

Peak Area Leadership in Science (PALS) 2019-2020

Professional Development Workshops* for Science Teachers

Meetings are FREE! Reservations (and cancellations) required!**

To make reservations register online at www.sciencehubs.org

or contact Tammy Johnnie at rsvp@sciencehubs.org or 719-337-1552 (cell)

Date/Day/Time	Topic	Location	Contact Hours /Sem Credit***
Jan. 25, 2020 (Sat.) 8 am – 4 pm	Chemistry of Textiles and of Fuels Gary Balaich, Ron Furstenau & Abby Jennings	USAFA Chemistry Department Meet at the front entrance to the USAFA Cadet Fieldhouse	7.5 / 0.5
Feb. 11, 2020 (Tues.) 4 pm – 8 pm	Mars Connections at the Space Foundation Discovery Center Staff, SFDC	US Space Foundation Discovery Center	3.75 / 0.25
Mar. 11, 2020 (Wed) 4 pm – 8 pm	Fascinating Fingerprints Myra Valdez, Terrie Watts, Sandy Smith	Discovery Canyon Campus	3.75 / 0.25
Apr. 4, 2020 (Sat.) 8:30 am – 12:30 pm	From the Nile to the Colorado - Hippos and Water Conservation Stacey Graham, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo	Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Meet at the front entrance to Cheyenne Mountain Zoo	3.75 / 0.25
Apr. 16, 2020 (Thurs.) 4 pm – 8 pm	Physics in the Natural World - Little Shop of Physics Brian Jones & Sheila Ferguson	Discovery Canyon Campus	3.75 / 0.25
May 2, 2020 (Sat.) 7:30 am – 12:00 pm	Cave Exploration with CaveSim and Cave of the Winds Dave Jackson & Jackson Fulcher, CaveSim and Staff, Cave of the Winds	Cheyenne Mountain Junior High School & Cave of the Winds	3.75 / 0.25
Generous funding for these workshops provided by: The Mikkelson Foundation & The Mikkelson Education Fund USAFA K12 STEM Outreach Program		TOTAL	60 hrs / 4 sem credits
Sessions offered January – May 2020 are dependent on funding.			
* The information above is subject to change! See our web-site www.sciencehubs.org for a detailed flyer posted around the date of the previous month's meeting and for any updates to the information above.			
** NEW - Reservations are accepted for any meeting at any time. Sign up for all of the workshops you'd like to attend at any time and mark your calendar. PLEASE... if you cannot attend, contact Tammy ASAP, as we may have a waiting list and/or may have to pay in advance for your spot.			
*** Documentation will be provided free for active participation in any hub meeting. In order to receive college credit you must earn a minimum of 7.5 hours or 0.5 semester credits. No college credit is given for only 3.75 hours or 0.25 semester credits. College credit only earned in increments of 0.5 semester credits. Hours/credits accumulate for the current school year only – no carry over for prior or future school years. Documentation / credit available at the end of the school year, typically in July.			

----- 2019-2020 PALS Workshops (Hub Meetings) Info -----
Semester Two

PALS January Hub Meeting

Sat, Jan 25 Full Day [8:00 am - 4:00 pm] 0.5 sem hrs / 7.5 contact hours

Title: Chemistry of Textiles and Fuels

Presenters: Dr. Gary Balaich, Dr. Ron Furstenau, Dr. Abby Jennings,
USAFA Chemistry Department

Description: Looking for connections between chemistry and our world?
Look no further. Join Drs. Balaich, Furstenau, and Jennings as
they take you on a learning journey through the chemistry of
both textiles and fuels. Learn about how textile fibers (polymers)
are made, analyzed and dyed. You'll even get to make, analyze
and dye some textiles yourself! Hear about the differences
between gasoline, diesel and aviation fuels. Synthesize and
analyze biodiesel and some fuel blends using various lab
techniques (viscosity measurements, Fourier Transform Infrared
Spectroscopy (FTIR), gas chromatography/mass spectrometry
(GCMS), and calorimetry).

