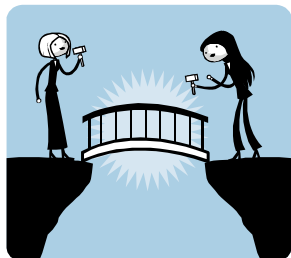


OCTOBER 2008 SCIENCE AND MATH BY INQUIRY NEWS

BUILDING BIG: GIRLS EXPLORE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING



Building Big: Girls Science Saturday was held Saturday, September 20 on the Sweet Briar Campus. The all-day workshop for girls in grades six through nine brought more than 60 girls to campus to build domes and bridges, test materials in Sweet Briar's Engineering lab, and engage in a design challenge.

Building Big activities can be found at <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/buildingbig/>. Another site for activity ideas, sponsored by the American Society for Engineering Education: <http://www.engineeringk12.org/>. Engineering can be linked to multiple science and math SOLs. Contact us if you want to try any of these activities and need help setting them up.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Virginia Commission for the Arts Teacher Incentive Grants

We contacted those of you who were in the Art and Chemistry class this summer about the Virginia Commission for the Arts teacher incentive grants. Due to state budget cuts, the grants may not happen this year. We'll keep you posted on any new developments. You can also visit <http://www.arts.state.va.us/forms/artsed/teacherincentive.html>

Toyota TAPESTRY Grants for Science Teachers

Toyota TAPESTRY recognizes outstanding educators who are making a difference by demonstrating excellence and creativity in science teaching. This year, 50 large grants of up to \$10,000 each and 20-32 min-grants of up to \$2,500 will be awarded to k-12 teachers of science in the United States. The categories are Physical Science Application, Environmental Science Education, and Integrating Literacy and Science. For guidelines, go to www.nsta.org/pd/tapestry/guidelines.htm
Deadline: Jan. 21, 2009.

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grants



Teachers have used Lowe's grants to establish reading gardens, walking trails, playgrounds, and art exhibits at their schools. For guidelines, go to <http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/>

Deadline: October 17

**Something for your students:
Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision Awards program**

ExploraVision encourages K-12 students to create and explore a vision of future technology by combining their imaginations with the tools of science. Up to \$240,000 in savings bonds will be awarded to teams of two to four students researching scientific principles and current technologies as the basis for designing innovative technologies that could exist in 20 years. The deadline for the competition is January 28, 2009. For more information or an application, visit www.exploravision.org or e-mail exploravision@nsta.org.

Got an idea for a grant? We can help you write the proposal. Contact project assistant Jessica Griffith at jgriffith@sbc.edu.

“TO QUESTION WELL IS TO TEACH WELL”

At the heart of inquiry is... well, inquiry. By answering your students' questions with questions, you encourage them to think carefully about what they say, defend their thoughts, and think more deeply about the subject at hand. Yes, it is a more challenging way of teaching, but the benefits to the students in the long run are priceless.



Good Questions for Math Teaching by Lainie Schuster and Nancy Canavan

Anderson was given to all the teacher-participants in the summer Measurements workshop; it's full of questions that lead to activities for grades five through eight. Contact Arlene Vinion-Dubiel, dubiel@sbc.edu, your instructional support specialist, for ordering information.

And don't forget to fill out the ISS survey any time you work with Arlene. It's important for our ongoing funding from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=SvmTP_2b2t0QOxQ5ZRBU4CPg_3d_3d

For more information about our programs, go to www.sxi.sbc.edu



State Council of
Higher Education for Virginia