



Teacher Update

March 2009

ASSET Inc. Announces Upcoming Courses, Institutes and Events

As part of its ongoing commitment to improve teaching and learning through science education, ASSET has released a number of new dates for courses, institutes and events for K-8 teachers:

Environment & Ecology RiverQuest Institute	3/10, 3/17, 3/31, 4/28 and 5/19	This 5-day institute enables K-8 teachers to assess water quality and helps build a better understanding of fresh water ecology, biology and chemistry, while riding on RiverQuest's new floating lab right here on Pittsburgh's three rivers. Teachers are equipped with hands-on teaching strategies to help address the PA Environment and Ecology Standards. For more information on the RiverQuest or other E&E sessions, contact ASSET E&E Coordinator Jeff Polonoli at jpolonoli@assetinc.org . <i>2 CPE credits/ 30 Act 48 educational activity hours.</i>
Middle School Showcase	3/30	Bring a team from your district (i.e., teacher, principal and curriculum coordinator) to learn about ASSET's middle school program. STC, FOSS and SEPUP programs will be highlighted at a curriculum showcase. To participate, please RSVP to Christian Micah at cmicah@assetinc.org by March 16.
ASSET Leadership Conference Phase II	4/22-24	This Conference is by invitation only. Developing leadership within schools is the next step toward firmly establishing exemplary science education programs. This 3-day conference will be Phase II for those teacher leaders who began their leadership training at the ALC Phase I. For more information, please contact Stephanie Rakowski at srakowski@assetinc.org
Professional Development Facilitator Pathway	Summer 2009 TBD	ASSET is looking for educational consultants to deliver ASSET professional development. To become an ASSET-approved professional development facilitator (PDF), participants go through a year-long pathway to learn about inquiry, writing to learn, facilitation skills, content and assessment. Interested teachers with experience teaching hands-on, inquiry based K-8 science should contact Sharon Hess at sbhess@assetinc.org for more information about the pathway.
National Board Certification Informational Meeting	5/21	ASSET will conduct an informational meeting regarding it's 2009-10 National Board Certification institute. The meeting will take place at ASSET's Pittsburgh office 4:30pm-6pm. Interested teachers should contact Barb Williams at bwilliams@assetinc.org .
Institute for Inquiry	6/23-25	Begin this year-long study exploring the process of inquiry in your teaching practice. The first three days will occur this summer along with two follow-up days throughout the school year. Contact Staceylyn Machi at smachi@assetinc.org for more details. <i>2 CPE credits/ 30 Act 48 educational activity hours.</i>
A Starfish Can Grow a New Arm, Why Can't I?	Summer 2009 TBD	Created in partnership with the Pittsburgh Tissue Engineering Initiative, Inc., Carnegie Science Center and the University of Pittsburgh, this course enhances teachers' understanding of tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. Sessions connect content in the middle school modules to a new 1,200-foot exhibit at the Carnegie Science Center. To be alerted of the course date, send an email request to communications@assetinc.org . <i>6 Act 48 educational activity hours.</i>
Strategic Planning Institute	September 2009 TBD	This event helps prepare and educate teams of leaders to implement research-based science for all students within their district. The institute follows the model of science reform used by the National Science Resources Center. Each team creates a strategic plan to implement in their district. To be alerted of the institute dates, send an email request to communications@assetinc.org .

Professional Development Registration System

For the most up-to-date professional development offerings, visit <http://classes.assetinc.org>. Sessions may be searched for and viewed by **title** or **date**.

For questions regarding the professional development schedule or registration, please contact ASSET's PD Coordinator at pdrs@assetinc.org.