

The Learning Center: The National Science Teachers Association's Personalized Professional Learning Portal for Science Educators

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NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

✕ Join over 192,000 science teaching
professionals.
Learn today, your way.



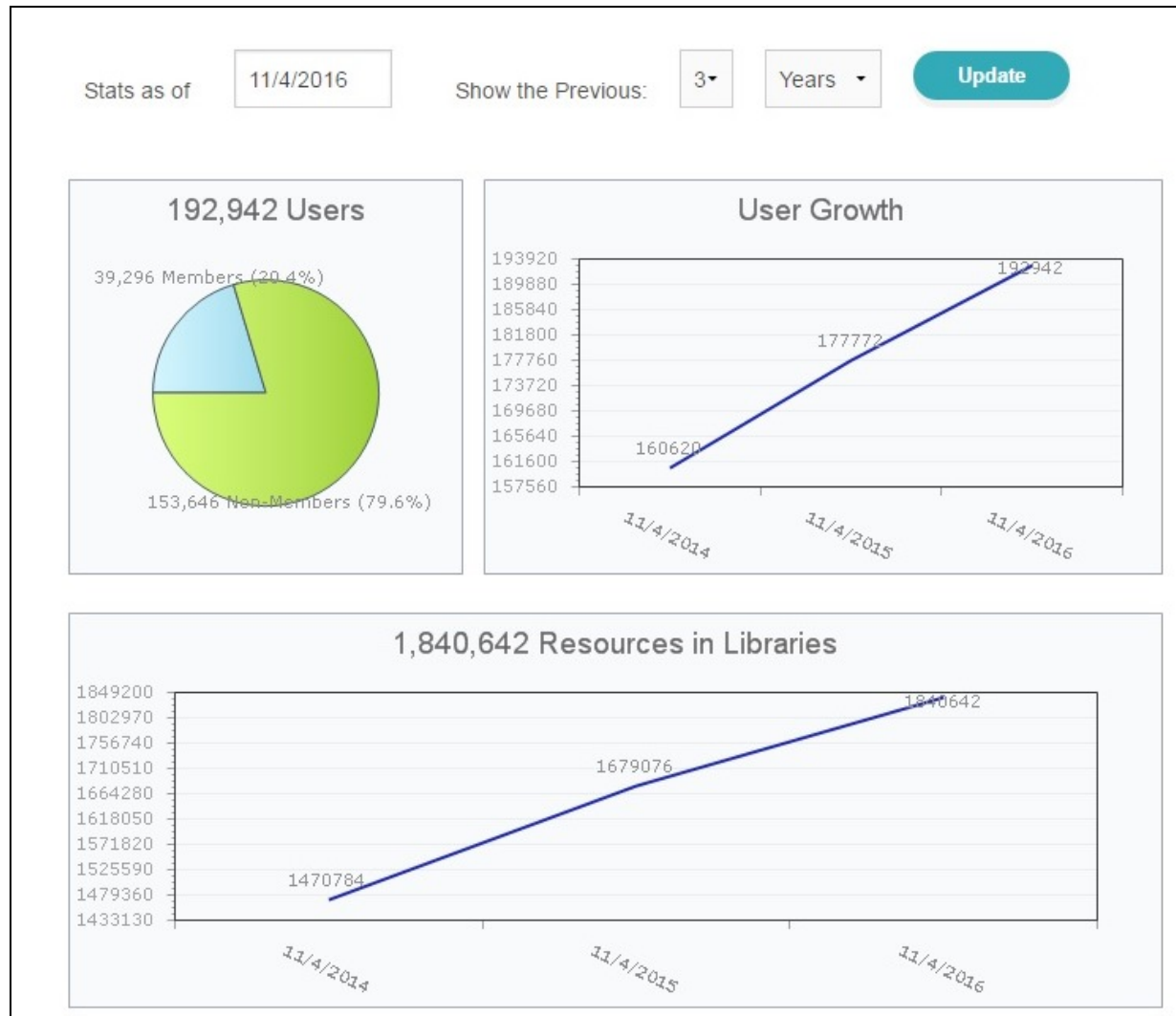
- › Gauge your knowledge in 25 content areas
- › Explore thousands of resources: lesson plans, articles, book chapters, and more
- › Attend events, online and in-person
- › Track your professional learning goals and activities
- › Connect with others through 14 topical forums or via private messaging
- › Research-based and Proven: See our Impact (awards, testimonials, research)

