

## Newsletter

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## Summer 2017 Moodle Training Courses

We are offering six FREE online training courses beginning in June. We offer Professional Growth Plan (PGP) points for each course.

### Basic Moodle for Teachers (10 PGP Points)

Session 1: June 6 - July 4

Session 2: July 11 - August 8

A basic introduction to Moodle 3.3. You will learn how to build a classroom course and populate it with files, assignments and quizzes.

### Intermediate Moodle for Teachers (10 PGP Points)

Session 1: June 7 - July 5

Session 2: July 12 - August 9

A continuation from the Basic Moodle for Teachers course. Choose this course if you already have Moodle experience and would like to learn how to use some of the more advanced features like wikis, databases, lessons, and RSS feeds.

### Advanced Moodle for Teachers (10 PGP Points)

Session 1: June 8 - July 6

Session 2: July 13 - August 10

A continuation from the Intermediate Moodle for Teachers course. This course will take the Intermediate level course a step further as participants learn advanced gradebook features, groups and groupings, conditional activities, and the workshop activity module.

All of the courses are completed online at your-own-pace during your own free time.

If you would like to register for a course, please visit the PRISM website, login, and click the 'Event Registration' link. Use the drop-down menu to select the appropriate course and click the 'Registration Form' button. You will see a complete description of the course. To sign up, scroll down and enter your information. You should receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please contact us.

## Center for STEM Education for Girls



The [Harpeth Hall School](#) is transforming STEM educational opportunities for girls through its Center for STEM Education for Girls. We aim to increase girls' participation in science, technology, engineering, and math studies K-20 and to encourage them to aspire to STEM careers. We have been highlighted by Edudemic as having one of the "7 Powerful STEM Resources for Girls." Author Katie Lepi adds, "The statistics surrounding STEM education and jobs in the US are rather staggering to me. The latest that I've read indicate that US students are still trailing WAY behind other nations in Science and Math education (US ranks 47th in Math and Science education quality, and

78% of high school graduates don't meet the standard levels for at least one entry level STEM class). To top it off, there's a pretty strong gender divide in the STEM subjects: Many fewer girls are interested in even studying these subjects, and they don't feel at all confident about their skills. However, Harpeth Hall's Center for STEM Education for Girls is turning tide in this area."

Explore our Center's website to find the following:

- [STEM Think Tank and Conference](#) – the nation's sole conference focused on females with input from university educators and corporate members that has grown out of the K12 schools
- [STEM Consortium](#) – information on our leadership
- [STEM Resources](#) – a variety of types including student competitions, recommended journals for teachers, STEM websites with evaluations, and research to practice highlights

Funding for our Center for STEM Education for Girls comes from an Edward E. Ford Foundation Leadership Grant. Harpeth Hall is grateful to the Edward E. Ford Foundation and to the generous donors to date who have provided essential match funding. Major match donors include: Lenovo, The Melkus Family Foundation, and Nissan North America, Inc. Other generous match donors include: Anonymous (2), The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, Dell, Inc, Diane and James Mulloy, The Memorial Foundation, Regions Bank, and Virtucom.

If you need to reach the Center directly, please email at [stem@harpethhall.org](mailto:stem@harpethhall.org).



The I-STEM Resource Network is a partnership of public and private higher education institutions, K-12 schools, businesses, and government, hosted by Purdue University. I-STEM started in 2006 as a collaboration among 18 institutions of higher education in 10 regions throughout Indiana. I-STEM includes committees comprised of educational content experts and practitioners who come together to design and employ programs to address STEM issues. I-STEM supports K–12 teachers and education leaders working to implement high academic standards towards STEM literacy for all students. It also provides Indiana education leaders with new knowledge about teaching and learning.



I-STEM has many great corporate partners such as Lilly, Biocrossroads, Dow AgroSciences, OrthoWorx, Cook Medical, Cummins, Roche Diagnostics, Crane Naval Surface Weapons Center, and Rolls Royce. I-STEM welcomes partnerships with all the STEM businesses in Indiana.

I-STEM is funded by the Lilly Endowment, the Eli Lilly Company Foundation, Biocrossroads, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, and the Indiana Department of Education, and support from Purdue University.

Rose-Hulman PRISM is partner in the I-STEM Resource Network.

For more information: <https://www.istemnetwork.org/>

## INDIANA STEM ACTION COALITION

The I-STEM Resource Network leads a group called the Indiana STEM Action Coalition (STEM-AC), focusing on specific policy imperatives developed by the national STEM organization Change the Equation. The STEM-AC group now numbers over 115 people and includes representatives from schools, colleges and universities across the state as well as Project Lead the Way, the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, the Indiana Department of Education, many businesses, and many non-profits.

