

Newsletter**Special Interest Articles**

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Individual Highlights

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Teacher Spotlight

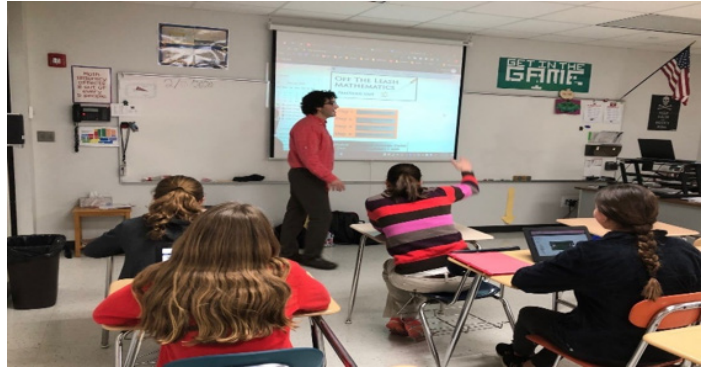
Kevin Gill has been teaching mathematics at Edgewood Junior High for 21 years. The first half of his career was spent working his way through as much of the textbook with the students as they could possibly squeeze in each year. Ten years of doing this will make anyone question their methodology. Just as frustration was starting to set in with the "normal" way of doing things, Richland-Bean Blossom Schools presented the math department with the opportunity to either renew their textbook contract or acquire classroom sets of Netbooks, which were just small PCs. Opting for the netbooks was the catalyst for Kevin seeking out an online place to host his courses, and eventually stumbling upon Rose-PRISM as the perfect place to do that.

Despite the rest of Richland-Bean Blossom's push toward Google Classroom, Kevin and much of the math and science department have stayed with Rose-PRISM's Moodle server for its flexibility, reliability, and the ability to customize courses. Rose-PRISM makes it easy to set up your course just the way you want it, but also go back and make adjustments when you realize your brilliant idea on how to present a topic was actually terrible.

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Teacher Spotlight

Rose-PRISM, in conjunction with Google Drive, is where the entirety of Kevin's materials are stored and presented for his students. The bell work for the day is either accessed by the students on their course or projected for the entire class from the course. A huge benefit of using Rose-PRISM has been the ability to keep absent students abreast of what is going on in the classroom while they are gone. Being able to post assignments, or video explanations of a concept they have missed is crucial to avoid creating those gaps next year's math teacher would be dealing with otherwise. Rose-PRISM has also allowed Kevin to develop three different self-paced courses that his students work through during their 6th grade year. From organized links to external sites the students need to work in, to self-graded quizzes they can take within Moodle that provide instant feedback to the teacher, to a myriad of resources that can be organized and linked for students to easily access, Rose-PRISM allows the teacher to take control of the design of their course to serve their students' best interests.



Resources for Teachers

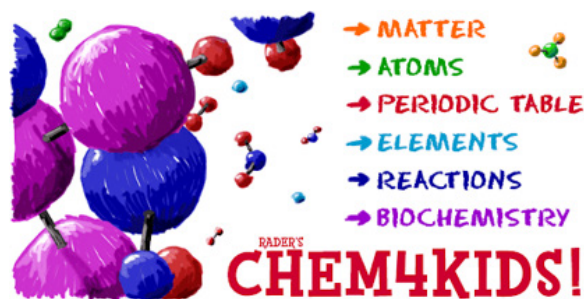
Ducksters



Ducksters is a fantastic education website that has resources for the content areas of History, Geography, all Science areas, and many Biographies of inventors and other important people in history. It is a fun and a very educational website. Their information for each of the content areas are provided in an interesting and informative format and all are much easier to read particularly for K-12 students. The website is fantastic for introducing tougher concepts in science to middle and even high school level students. Quality content can be found for Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Environmental Science and Astronomy. And within each of these disciplines, there is a set of very comprehensive conceptual units of study. If a teacher wants to start their students off with some tougher concepts in chemistry or physics, Ducksters is not a bad place to start and build content from that point. Ducksters can also serve as a good reference to send students to for study in given content areas.

For more information go to: [Ducksters](#).

CHEM4KIDS



CHEM4KIDS is a great website to utilize to introduce many chemistry concepts to middle school students and even students in lower level chemistry courses. Some of the basic concepts of chemistry such as Matter, Atoms / Basic Atomic Structure, Introduction to the Periodic Table and the Elements, and Chemical Reactions are introduced in a unique and informative manner. It has “easy to read” content that can make “grasping” chemistry content easier for students. CHEM4KIDS can be a good resource for teachers to refer students to that are having a tough time learning some of the basic concepts in chemistry. It is not a comprehensive resource for chemistry by any means; however, it could be used well for getting some struggling students started with chemistry concepts.

For more information go to: [CHEM4KIDS](#).

2020 Sustainable Alternative Energies Summer Boot Camp

An Intensive "Boot Camp" Teacher Training Combining Academic Professional Development with Vocational Site Visits to Alternative Energy Providers

Thanks to funding provided by: Frank and Becky Levinson

Where: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Campus

When: July 12 - July 17, 2020

From July 12 - July 17, Rose-Hulman PRISM will be facilitating the Sustainable Alternative Energies Summer Boot Camp. The boot camp takes place on the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology campus. Secondary and Middle School (6-12) STEM teachers teaching units in their curriculum on sustainable energies are invited to submit an application. The purpose of this institute is to provide the teachers a true "boot camp experience" in sustainable alternative energies combining academic professional development with vocational site visits to some alternative energy providers in Indiana.

