FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY
SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS
EDUCATION INSTITUTE

SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS EDUCATION INSTITUTE:

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATORS

WELCOME TO SMEI !

The Science and Mathematics Education Institute (SMEI) is excited to bring you this weekly newsletter to help keep you informed, supported, and connected. Each week, we'll share upcoming events, professional learning opportunities, and useful classroom resources designed to support educators and enhance teaching and learning.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 12 | BUZZ AROUND THE WORLD VIRTUAL LAUNCH EVENT
8:00 AM
The virtual launch event will introduce the initiative, explore why mosquito research matters, and provide a refresher on using the Mosquito Habitat Mapper. Additional events will be offered throughout the initiative to support participants and encourage continued engagement.
LINK: Events - GLOBE.gov

NOVEMBER 13 | FHSU STERNBERG ASTRONOMY NIGHT
7:30 PM — 10:00 PM
Come and Go Event No Reservations Needed
Location: STERNBERG MUSEUM & NATURE TRAIL, 3000 STERNBERG DR, HAYS, KS
LINK: LEARN MORE

NOVEMBER 14 | LIFT OFF TO STEAM
10:00 AM — 2:00 PM
Presentation by Astronaut Duane “Digger” Carey with hands-on STEAM activities to follow.
Location: Kansas Wesleyan University Pioneer Hall, 100 E. Claflin Ave., Salina, KS
LINK: Smoky Hill Education Service Center - Lift Off to STEAM

NOVEMBER 18 | NEED ENERGY AND GEOGRAPHY
5:30-6:30 PM
Celebrate national GIS day with our resident GIS expert, and explore some of NEED's fun multi-disciplinary, social science-friendly activities!
REGISTRATION: 2026/2027 NEED Energy Exchange Webinar Series

NOVEMBER 19 | 3D THURSDAY: NASA INTERSTELLAR MAPPING AND ACCELERATION PROBE MISSION
7:00 PM
Lindsay Bartolone will present on NASA’s IMAP (Interstellar Mapping and Acceleration Probe) mission, which launched about a year ago and is already sending back data helping us to explore and map our solar neighborhood. Come hear a little bit about the mission science and learn about outreach program resources designed to highlight STEM skills in.
FOR MORE INFORMATION: See attached flyer
REGISTRATION: 3-D Thursday Webinar Registration - Nov 19

🔬 FEATURED RESOURCES

NEED's Cost of a Thanksgiving Meal Activity Guide
Bring math and energy together as students calculate Thanksgiving meal costs, compare natural gas and electric appliances, explore ENERGY STAR® labels and graph their results. A festive way to connect classroom learning with everyday energy use!
LINK: Free PDF Download

RAISE STEMM School Event-FREE
STEMM FIRE will plan your in-person STEMM career exploration day for you! Give us your best day and time and we will gather local and regional STEMM professionals to come chat and interact with your 6-12th grade students. Scheduling open for all 2027 dates.
Email: LASCHMIDT7@FHSU.edu
Website: www.raiseks.org
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sz7tgzSqIfs&t=7s

Buzz Around the World: A GLOBE Cross-Regional Mosquito Initiative
This initiative engages participants in investigating mosquitoes in a changing environment through local observations using the Mosquito Habitat Mapper in the GLOBE Observer app. Participants will explore mosquito habitats, investigate associated environmental conditions, connect findings to scientific research and local priorities, and identify opportunities for community action.

LINK: Buzz Around the World - GLOBE.gov
FHSU Sternberg Museum of Natural History Educator Resources
The Sternberg Museum of Natural History believes in ***Excitement in Education through Exploration***. The education department focuses on engaging learning opportunities in the earth and life sciences.
LINK: Educator Resources - Sternberg Museum of Natural History

National Geographic Map Maker
MapMaker is a digital mapping tool, created by the National Geographic Society and Esri, designed for teachers, students, and National Geographic Explorers.
LINK: https://www.nationalgeographic.org/learn/educators/mapmaker-launch-guide

The Explorer Mindset
The Explorer Mindset is a way of thinking, being and acting in the world. It is a set of attributes, shared values and commitments that define what it means to be a National Geographic Explorer.
LINK: https://www.nationalgeographic.org/learn/educators/explorer-mindset#resources

NEED's Annual Youth Awards Program for Energy Achievement
Put students in charge of sharing energy knowledge with their communities! Youth Awards projects are student-driven and student-run, giving students the opportunity to set goals, plan and carry out energy activities and outreach, and document what they learn. Teams showcase their efforts and impact in a 15-slide project submission. The Youth Awards Program welcomes all K–12 schools, as well as scouting troops and 4-H groups leading energy projects in their communities! **Project submissions are due April 15, 2027.**
LINK: Project Guidelines - NEED Youth Awards

STAY CONNECTED

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