



Hello Science Education Leaders,

I continue to hope you're finding some joy amongst the challenges of this school year. 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. Please, let me know if I can support your science work or work across your district in any way.

Cheers,
Kevin

Learning Opportunities

- [Science Curriculum Materials After-School Discussions](#) - April 12-22
- [Stanford NGSS Assessment Project](#) - Free Online Courses
- [Summer Biotech Courses from BTC Institute](#)
- [STEM Symposiums](#) - webinars from national experts - April 10, 12-15
- [Climate and Sustainability Summits](#) - Menominee Nation and Earth Partnership - April and Summer

Resources

- [Elementary Science Materials](#) (free/OER) from MI State
- [Reframing "Learning Loss"](#) and Advocating for Effective Learning
- [New Elementary Facebook Group](#) for Science and Social Studies
- [Computer Science Resource Listserv](#)
- [NCWIT-WI Affiliate](#): Recognizes 2021 AiC Educator Award Recipients
- [Next.cc "Journeys"](#) - background info and activities on STEM topics

Student Opportunities

- [Engineering Machine Design Contest](#) - register by Apr 2
 - [National Youth Science Camp](#) – deadline Apr 1
 - [X-STEM Speaker Series for Students](#) - April 20-23
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Details

Learning Opportunities

- Science Curriculum Materials After-School Discussions - April 12-22

<https://forms.gle/zmkq1E6kYPTAZQRj9> (Registration link). WSST and DPI will support after-school (3:30 to 4:30) conversation throughout April on instructional materials. The goals of these instructional materials forums will be: 1) Share how people are using the materials and network around their usefulness and any modifications taking place. 2) Share how people are using the materials in hybrid and COVID-constrained teaching environments. Dates and topics: Amplify, K-5 -- Monday, April 12; Amplify, 6-8 -- Tuesday, April 13; OpenSciEd, 6-8 -- Wednesday, April 14; General Middle and Elementary School - SEPUP, HMH, IQWST, Smithsonian, ML-PBL, etc., -- Thursday, April 15; Mystery Science, K-5 -- Tuesday, April 20; All materials, 9-12 -- Thursday, April 22. [Further details](#).

- Stanford NGSS Assessment Project - Free Online Courses

<https://snappse.stanford.edu/snap-courses> - three, free online courses on assessment in NGSS (applies to WSS) that progressively dig deeper into integration of performance tasks. They are starting now.

- Summer Biotech Courses from BTC Institute

<https://www.btc.org/k-12-programs/programs-for-teachers/> - Two courses this summer on the basics of biotechnology - July 12-16 (maybe in-person) and July 26-30 (virtual). Courses are free and teachers receive a \$100/day stipend for attendance.

- STEM Symposiums - webinars from national experts - April 10, 12-15

There are two STEM symposiums in April on math and science topics from national experts. Apr 10 is [this one from STEMScopes](#), which is very low cost for a great line-up of speakers across STEM subjects from 10am to 4pm. Apr 12-15 is [this one from Amplify](#), which is free with one speaker per day.

- Climate and Sustainability Summits - Menominee Nation and Earth Partnership - April and Summer

<http://www.nicrn.org/2021-shifting-seasons-summit.html> - College of Menominee Nation climate change summit on April 19-21, with registration due April

1. <https://earthpartnership.wisc.edu/institutes/> - UW Madison with Wisconsin Tribes and Native partner organizations have a series of summer sustainable ecology summits.

Resources

- Elementary Science Materials (free/OER) from MI State

<https://sites.google.com/view/pblsci/home> - This site provides information on adopting and implementing the Multiple Literacies in Project-Based Learning (ML-PBL) curriculum, which is an NGSS-aligned fully-year curriculum for grades 3-5. There

is professional development available as well, which is flexible based on schools' needs.

- Reframing "Learning Loss" and Advocating for Effective Learning

[Districts have received federal ESSER funds](#) to support their work during the pandemic and more money is on the way from the latest stimulus package. I encourage you to advocate for using that money to truly engage students in meaningful learning and not to do more of the same (i.e., canned programs in math and literacy). [I wrote about this reframing in a recent blog](#). Notably, [research supports](#) science and social studies learning to increase student literacy abilities.

- New Elementary Facebook Group for Science and Social Studies

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1135763476630236> - join an updated Facebook group for elementary educators that is supported by the Wisconsin Society of Science Teachers (WSST), the Wisconsin Council for the Social Studies (WCSS), and DPI. Share and receive ideas, particularly on how inquiry-based learning unite these two subjects.

- Computer Science Resource Listserv

Do you teach computer science or bring computer science resources into your science course? The computer science teachers association of Wisconsin has a wide range of resources and informal meet-ups. Email Joe Kmoch - joe@jkmoch.com - to get on their list.

- NCWIT-WI Affiliate: Recognizes 2021 AiC Educator Award Recipients

[NCWIT-WI Affiliate](#) is thrilled to announce that we have selected three educators who have both supported and motivated young women to consider a path in the field of technology within our local community. We recognize and honor these educators for their commitment and encouraging these students to aim higher and create their own path to success. Congratulations to our Winner, Mark Taylor, Milwaukee Excellence Charter School and Honorable Mentions, Jim Ferwerda, Mukwanago High School and Samantha Kable, New London High School. Thank you for all you do to inspire students!

- Next.cc "Journeys" - background info and activities on STEM topics

<https://www.next.cc> - This site includes general student activity ideas (not in-depth lesson plans) on a wide range of STEM-connected topics, from acid rain to green architecture. These "Journeys" all include useful links to other sites and organizations for further background understanding and exploration - a better place to start than a generic Google search.

Student Opportunities

- Engineering Machine Design Contest - register by Apr 2
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<https://www.stemforward.org/registration-emdc> - a new competition for high school students in the theme of Rube Goldberg machines. Schools can register up to 4 teams of 3-10 students. The competition is April 16th.

- National Youth Science Camp - deadline to apply April 1st

<https://www.nysf.com/w/programs/nyscamp/> - The National Youth Science Camp is a summer program for graduating high school seniors. Students connect with other amazing students from all around the country (each state can send two) and learn from premier national scientists. Applications - <https://nysf.smapply.io/> - are due by April 1. We only have one Wisconsin applicant so far!

- X-STEM Speaker Series for Students - April 20-23

<https://usasciencefestival.org/x-stem-all-access-21/> - This free virtual conference series takes place at 12pm CT each day from April 20-23 and is designed to showcase diversity and inspire students about careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. Each session is 45 minutes long.