Tentative Agenda: "Chemistry of Textiles" and "Chemistry of Fuels"

0815 Meet participants on the south steps of the Cadet Field House; escort to
Chemistry Conference Room (2N189)

0845-915 Introductions, refreshments, admin items in Chemistry Conference Room

915-1015 Presentation: "Chemistry of Textiles" (Dr. Abby Jennings)

*Dr. Jennings will talk about how major types of fabrics for textiles are made
and dyed. This talk will include a discussion behind the chemistry of fiber
synthesis and dye synthesis and selection.*

1015-1030 Break, Chemistry Conference Room (2N189)

1030-1230 Laboratory Experiments

Group A: Synthesis and Analysis of Fuels (Dr. Balaich & Dr. Furstenau)

Group B: Synthesis, Analysis, and Dyeing of Textiles (Dr. Jennings & Dr. Furstenau)

*"Synthesis and Analysis of Fuels": In this series of labs, participants will
synthesize biodiesel and biodiesel petroleum diesel blends. Different
techniques will then be used to analyze the fuels, including viscosity
measurements, Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), gas
chromatography/mass spectrometry (GCMS), and calorimetry.*

***“Synthesis, Analysis, and Dyeing of Textiles”*: In this series of labs, participants will synthesize several polymers, analyze the polymers/textiles using a variety of methods, and dye some fabrics.**

- 1230-1330** Working Lunch Break in Lecture Hall
Presentation: “Chemistry of Fuels” (Dr. Gary Balaich)
- During lunch, Dr. Balaich will discuss the chemistry behind fuels, including the differences between gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuels, as well as octane number.*
- 1330-1530** Laboratory Experiments
Group A: Synthesis, Analysis, and Dyeing of Textiles (Dr. Jennings & Dr. Furstenau)
Group B: Synthesis and Analysis of Fuels (Dr. Balaich & Dr. Furstenau)
- 1530-1600** Final wrap-up of the day’s events (2N189), including door prizes and evaluations
- 1600** Depart chemistry area for Cadet Field House

PALS February Hub Meeting

Tues, Feb 11 Evening [4:00 pm - 8:00 pm] 0.5 sem hrs / 7.5 contact hours

Title: **Mars Connections at the Space Foundation Discovery Center**

Presenters: **Science Educators, Space Foundation Discovery Center**

Description: The Space Foundation is looking forward to hosting the Pikes Peak Area Leadership in Science(PALS) for their HUB teacher professional development this February . . . and we have QUITE the adventure in store for you! Join us as we travel beyond low-Earth orbit and discover the mission ahead of us on our Science on a Sphere, as NASA prepares to send astronauts, “Back to the Moon and On to Mars!” Next, we will code a fleet of robots to retrieve water ice from the polar ice caps on Mars, and then deliver that water ice to the location of the first human habitat on the surface of Mars! Finally, we will land the first humans SAFELY on Mars, working within budgetary parameters and design constraints to achieve the impossible!!!

PALS March Hub Meeting

Wed, March 11 Evening [4 pm - 8 pm] 0.5 sem hrs / 7.5 contact hours

Title: **Fascinating Fingerprints**

Presenters: **Terrie Watts, Forensic Science Teacher, Discovery Canyon Campus High School, D20**
Myra Valdez, former FBI Forensic Scientist
Sandy Smith, Forensic Science Teacher, Falcon Homeschool Academic Program, D49

Description:

Fingerprints are a key piece of evidence found at crime scenes. What makes fingerprints so important? Join us as we discuss and explore the world of fingerprints. Learn about fingerprints from a former FBI agent. Participate in labs where you will process and analyze fingerprints using different techniques. Experience a design lab where you and your students can learn more about collecting and processing fingerprints. Each participant will take a fingerprint kit back to use in their own classroom.

PALS April Hub Meeting #1

Sat, Apr 4 Half Day [8:30 am - 12:30 pm] 0.25 sem hrs / 3.75 contact hours

Title:

“From the Nile to the Colorado” - Exploring Hippos and Water Conservation at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo

Presenter:

Stacey Graham, Director of EdVenture Programs, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo & other CMZ staff

Description:

Coloradans and hippos have something in common. We all need water, and sometimes it is in short supply for both of us. Join the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo team in exploring all things hippo, including natural history, conservation, adaptations, and meeting the zoo's resident hippos. We will also be diving into water conservation both in Africa and here in Colorado, and how you and your students can be better water stewards for the planet.

PALS April Hub Meeting #2

Thurs, April 16 Evening [4:00 pm - 8:00 pm] 0.5 sem hrs / 7.5 contact hours

Title:

Physics in the Natural World - Little Shop of Physics

Presenters:

Brian Jones and Sheila Ferguson

Description:

The natural world is full of seeming puzzles: Hippos spend their lives in water, and they look quite chubby, but they aren't fat, and they can't swim. Seals breathe air like all mammals, but they actually exhale before they take a deep dive. And there are animals possessed of what seem like superpowers: There are snakes who have a second set of vision organs that let them see in complete darkness. A dolphin can stun a fish with sound. The hairs on the body of a bee give it a “sixth sense” that lets the

bee tell, from a distance, that a flower has been recently visited by another bee. A shark can sense your heartbeat. A dog can tell, from another dog's growl, how big it is.

