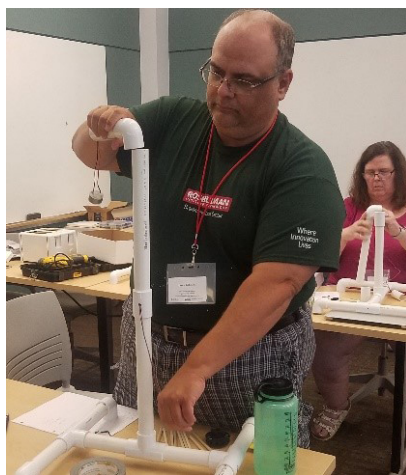


**Newsletter****Special Interest Articles**

- Teacher Spotlight

**Individual Highlights**

- Resources for Teachers
- Professional Development Opportunities
- Leap into Science

**Teacher Spotlight**

PRISM's spotlight teacher this month is Jasen Gibbens from Terre Haute, Indiana. Jasen graduated from Northview H.S. in Brazil, Indiana and now holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminology, Manufacturing Technology and Technology Education. As a former process engineer at GE Aviation, he discovered that manufacturing workers are in short supply in this country. Jasen believes that manufacturing "at home" is the key to our country's success. He feels that it is his duty to his country to teach manufacturing in order to train the workers this country so desperately needs. Jasen left

his engineering position, went back to school and was the first in the State of Indiana to obtain a REPA license for teaching CTE.

Jasen has taught at the Career Academy of South Bend and at the Warsaw Area Career Center, which is a part of Warsaw Community Schools. He has been trained in all the Project Lead the Way engineering curricula along with Conexis I and II. Jasen completed this training as an Ivy Tech adjunct. Jasen now enjoys teaching at McLean High School in Terre Haute, Indiana. Teaching at the alternative school is very rewarding to him because he feels he can truly make a difference in the lives of these students. During 2018-2019, Jasen won a \$5,000.00 grant from the Vigo County Education Foundation to purchase "littleBits" which is an electronic Legos Education system for his classroom. He has used the Legos system exclusively in his classroom and has used them in cross-curricular STEM projects with both Art and History classes at McLean High School.

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## Teacher Spotlight

Along with his regular classroom teaching duties, Jasen is the coach for the Rose-Hulman / Vigo County Schools First Robotics Team 5188, Classified Robotics. This team was runner up in the State during Jasen's first year as coach. Jasen is confident that they will win the State of Indiana robotics competition this year. This team is comprised of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology students as mentors, high school aged, home school students and students attending all Vigo County High Schools. Jasen believes this concept is important to draw the best of the best of Vigo County onto one team to compete with the best of the best in Indiana.

Jasen considers himself a life-long learner. He is presently working on his Master's degree in Curriculum at ISU. Jasen participated in one of PRISM's Sustainable Alternative Energies Boot Camps at Rose-Hulman during the summer of 2019. Jasen subscribes to numerous STEM related digital periodicals in order to keep up with the latest in all types of technology advancements.

Jasen thinks education is one of the greatest resources/assets of the state of Indiana. He chose to be a teacher because he wants to be a change agent for making the education system better. High expectations of staff and administration along with a partnership with parents should be the rule, not the exception, for outstanding schools. As an educator, he feels that the parents are the primary educators, while the schools should follow along as the secondary educator. The role of the schools should be to challenge the students with specific goals and ideas to lead them into adulthood in a chosen career path.



## Resources for Teachers

BioEd Online is a website maintained at Baylor College of Medicine. Online educational resources are available for all including teachers, parents and students. Their goal is to provide useful, accurate and current information and materials that build and enhance upon the skills and knowledge of basic science principles. Types of resources on the BioEd Online website include streaming video presentations, a

slide library and inquiry-based lessons and activities. Resources include storybooks, articles, hands-on activities, student worksheets and current science news. BioEd Online is updated regularly with pertinent new slides in the slide library, presentations on breakthrough research, reviews, and runs virtual workshops for educators.



Find more information at [BioEd Online](#)



Edmodo is a global education network that helps to connect all learners with the people and resources needed to reach their full potential. Edmodo is used in 190 countries, in over 400,000 schools and 7,400 school districts. It was founded in 2008 by Nic Borg, Jeff O'Hara and Crystal Hutter. The Edmodo network enables teachers to share content, distribute quizzes, assignments, and manage communication with students, colleagues, and parents. Edmodo is very teacher-

centric in their design and philosophy: students and parents can only join Edmodo if invited to do so by a teacher. It's free to use, but also offers premium services.