During the institute, teachers are to be developing standards-based, practical and comprehensive lessons for units on sustainable alternative energies. Time will be given each day to help guide the development of lesson plans. Teachers will also be given time to share their ideas and collaborate each day.

Upon completion, and after fully participating in the institute, each teacher will receive a kit of supplies containing materials for all the lab activities done during the institute. Teachers can also receive, upon completion of the institute, 45 Professional Growth Points (PGP's) to apply on their Indiana Teacher's License renewal.

All participants will be housed in a residence hall on the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology campus during the institute. Meals will be provided through the Food & Dining Services (Café Bon Appetit) in the student union.

Eligibility Requirements:

Teachers must be active Indiana Secondary or Middle School STEM teachers teaching units on sustainable energies.

Priority will be given to teachers that have 0-10 years of teaching experience.

Main Topics

U.S. Power Grid

Energy Conservation

Solar Energy

Wind Energy

Coal-fired Power Plants

Natural Gas Combined-Cycle Power Plants

Site visits could include:

Benton County Wind Energy Farms

Hoosier Energy Merom Power Plant, Merom, IN

MISO Headquarters, Carmel, IN

NIPSCO Power Plant, West Terre Haute, IN

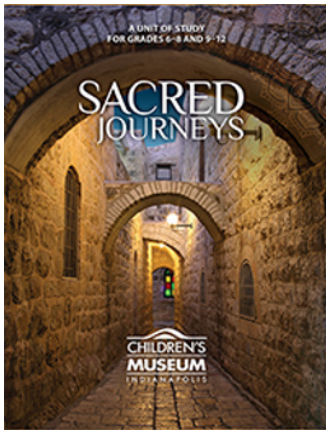
Natural Gas Power Plants

Apply online at the [PRISM website](#). You must create an account on our website. After creating an account, you will need to click on Event Registration on the front page (left-hand side under Main Menu). Then, click on the drop-down menu and select: **Sustainable Energy Experience 2020**.

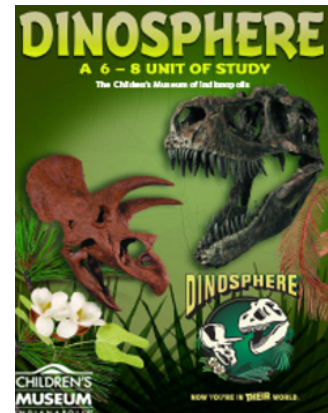
Classroom Resources



The Children's Museum of Indianapolis has some fantastic resources for K-9 teachers in Indiana. Check out the standards-based units of study covering a wide variety of topics. All units are written by trained educators. Units can be used on their own as lessons / activities in a teacher's classroom or can serve as a complement to a museum visit. Units include vocabulary, stories, fact sheets, games, experience ideas, engaging worksheets, and more. Units cover topics relating to past and present museum exhibits, including:



- Trains and transportation
- Dinosaurs
- Food and fitness
- Science
- Flight
- Art
- Archaeology
- Biotechnology
- Racism and discrimination



For further information and details about these resources go to: [Children's Museum Teacher Resources](#).

Teacher Education Kits



The Indianapolis Zoo has education kits that are designed to engage and educate students with hands-on activities focused on animal at the Zoo and around the world. Popular with both full-time teachers and parents who home school their children, these science kits include a teacher's manual, books, artifacts, activities and more. Education kits may be rented for two weeks for a \$10 rental fee. Kits are to be picked up and returned at the Zoo's Hix Institute between the hours of 9am-5pm Monday-Friday. Education kit topics include:

- Nature Tales
- Elephants
- Polar Animals
- Sensory Kit
- Indiana Wildlife
- Conservation
- Amphibians and Reptiles
- Life Cycles



For further information and details about these resources go to: [Indianapolis Zoo Teacher Resources](#).

SPARK! Competition at Rose-Hulman

Rose Building Undergraduate Diversity (Rose-BUD) is a networking and professional development organization focused on increasing women and underrepresented groups inclusion in the Rose-Hulman Computer Science and Software Engineering (CSSE) as well as the Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) departments. Rose-BUD will be hosting the annual Spark! competition on March 14th, a design competition created to increase high school students' interests in engineering, regardless of their current background or their future plans. This year's competition is based around music, to encourage interest in STEM and the arts (STEAM).

To sign up for the Spark! competition visit the [Spark! page](#) and fill out the info at the bottom of the page. The deadline to apply is March 9th.

The Rose-BUD program also offers scholarships to increase the number of women and other underrepresented groups in CSSE and ECE. To apply for the Rose-BUD scholarship as a high school senior, visit the [Rose-BUD page](#). The deadline to apply is February 1st.

What PRISM Can Do For You!

- Easily find the perfect teaching and learning resources from our library of over 5,000.
- Store your classroom materials online so that they are available to you from any computer.
- Select from free learning resources that emphasize visualization, rich context, staged-problem solving, and electronically enabled collaboration / communication.
- Save a list of your favorite resources for quick retrieval.
- Reach your students more effectively by using web media for the digital age.
- Augment your own dynamic presence in the classroom with teaching tools that mirror the skills needed for success in higher education and the 21st Century workplace.
- Create and share lesson plans that teach your subjects utilizing your favorite resources.
- Earn PGP points by completing PRISM led online Moodle course – either Beginning Moodle or Intermediate Moodle courses are available to you at no cost several times throughout the year.

Through our strong support from the [Lilly Endowment](#) and others, we are constantly growing and improving. Check our site regularly to see what new resources you can use in your classroom.

www.rose-prism.org