



Building Exemplary Educational Foundations in Science

WHO? Science or Special Education Teachers Grade 3-10.

WHAT? A 12 day Program to enhance your Science Knowledge and Understanding

WHY? To provide all teachers with the knowledge and background in a 3-10 integrated program that spirals up through the Academic Standards in order to provide students with inquiry lessons designed to promote lifetime learning in the sciences.

WHEN? 7 days during the school year and 5 days in June.

[Sept. 24, 25; Oct 31; Nov. 14; Jan. 29; Feb. 26, April 16; June 16-20]

Anticipate BEEFS funding to be renewed for 2008-2009 – and the start-up of cohort 3.

Where? Ohio University, Chillicothe – Shoemaker Center room 215 and Adams County

Teacher / District benefits and commitment

Districts

- release teachers for 7 days of professional development during the academic year
- release teachers for an additional 40 hours (~ 6 days) during second year of teacher participation in the project
- administrators receive a one half overview of science standards-based teaching and learning
- teacher substitutes paid by grant
- anticipated outcomes: enhanced teacher quality, coherent instruction and improved student achievement

Teachers

- receive 80 hours of professional development in science content in year one
- option of 6 credits at a reduced rate of \$100/credit in first year of program (rate subject to change)
- \$400 stipend if they complete the entire program – all 12 days of professional development
- Approximately \$350 worth of instructional resources
 - o ~ \$150 worth of programmatic resources as part of the professional development program
 - o ~ \$200 worth of instructional resources selected by the teacher

(note – credit, stipend and \$200 of instruction resources only available to participants who complete the 80 hours, 12 days of professional development)
- receive an additional 40 hours of professional development in science content during second year of participation in the program

- option of receiving 3 credits at a reduced rate of \$100/credit during second year of program (rate subject to increase)
- receive instructional resources as part of the professional development
- participants need to complete all required forms and surveys related to the project and agree to one classroom observation by project personnel

BEEFS Project Abstract

Building Exemplary Elementary Foundations in Science (BEEFS Project) combines all OSCI modules 3-10 to provide teachers with the conceptual development of the standards as students' progress academically. BEEFS will develop and implement a program in which teachers experience the 'seamless web' of content development as it spirals upward through the grades. Teachers will track the development of the standards through the curriculum, experience how the course content of each grade contributes to development of scientifically literate students, and explore the progression of content knowledge across grade-levels 3-10.

A key component of BEEFS is to provide quality professional development to all science teachers in the partnering school districts. To ensure that all teachers participate in BEEFS, eight days of a twelve day face-to-face program will occur during the teachers' normal work schedule, and BEEFS will provide for teacher substitutes.

BEEFS Project presents two major strands of science literacy (Global Climate during year one and Earth place in the Universe during year two) with a special focus on assessment in the science classroom during year two. BEEFS participants will work through a series of inquiry lessons designed to assist in the conceptual development of specific topics as the student moves on up through the grades.

BEEFS is a year-long professional development program anchored by a five-day summer institute followed up by six more days of professional development during the participants second year in the project. The professional development will be brought to the teachers, presented in their school districts. In addition, teachers will be eligible for graduate credit through Ohio University at a reduced fee per credit, and will receive stipends for completing all aspects of the program as well as an instructional resource kit.

BEEFS is a response to teachers and school districts' expressed needs. Recent surveys, personal contacts, and an analysis of state proficiency test clearly demonstrate that teachers and school districts need further tools to address the mandates of No Child Left Behind: attaining high levels of achievement for all students.

BEEFS is a partnership effort led by the Southeast Ohio Center for Excellence in Mathematics and Science, Ohio University in Athens and Chillicothe, Adams County Schools and Chillicothe City Schools. BEEFS' partnerships are expected to be extended to other school districts during each successive year of renewed funding.