### **NISE Network Online Workshop**

Learn About New Opportunity and How to Apply for the 2018 Explore Science: Let's Do Chemistry Kit

NATIONAL INFORMAL STEM EDUCATION NETWORK

April 10, 2018

#### **Welcome!** Today's presenters are:

**David Sittenfeld,** Museum of Science **Rae Ostman,** Arizona State University **Ali Jackson,** Sciencenter

As we wait to get started with today's discussion, please:



- Update your display name. Include your first and last names, and institution
- Introduce yourself! Type your name and institution into the <u>Chat Box</u>
- Questions? Feel free to type your questions into the <u>Chat Box</u> at any time throughout the online workshop or use the raise your hand function in the participants list and we'll unmute your microphone

All workshops are recorded and archived online at

http://www.nisenet.org/event-type/online-workshop











# Let's Do Chemistry

# THE NATIONAL INFORMAL STEM EDUCATION NETWORK

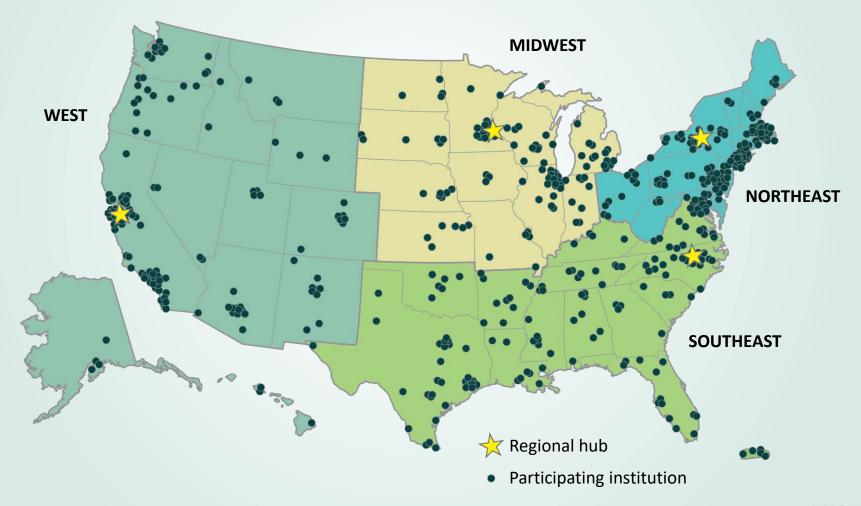


### **DEDICATED TO**



#### **HUNDREDS OF ORGANIZATIONS**

participate in NISE Network activities across the United States.

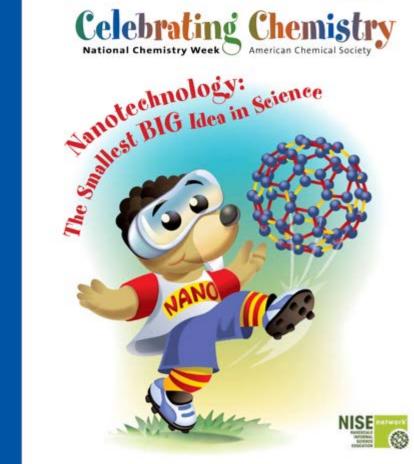








## Celebrating Chemistry National Chemistry Week American Chemical Society



#### **Exploring Materials-Graphene**

#### By NISE Network and Robert deGroot

raphene is a single layer of carbon atoms arranged in a honeycomb pattern. Graphene is only one atom thick — that's a fraction of a nanometer! (A nanometer is a billionth of a meter.) In the field of nanotechnology, scientists and engineers make new, nanosized materials and devices. Graphene has a lot of potential in nanotechnology because of its useful properties: it's flexible, super-strong, nearly transparent, and conducts electricity. Computer chip manufacturers are developing circuits from graphene, by modifying it to make it a semiconductor. One day, graphene could be used to make see-through, bendable electronic displays, and tiny, fast computer chips.



Note: Battery and bulb circuit materials can be purchased from www.radioshack.com (LED bulb #276-021, 9v battery #55039849, battery connectors #270-324, resistor #271-1113, insulated leads #278-1156).



