Pre-AP Science (Middle School)

Nancy Stitt, Consultant

Nancy Stitt has worked as an educator in Pinellas County, St. Petersburg, Florida for the past 30 years. Experiences include working at the high school level as a Science Instructional Coach/Staff Developer, working with the Gifted Science Department, IMAST – Integrated Math and Science with Technology and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program in the middle school environment . She has been the Master Science Content Coach/Middle Schools for the county and mentored new teachers and teachers pursuing alternative certification (Transition to Teaching) within her school. Nancy earned a B.A. in Biology/Education and a B.S. in Nursing from the University of South Florida and a M.S. in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment from Walden University. She became Nationally Board certified in Early Adolescence/Science in 2000. She is a College Board endorsed consultant for Pre-AP Strategies in Science: AP Vertical Teams, Creating a Learner-Centered Classroom, Inquiry-Based Laboratories , and Pre-AP: Effective Thinking Strategies for All Students.

Course Description:

The workshop will focus on the three R's – Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships, while working in an interactive science classroom. A positive middle school science experience is important to increasing student access and success in AP science courses and the expectations of career and college. Research-based activities in the workshop will equip participants with ways to help their students organize information so they can independently use the strategies to add to their knowledge and understanding of science. During the week, participants will develop an understanding of the importance of Vertical Teaming. Workshop topics include: Constructivism as a Paradigm for Teaching an d Learning (Student-Centered Classroom), Multiple Intelligence Theory (MIT), Habits of Mind (HOM) for Successful Students, Teaching with Interactive Science Notebooks (ISN), 5 E Instructional Model-Traditional/Inquiry Transition, Formative/Summative Assessment and Backwards Design/Planning, Differentiated Instruction, Collaborative Group Structures/Team Roles and Relationship Building.

What participants should bring: Dress for success in both lab and outdoor activities:

- Comfortable closed-toe shoes
- Visor/hat, sunscreen, and sunglasses
- Portable flash drive to share information
- Your most engaging lab activity on flash drive (R's=Rigor and Relevance)
- Item of importance to you to share with the group (R=Relationships)