-work> - This Edutopia article was written by Wisconsin's Emily Miller, along with a couple University of Michigan researchers/faculty. The article shares ready to implement ideas for project-based learning in a virtual, hybrid, or in-person environment and provides elementary examples. It draws from work with the [Multiple Literacies in Project-Based Learning](#) curriculum project.

- Environmental Education and WCEE Announcements

1) KEEP [Energy Educator of the Year Awards](#) – Call for Nominations! Deadline is April 10, 2021. 2) [Hear from the Experts](#) - scroll down on this site for various courses and events, including a WDNR Forestry Lecture Series sponsored by LEAF. Join LEAF staff and DNR experts over your lunch-hour as they explore different topics in the world of forestry. 3) [Tea Time & Tapas](#) - ongoing virtual "Tea Time and Tapas" on various topics related to teaching outside on your

school site and in your community. It connects to each season. This month is Feb 16th at 4pm, focused on coniferous tea and tasties - resources to share with students.

- NCWIT Wisconsin - Aspirations in Computing Awards

Nominations submitted, applications reviewed by our community leaders, and [NCWIT WI Affiliate](#) is thrilled to announce we now have 127 WI honorees this year! We would also like you to join us in congratulating Tania Mishra, a junior at Brookfield Central, and a 2021 NCWIT Aspirations in Computing (AiC) National Winner! We are thrilled to also congratulate, Olivia Eckes (Whitefish Bay, WI), Ellie Ertl (Cedarburg, WI), Rucheng Pan (Brookfield, WI) and Grace Vanden Heuvel (Hortonville, WI) all of whom are 2021 NCWIT AiC National Honorable-Mentions. Congratulations!

- Go Outside Fund - next round of grants due Mar 31, \$100-\$500

<https://www.wisconservation.org/grants/go-outside-fund/> - Get your students outside (yes, even in the winter) and have some extra funds to do something extra cool with them. Grants of \$100-\$500 are due every quarter, next one on Mar 31.

- ASEE Engineering Newsletter for Teachers

[Engineering education newsletter](#) - a great set of resources from the American Society of Engineering Education, it includes grants, integrated STEM units (on artificial heart parts for February!), and student competitions. You can subscribe through a link without being a member.

Student Opportunities

- National Youth Science Camp - student applications due Feb 28

<https://www.nysf.com/w/programs/nyscamp/> - Two students from Wisconsin are accepted to the incredible summer program each year. It is only open to graduating seniors, who connect with nationally known researchers and experts in STEM fields as well as amazing peers from around the country. It takes place from June 28 to July 21. Because it's virtual this year, most of the camp commitment will be from 5 to 9:30pm CT, so students could hold another job or position at the same time. Application page: <https://nysf.smapply.io/>

- 2021 WSST Essay contest - due April 1

<https://www.wsst.org/science-matters> - Teachers can send in one student essay. Essays this year have a range of topics related to water at each grade band, K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12. Each winner receives \$100, as does their teacher.

- Rockets 4 Schools Competition - Launch on May 7,8

<http://www.rockets4schools.org/> - Interested in rocketry and learning to build a rocket? Rockets for Schools will be holding its annual rocket launch for schools in May! For students in grades 6-12. Teams of students construct rockets and compete at the event.

- Women in Aviation Virtual Event - Mar 6, 10:30am

[Information from the Facebook event page](#) – “Your Mission: Explore Aviation in Wisconsin!” is a virtual event for students ages 12+. The Wisconsin chapters of Women in Aviation International will host a free panel discussion with female aviators (pilots, air traffic controllers, and others) in Wisconsin. The event will include a live Q&A and several giveaways, including a \$250 flight training scholarship. Pre-registration is required using this [Google form](#).

- UW-Madison School of Pharmacy Educational Events x3

Check out these virtual pharmacy programs and career exploration opportunities for high school students: **1) [Virtual Pharmacy Program For High School Students](#)** - March 3 - June 2, 2021 Registration deadline: February 28 -----
- **2) [Virtual: UW–Madison Pharmacy Career Exploration Day](#)** - February 27, 2021, 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM ----- **3) [Virtual: UW–Madison PharmD Spring Open House](#)** - March 13, 2021 or April 10, 2021, 9:30 am - 11:45 am

- SpaceSet - Student competition to design a settlement in space.

<https://spaceset.org/> - Space Settlement Design Competitions are industry simulation games for students taking place virtually April 9 - 11 (Friday evening through Sunday early evening). Participating students are divided into four companies, each of which is led by a working professional in the space industry who serves as “CEO.” The companies develop designs for large space settlements in the future as though they were competing for a space settlement contract. In 2021, scenarios involve the planet Mars in the 2060s. This is the East Coast competition, which is welcoming and trying to recruit more competitors, as the Central competition is overbooked. Registration <https://spaceset.org/register>. Cost is \$10/student or students can get a scholarship through writing an essay.

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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