Safety glasses required Mo food or drink in the area

Do not short-circuit batteries. When the positive (+) and negative (-) terminals of a battery are in contact with each other, the battery can become short-circuited. This can lead to venting or an explosion. This is avoided in the activity by inserting the resistor in the circuit. Never use a plain wire to connect the + and - terminals directly.



#### Procedures:

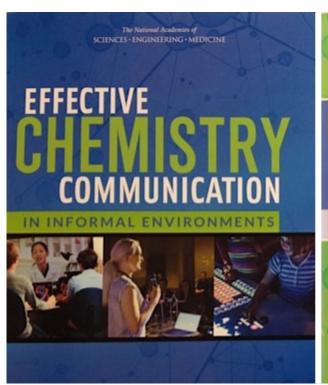
- 1. Make the battery and bulb circuit (see diagram). Have your adult partner help you assemble the apparatus.
- 2. Kids, lay down some graphite! (Graphite is the real name for pencil "lead.")

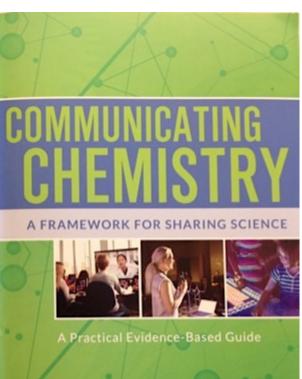
Use the pencil to draw and color in a thick, dark box on the piece of paper. Make it several inches long and around half

Tip: Make the box as dark as you can - try not to let any patches of paper show through.

- 3. Touch the two insulated wire leads to the graphite box. Watch the bulb-what happens? Record the distance between the two leads and record your observation in the table. Now try moving the leads closer together and further apart. What differences do you notice? Record your results in the observation section.
- 4. Draw some other heavy dark paths that are not straight and check them with your battery apparatus. Record your results in your observation.









The National
Academy of
Science published a
report on 2016 about
Effective Chemistry
Communication and
a related practical
guide

"Chemists and experts in empirical approaches to science communication, informal learning, and chemistry education should collaborate to study chemistry communication in informal settings. Research should focus on.... public perception and understanding of chemistry...."

"NSF should support (such) research...through programs such as the AISL program."

# Public attitudes to chemistry

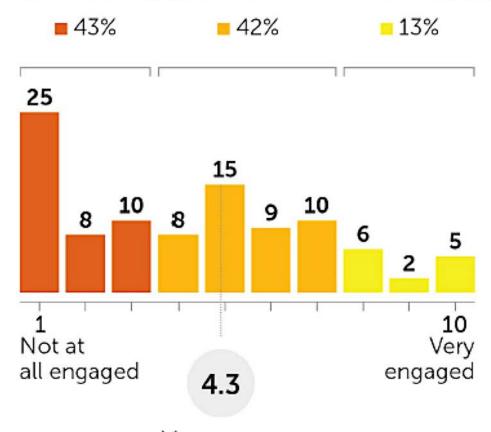
Chemophobia, a chemists' construct



A positive future for #chemperceptions

The first national, in-depth study on how the UK public thinks and feels about chemistry, chemists and chemicals

Figure 2.2: Engagement/interest in chemistry (%)





Mean score

Table 2.11: Comparative characteristics of chemistry and science

Chemistry Science

Welcoming, friendly

"I think it's more sociable in the science room...I think it will have more sociable people"

Fun

Active, discovery, exploration

Applied to the world

Busy, excitement, buzz

Open to non-experts

"you don't have to have a science brain to understand what's going on"

Accessible to everyone

Visual, demonstrable



Table 2.11: Comparative characteristics of chemistry and science

Chemistry	Science
Intimidating, hard to understand, would feel ignored "You wouldn't dare to touch anything"	Welcoming, friendly "I think it's more sociable in the science roomI think it will have more sociable people"
Serious	Fun
Methodical, repetitive work	Active, discovery, exploration
Chemistry not involved in the end product	Applied to the world
Quiet, silence, concentration	Busy, excitement, buzz
Inaccessible, hard "I feel we can relate to science a little bit more, surrounded by animals, plants, whereas in the chemistry room they're doing experiments, you need to be someone of a certain profession or qualified"	"you don't have to have a science brain to understand what's going on"
Work going on in the background, 'behind closed doors'; hidden or secretive	Accessible to everyone
Microscopic, can't easily see what's going on	Visual, demonstrable



### Learning about learning chemistry

- The ChemAttitudes project aims to have a strategic impact on publics' attitudes toward chemistry, specifically, their
  - interest in chemistry,
  - understanding and perception of its relevance, and
  - feelings of self-efficacy with respect to it.