The NSTA Learning Center

- Access to 12,000+ lessons, resources, opportunities, and interactives (simulations, animations)
- Free tools to help teachers diagnose, organize, personalize, and document their learning
- Free access to online advisors and colleague discussion forums
- Innovative recognition system with badges tied to personal profiles and dashboards

<http://learningcenter.nsta.org>

The screenshot displays the NSTA Learning Center website. At the top, the NSTA logo and navigation links (Welcome, Flavio! | Log Out | My Profile | Help | Admin) are visible. Below the header, a large banner promotes joining over 180,000 science teaching professionals. A sidebar on the left lists navigation options like Learning Center Home, Explore All Resources, and Events & Opportunities. The main content area features sections for 'Upcoming Events' (listing the National Conference in Nashville, STEM Forum & Expo, and Area Conferences in Minneapolis and Portland) and 'Now in the Learning Center' (highlighting a book 'Hard-to-Teach Science Concepts' and a user review of 'Inquiry in the Classroom').



Growth trend over the last three years

Integrating high quality content with moderated discourse to improve personal practice:

I use the Learning Center to ***share ideas*** that I have and ***learn more about the ideas of others***. What I've found in our practice is that, ***if you isolate yourself, it basically stunts your growth...*** there's no follow-up or conversation with other educators... ***So the opportunity to talk "education" in these forums is very valuable,*** you get insights from other people regarding these resources. In that way ***it has been very crucial to my growth*** as an educator...



See: <http://learningcenter.nsta.org/impact/impact>

Forums & User Community

Search

Posts & People

Search

Public Forums: Science Disciplines

Chemistry

Early Childhood

Earth and Space Science

Elementary Science

General Science and Teaching

Informal Science

Life Science

Physical Science



29 PEOPLE ONLINE



8005 TOPICS



75682 POSTS

Users with Similar Interests



Patricia Lucido



George Mehler



Nora McDevitt



Nancy Queathem-Haupt



Chris Herald

My Discussions

Recent Posts by Me

Thu Jul 28,
2016

All

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards also has some videos of teacher practice across the grade bands and disciplines. The videos come with identified standards, linking to highlighted teacher reflections and links to instructional resources demonstrated in the videos of practice.

Public Forums: Science Disciplines

Chemistry

Early Childhood

Earth and Space Science

Elementary Science

General Science and Teaching

Informal Science

Life Science

Physical Science

STEM

Public Forums: Pedagogy and Research

Evaluation and Assessment

New Teachers

Next Generation Science Standards

Professional Development

Research in Science Education

Recent Posts

[First Day of School Science Activities](#) | Posted in Life Science

The First Day of School is a nerve-racking experience for many students because they do not know what to expect from classes and teachers. Therefore, I find it important to give students a snapshot of how the class works. For teachers implementing inquiry-based learning practices, they need to demonstrate to students that they will never know what to expect in class, because they are in control of their own learning outcomes. Teachers could create a framework for a problem or project, allow students to work collaboratively, and bring students back together for a discussion on what they learned. The majority of suggestions for middle and high school science first day of school demonstrations are student-centered approaches where students are introduced to the scientific process. Teachers could provide guidelines to inquiry that help students think metacognitively and diverse assessments that analyze student's understanding.



