

NSTA's Professional Programs

2012

Science Matters

Science Matters is a major public awareness and engagement campaign designed to rekindle a national sense of urgency and action among schools and families about the importance of science education and science literacy. Science Matters builds on the success of the *Building a Presence for Science* program, first launched in 1997 as an e-networking initiative to assist teachers of science with professional development opportunities. *The Building a Presence for Science* network—now the Science Matters network—reaches readers in 34 states and the District of Columbia.

The Science Matters network is a vehicle for information dissemination and communication. Science Matters provides teachers, parents, and school administrators with teaching resources and information on quality learning experiences in the sciences—starting at an early age—and information on why science education is critical to science literacy and our future workforce.

Additionally, Science Matters hosts a community event at each of the NSTA Area and National Conferences each year. Sponsored by the ExxonMobil Foundation, the Shell Oil Company, and other groups, the free events are for elementary teachers, students, parents, school officials and other community members. The goal is to engage children in exciting hands-on, minds-on activities.



The NSTA-Intel Design & Education Application Studio

The NSTA-Intel Design & Education Application Studio (IDEA Studio) is a collaborative launch platform where the nexus of leading-edge science education

continued...

"... to promote excellence and innovation in science teaching and learning for all."

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NSTA National
Science
Teachers
Association

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research, electronically-empowered professional development, and technology-enabled innovation take flight. The IDEA Studio will explore innovative approaches for technology-driven science education applications with a focus on selection, translation, dissemination, and replication of the very best of those applications.

International Science Education Initiatives

NSTA is committed to better understanding, collecting, analyzing and bringing to the U.S. the most effective science education practices worldwide. In turn, NSTA provides connections, advice, and support to other countries.

To connect science educators from various countries, NSTA holds annual international conferences in conjunction with its national conference. The International Day conference recognizes NSTA's increased emphasis on international collaboration in science education. There are numerous opportunities for international visitors to network with science educators from various cultures, including those from North America.

International Day activities include planned field trips to visit K-12 schools in the area, workshops highlighting science curriculum used in other countries, and sessions featuring speakers from other nations and the U.S.