### Research questions

How should **hands-on** activities, events, and trainings be designed to increase visitors' positive attitudes about interest in, relevance of, and selfefficacy around chemistry?



### Research questions

How do content, program format, and facilitation techniques for **hands-on activities** impact visitor attitudes about chemistry?



### Research questions

How do trainings for facilitation of hands-on activities impact visitor attitudes about chemistry?



### **Project deliverables**

**Learning framework** for increasing I/R/S in informal STEM settings

250 Explore Science: Let's Do Chemistry dissemination kits\*, containing

Hands-on activities
Professional development materials

\* All materials also **publicly available for free download** on nisenet.org.





# **Creating the Explore Science kit**

Design-based research methodology

Positive attitudes: Interest, relevance, and self-efficacy



### "Learning about learning chemistry"

**DBR:** Research methodology that conceives of an intervention; tests it iteratively in a natural setting; and uses the resulting data to improve the intervention and to create new theories and frameworks for learning.



**GOAL:** To create generalizable knowledge about how to design hands-on activities that promote positive attitudes about learning chemistry.



**TEAM:** NISE Network museum partners and American Chemical Society (ACS)



**PROCESS:** At the beginning of the project, we had some ideas about designing experiences that would encourage positive attitudes about learning chemistry.

We are testing and refining those ideas by:

- Trying a variety of chemistry activities with visitors
- Studying educator-visitor-activity interactions through videotaping and interviews
- Talking about the data together
- Improving the activities and testing them again



# **Defining chemistry**

### for museum audiences

#### **Chemists** are scientists that study:

- what everything is made of
- how different materials behave and change
- how materials interact with each other and combine to make new things

**Chemistry** can help us understand the world around us and solve problems.



## **Examples of chemistry**

#### for museum audiences

#### Chemistry can help us answer questions like:

- What is air made of?
- What makes slime stretchy?
- What happens if you mix gum and chocolate?
- Is our water safe to drink?

Our Explore Science activities investigate these questions, and many more!



# Learning goals for chemistry activities

Develop positive attitudes toward chemistry as a foundation for lifelong learning:

**Interest**: "Chemistry is interesting!"

**Relevance**: "Chemistry is connected to my life!"

Self-efficacy: "I can learn chemistry!"



### Interest

## "Chemistry is interesting"

#### **INTEREST**

...involves both feeling and thinking.

... is related to what the activity is *about* and how it connects to *everyday life*.

...is encouraged by activities that are handson and allow for observation of phenomena



### Relevance

# "Chemistry is connected to my life!"

#### **RELEVANCE**

...involves both personal *experience* and broader *applications*.

...involves connecting the activity to everyday life and showing how chemistry is used.



# **Self-efficacy**

"I can learn chemistry!"

#### **SELF-EFFICACY**

...is having a sense of *confidence* and *capability* to learn and use chemistry.

...is encouraged by activities that are easy to do and understand and that are hands-on.



# **Explore Science:** Let's Do Chemistry

#### **Activities are:**

More about... Less about...

Fun Facts

Confidence Comprehensive knowledge

**Excitement** Equations

Exploring together Explaining to someone

Concrete connections Abstract ideas

Guiding and asking Showing and talking

### And all about chemistry!

# **Explore Science:** Let's Do Chemistry

**Positive attitudes start here!** Lifelong learning will continue at other times and places:

- Interest starts now but can carry into the future.
- Relevance starts here but can connect to home, school, work, and community.
- **Self-efficacy** starts with specific *activities* but can extend to *chemistry* more generally.