Recently the STEM-AC committee completed the policy guidance for I-STEM. The goal is to provide knowledgeable, fact-based policy advice to Indiana's education decision makers so that education and workforce development policies promote STEM education aligned with research-based educational practices and STEM careers. In October 2012 over 100 representatives from business, government, and higher education attended the STEM Coalition meeting in Indianapolis to learn about the Vital Signs for Indiana, published by Change the Equation (<http://changetheequation.org/>), which describes the current state of affairs for STEM education in each state. The attendees broke into working groups and used Change the Equation's Principles for STEM Policy to identify nine principles to advance STEM education. Subsequently the policy principles were consolidated into five key areas:



1. Set high expectations for student learning in STEM disciplines.
2. Ensure effective STEM teachers in every classroom and out-of-school setting.
3. Develop, advance, and evaluate effective STEM strategies and programs.
4. Align learning and curricular resources to standards.
5. Provide students with relevant, up-to-date information and mentoring on STEM careers.

Working groups in these areas were formed at a second STEM-AC meeting in February 2013. These groups have researched approaches that work in other states and completed policy recommendations for moving forward in Indiana. The groups met in June 2013 to finalize these policies and look for overlap, synergies and roadblocks. The output from this workshop has been used to create specific policy initiatives for STEM-AC to take forward to the IDOE, the Governor's advisors on education and workforce, and various legislative committees. Now we are working closely on specific budget and policy proposals to support STEM education in Indiana. Our meeting in April 2014 established a coalition organization to unite various interest segments to address these policies.

## Here's a Fun Way to Teach Fractions Using Pool Noodles Keep your math students' interest afloat!

by Kimberley Moran We Are Teachers April 2017

<https://www.weareteachers.com/teach-fractions-fun-using-pool-noodles/>

You can buy pool noodles for \$1.00 a pop at any dollar store. With summer on the horizon, they're readily in stock. Pool noodles have multiple uses in the classroom, but they're extra helpful when they're keeping your math learners' interest afloat. Check out this trick to make teaching fractions fun for students by using pool noodles.

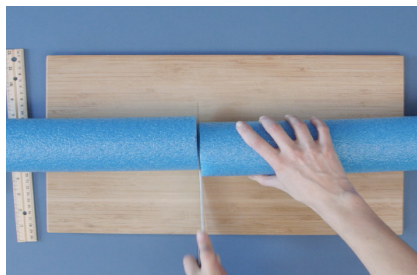
### What You Need

To make this hands-on activity, which can be used at a center or for independent word work, all you need is:

- Pool noodles in at least two different colors
- Cutting board
- Knife
- Permanent marker

### What to Do:

1. Measure 12 inches on a noodle.
2. Cut at the 12-inch mark.
3. Write the number one on the piece.
4. Cut the other color of pool noodle into two 6-inch pieces. Write  $\frac{1}{2}$  and .5 on each.
5. Cut the first color of noodle into three 4-inch pieces for  $\frac{1}{3}$  (.3), then alternate colors for four 3-inch pieces for  $\frac{1}{4}$  (.25), six 2-inch pieces for  $\frac{1}{6}$  (.16), and eight 1.5-inch pieces for  $\frac{1}{8}$  (.125).





## Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers

### 2-Day Professional Development Workshop for Middle and High School Science Teachers

Dates: June 20-21, 2017

Times: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Location: Noblesville East Middle School, 1625 Field Dr. Noblesville, 46060 ([map](#))

Room: 1231

Workshop is limited.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

- Work in small groups on activities you can use in your classroom.
- Bring your laptop to review new lesson plans and discuss with group.
- Earn Professional Development Points!
- Limited assistance is available to qualifying teachers to help offset expenses such as travel and daycare expenses. To qualify, you must be a middle or high school science teacher present for both days of the workshop. Assistance will be assigned in the order in which you register.

Participants will learn how to present material, receive scientific data and research to present to their students and receive activities and lesson plans, and a PowerPoint.

## What PRISM Can Do For You!

- Easily find the perfect teaching and learning resources from our library of over 4,000.
- Save a list of your favorite resources for quick retrieval.
- Create and share lesson plans that teach your subjects utilizing your favorite resources.
- Develop online classrooms with interactive assignments, lessons, quizzes and more!
- Store your classroom materials online so that they are available to you from any computer.
- Reach your students more effectively by using web media for the digital age.
- 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.
- Select from free learning resources that emphasize visualization, rich context, staged-problem solving, and electronically enabled collaboration / communication.
- 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.

*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](http://www.rose-prism.org)



PRISM is a free website that provides collections of online resources for Indiana educators in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The primary collection of digital teaching materials is indexed according to the Indiana Academic Standards for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade and secondary education courses.