Payton
Blankenship

Popular Topics

- [STEM](#)
- [Lab Safety](#)
- [Outdoor Activities](#)
- [Pluto](#)
- [NGSS](#)
- [Engineering Practices](#)
- [Science Notebooks](#)
- [Weather and Climate](#)
- [Forces and Motion](#)
- [Genetics](#)

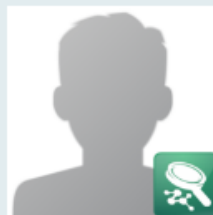
Most Active This Week



Victoria Blair



Laura Davis



Dorothy Patterson



Kate Tummino

Users may create topics of interest or join an on-going discussion. The forums are integrated with the user's profile

Public Forums: Science Disciplines ▲

Chemistry

Early Childhood

Earth and Space Science

Elementary Science

General Science and Teaching

Informal Science

Life Science

Physical Science

STEM

Public Forums: Pedagogy and Research ▲

Evaluation and Assessment

New Teachers











Next Generation Science Standards

Professional Development

Research in Science Education

Earth and Space Science

* NEW TOPIC

Topics	Activity	Last Post
Earth Hour 2015  by Robin Willig Sat Mar 28, 2015 8:15 AM	10 Replies 548 Views	 by Shelbi Ingle Yesterday, 5:28 PM
How to Get Students to Look At the Night Sky  by Adah Stock Thu Aug 14, 2014 2:03 PM	41 Replies 1051 Views	 by Caitlin Woods Mon Oct 12, 2015 1:33 PM
Teaching Earth Science for the first time  by Brendan Trache Tue Sep 01, 2015 8:33 PM	4 Replies 208 Views	 by George Mehler Fri Oct 09, 2015 10:17 AM
the solar system to scale  by Dennis Ma Fri Sep 18, 2015 11:28 PM	1 Reply 84 Views	 by Michelle Alban Sun Oct 04, 2015 4:54 PM
Teaching Space Science- Soalr system  by Sara Kinyon Tue Sep 06, 2011 4:31 PM	80 Replies 12035 Views	 by Brittany Vogel Sun Oct 04, 2015 12:20 PM

Users may respond to forum posts directly from their email client

6 New Posts From the Community Today - Message (HTML)


File Message ESET Adobe PDF

Delete Reply Reply All Forward Quick Steps Move Tags Editing Zoom

From: ☐ NSTA Learning Center <learningcenterhelp@nsta.org> Sent: Sun 9/18/2016 4:02 AM
To: ☒ Al Byers
Cc:
Subject: 6 New Posts From the Community Today

Getting girls involved in Science
NSTA Learning Center Community Forum Daily Summary

[NSTA Forums](#) >> [Elementary Science](#) >> [Getting girls involved in Science](#)

 Getting girls involved in Science
by [Susan Nguyen](#) - Sat Sep 17, 2016 2:54 PM

I think many girls when they think of science the first thing that comes to their minds is that it is only for boys. That is why we should educate them that both girls and boys can be interested in science. I found a link that I thought might be helpful for you and hope that it helps you a little!

<http://www.edutopia.org/blog/5-ways-girls-involved-STEM-karen-purcell>

[Reply to this post via email](#)
[See this post in context on the website](#)

[Send Susan Nguyen a Private Message](#)

[Start a new topic in the Elementary Science forum](#)

Community Forums Usage Stats

As of 10/28, 7,429 users have created over 8,200 topics, and made 76,648 posts.

Regarding non-posters, we don't have an exact count, but we know that there are about 4,000 page views per month in the forums.

Frequency
Distribution:

Number of Unique Users	Number of posts made
2,207	1
1,046	2
612	3
442	4
837	5
411	6
309	7

1,555 unique users
have made at least 8
posts to the forums

NSTA Dilemma: Finding Useful Information in the NSTA LC Community Forums

The NSTA Learning Center Community Forums are a popular destination for users of the professional learning portal, with over 7,300 users creating over 8,200 topics, and generating over 76,000 posts.

The users' challenge is that there is so much content in the forums that it can make them hard to navigate and to easily find the best discussions.

How would you design the forums to provide users with an enhanced experience, so they are able to easily navigate through the individual topics, allowing them to quickly identify relevant discussions and like-minded individuals to whom with connect for the purpose of future collaborations.