# **Explore Science: Let's Do Chemistry**



# **Explore Science: Let's Do Chemistry**

#### **Professional Resources**

- Open me first
- Guides
- Training resources
- Safety supplies
- American Chemical Society publications

#### **Public engagement materials**

- Welcome letter + kit contents
- National Chemistry Week/ event activities
- Longer program
- Posters



### Professional resources and safety supplies

#### Open me first

- Welcome letter and kit contents
- Press release, photo release
- Tattoos
- USB with digital versions of all NISE Net resources

#### **Guides**

- Research to Practice guide
- Safety guide
- Event planning and promotional guide
- National Chemistry Week planning guide

#### **Training resources**

- Slideshow overview
- Gum and Chocolate activity
- Atoms to Atoms activity
- Questions improv game guide
- Facilitation skills video

#### **Safety supplies**

- Goggles, goggle wipes
- Gloves

#### **ACS** books

- WonderScience
- Inquiry in Action



# Public engagement materials

#### Welcome letter and kit contents

#### **NCW** activities

- Build a Better Battery
- Chemistry is Colorful
- Chemistry Makes Scents
- Molecules in Motion
- Nature of Dye
- Rocket Reactions
- Sublimation Bubbles
- What's in the Water

#### **Longer program**

Cleaning Oil with Chemistry

#### **Posters**



# **Learning Goals**

**Develop positive attitudes toward chemistry** as a foundation for lifelong learning:

**Interest**: "Chemistry is interesting!"

**Relevance**: "Chemistry is connected to my life!"

Self-efficacy: "I can learn chemistry!"



# **Chemistry Makes Scents**

- Multi-sensory
- Building with models
- Take home



### **Molecules in Motion**



- Great connections to the NCW (Chemistry is Out of This World!) and other disciplines
- No consumables



### **Sublimation Bubbles**



- Observation of beautiful and real phenomena
- States of matter (connection to curriculum)
- Tested for safety!



# Application, implementation, and reporting

- Kit applications are now open
   <a href="http://www.nisenet.org/chemistry-apply">http://www.nisenet.org/chemistry-apply</a>
- Application deadline June 1
- Awards announced in July
- Kits delivered in September
- NCW: Chemistry Is Out of this World! October 21-27
- 250+ public events between October and December
- Facilitator Surveys for summative evaluation
- Event reports due December 15







### GET INVOLVED

Learn more and access online digital library:

nisenet.org

Monthly newsletter nisenet.org/newsletter

Social networking: nisenet.org/social





# **Stay Connected**

**NORTHEAST** – Ali Jackson - Sciencenter, Ithaca, NY

Northeast: NY, VT, NH, ME, RI, CT, and MA

Mid-Atlantic: PA, NJ, MD, DC, DE, OH, and WV

**SOUTHEAST** – Brad Herring - Museum of Life and Science, Durham, NC

Southeast: VA, NC, SC, KY, TN, LA, MS, AL, GA,

FL, and Puerto Rico

South: TX, AR, and OK

MIDWEST – Christina Leavell - Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN ND, SD, NE, KS, MN, IA, MO, WI, IL, MI, and IN

**WEST** – Frank Kusiak - UC Berkeley Lawrence Hall of Science, Berkeley, CA Southwest: CA, NV, AZ, and HI West AK, WA, OR, ID, MT, WY, CO, UT, and NM



# Thank You + Questions









### Questions

- 1. Share current plans or thoughts for your Explore Science: Let's Do Chemistry events?
- 2. Discuss ways you might use the materials throughout the year, and in particular during the 2018 National Chemistry Week (October 21-27, Theme: Chemistry is Out of This World!).
- 3. What questions do you have for the project team about the activities or materials in the kit?

# **Upcoming Online Workshops**



#### **Changing the Conversation About Climate**

Tuesday, May 1, 2018 2pm-3pm Eastern/ 11am-12pm Pacific

Museum Community Partnerships – Afterschool Programs: Advocating, Collaborating, and Bringing Earth and Space Content to Out-of-school Time Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Be Prepared: Safety Tips and Reminders for Museums Running Public Events, Including National Chemistry Week and Earth and Space Events

Tuesday, June 12, 2018
2pm-3pm Eastern/ 11am-12pm Pacific

2pm-3pm Eastern/ 11am-12pm Pacific

http://www.nisenet.org/events

# Thank You





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