In this session we'll use physics as a tool to explain and explore the natural world, using it to explore all of these topics, and more. As with all Little Shop of Physics workshops, it will be active. We'll spend our time making measurements and observations, sharing ideas and hypotheses, and then we'll connect all of this back to the living world. Along the way, we'll show you some superpowers that you possess. You can see beyond the rainbow. You have a rudimentary sense like that of a honeybee. And you, too, size up animals by their growls, whether you realize it or not!

PALS May Hub Meeting

Sat, May 2 Half Day [7:30 am - 12 pm] 0.5 sem hrs / 7.5 contact hours

Title: **Caves, bats, and rock-eating bacteria: exploring CaveSim (and Cave of the Winds) to learn science**

Presenters: **CaveSim: Dave Jackson, CaveSim creator
 Jackson Fulcher, CaveSim educator
Cave of the Winds: Staff**

Description: **CaveSim: From physics, to chemistry, to biology, CaveSim programs teach a wide variety of science lessons, all centered around the theme of cave exploration. Come join us to experience our mobile cave system, and see how we teach students to love science by allowing them to feel the joy of exploration. We'll show you how we teach bat biology, epidemiology, and statistics using bat games, and how we use our 12' vertical caving tower to teach forces, friction, pulleys, and other physics concepts. You'll gain a better understanding of how CaveSim programs can integrate with your curriculum, and you'll come away with activities that you can do in your own classroom.**

Cave of the Winds: After your early morning experience with CaveSim you will travel to the Cave of the Winds where you will participate in ONE of the following tours: (You must indicate which tour you will take when you sign up for the hub meeting.)

- **Caving 101 - “Take An Exciting Cave Trek! Explore the wild, undeveloped depths of the Manitou Grand Caverns on a 2 hour guided tour that involves an assortment of crawling, climbing, and walking through wet and muddy passages of various sizes. On this tour, you will crawl/climb/walk for nearly a mile while learning basic spelunking skills as well as the history and geology of the cave.” (caveofthewinds.com)**

Please wear clothing you won't mind getting dirty and possibly ruined by the mud in the cave. You will also need to bring a flashlight and/or headlamps, a change of clothes, and extra pair of shoes.

or

- **Discover Tour! - “Explore the electrically lit portion of the Cave of the Winds on a 60 minute guided walking tour which includes 15 rooms, a 1/2 mile of concrete walkways, and 196 stairs. On this family-friendly tour, you will learn about the history and geology of the cave while being shown some of its most beautiful formations.” (caveofthewinds.com)**

The cave is always around 54 degrees Fahrenheit, so you may need a light sweater or jacket. Wear comfortable clothing, such as a long sleeve shirt and pants, and good walking shoes.

Tentative Agenda:

7:30 - 7:45	Introductions & Administrivia
7:45 - 9:30	CaveSim Activities
9:30 - 10:00	Group A (taking Caving 101 Tour) leave CMJHS to arrive at Cave of the Winds in time for the 10 am tour. This tour is quite rigorous.
9:30 - 10:30	Group B (taking Discovery Tour) participate in more CaveSim activities
10:30 - 11:00	Group A (taking Discover Tour) leave CMJHS to arrive at Cave of the Winds in time for the 11 am tour.
12:00 noon	All participants depart Cave of the Winds

Sat, Dec 7

Full Day

[8:00 am - 4:15 pm]

0.5 sem hrs / 7.5 contact hours

Building A Culture of Argumentation in Your Science Class

Description: Too often teacher workshops focus on crafting a good viable argument and not on having the argument. How do we help students to lower their resistance and feel safe to engage in lively discourse and critique? How do we create an environment that stimulates deeper, richer interaction? Interactions that employ quality evidence and quantitative reasoning? Enjoy a day of “arguing” with your peers as you participate in a series of activities that model specific research-based instructional strategies designed to get your students engaged in richer, more productive discourse.

Presenters:

Rob Payo, Teacher Programs Coordinator, Denver Museum of Nature and Science

Tim Blesse, Teacher Programs Coordinator, Denver Museum of Nature and Science