For more information go to: [Edmodo](#)

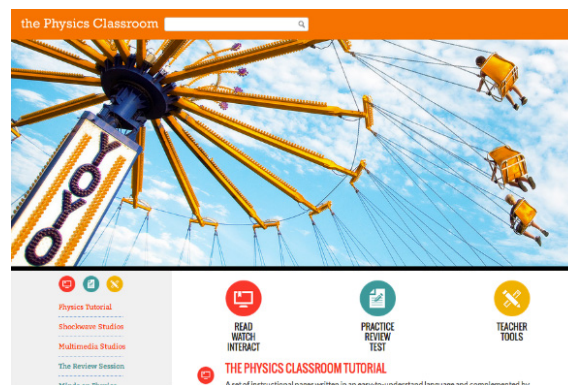
## Resources for Teachers



Collen King from Wellesley Hills, MA created Math Playground in 2006. Math Playground provides a fun way for students in K-6 math classes to practice math. The website has a wide variety of math topics ranging from problem-solving and real-world math applications to mathematical art. There are math games, logic games, a math arcade, math videos and math stories available in the wide variety of resources. A Puzzle Playground has also been added to the collection of resources.

To learn more go to: [Math Playground](https://www.mathplayground.com/)

The Physics Classroom is an online, free physics website developed primarily for beginning physics students and their teachers. The website is intended to support both teachers and students. The Physics Classroom Tutorial is the most popular section of the website. The tutorial section covers basic physics topics using informative graphics and an easy-to-understand language. Units are divided into lessons and sub-lessons. A lesson resembles the type and extent of coverage typically done in a typical class. The sub-lessons are accompanied by Check Your Understanding sections, providing an opportunity to assess one's understanding of the lesson material. The Tutorial, when combined with other sections at this site, provides a student of physics a great opportunity to learn and to test their physics understanding.



Other popular sections of the website include the Minds On Physics Internet Modules (commonly referred to as MOP), The Calculator Pad, and The Review Session. The MOP modules provide a student with an intense, interactive exercise in answering questions that target common conceptual misunderstandings. Feedback is provided to students upon completion of sessions. When a pattern of missing is observed, students are directed to question-specific help that will assist in correcting misunderstandings. The Calculator Pad provides students an exercise in solving physics word problems. Each problem is accompanied by an answer and an audio file that provides detailed direction on how to solve the problem.

For more information go to: [The Physics Classroom](https://www.physicsclassroom.com/)

## Professional Development Opportunities

### 2019 ICTM FALL Conference

#### Math Teachers as TRANSFORMERS: Transforming Learning, Transforming Lives



The Indiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) Conference will be September 29 – 30, 2019 at the Marriott East in Indianapolis Indiana. Plenary speakers will be Christa Jackson, Associate Professor of Mathematics Education at Iowa State University; Alfie Kohn, author of *The Schools Our Children Deserve*; and, Michael Steele, President of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators.

A conference flyer is available here: [2019 Fall Conference](#)

For more information go to: <http://ictm.onefireplace.org/2019-Fall-Conference>

### Webinar on Rural Informal STEM Education

In September 2018, a group of innovators and experts in rural STEM learning taking place outside of school were brought together. They were brought together to discuss the overall status of informal, out-of-school STEM learning in rural locations. They did work on the following: How do we define rural places? What are promising practices in diversity, equity and inclusion in the defined rural locations? How can STEM programs build community support for their work? How can such programs assess their impacts adequately and appropriately?

This webinar is setup to share the findings of this group. The webinar is open to all people interested. If you are interested in participating in the webinar, you must register ahead of time.

You can register for the webinar at: <https://airtable.com/shrZTX58tVNe0OEzL>



## Leap into Science



The Indiana State Museum, Indiana State Library, Early Learning Indiana and Terre Haute Children's Museum are collaborating to host trainings for educators on the Leap into Science curriculum.

Leap into Science is a nationwide program developed by The Franklin Institute Science Museum that integrates open-ended science activities with children's books, designed for children ages 3-10 and their families. The program empowers educators to offer workshops in community settings like libraries, museums, and out-of-school time programs to engage underserved audiences in accessible and familiar settings.

Leap into Science is funded by National Science Foundation, and led by The Franklin Institute and The National Girls Collaborative Project.

Visit the [Leap into Science](http://Leap into Science) website for more information about this program.

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## 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.
- Develop online classrooms with interactive assignments, lessons, quizzes and more!

*Through our strong support from the [Lilly Endowment](http://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)