

Preparing Scientists for Working with Family Audiences

Seven Organizations Report on a
New Streamlined Approach



Organizers: Carol Lynn Alpert & Karine Thate (MOS Boston)

PANELISTS: Anna Barr (Cal Academy), Tracy Englert (USM-Hattiesburg), Sarah Fisk (CNSE-Troy), Hardin Engelhardt (Marbles-Raleigh), Regina Hall (MNHS-Cincinnati), Jessie Herbert (spectrUM-Missoula)

Network Wide Meeting – June 4, 2015 St. Paul

Bridging between the academy and the community...



free pdf on nisenet.org

A Guide to Building Partnerships Between Science Museums and University-Based Research Centers



Description:

Step-by-step advice on planning, developing, funding, and maintaining education outreach partnerships between research centers and museums. This 50-page guide is an updated and consolidated version of the older "Small Steps, Big Impact" guide posted online. Helpful for both science museum and research center planners, this 2013 edition is available both as a free 25-page landscape-view PDF download and as a handy 50-page 6x9 printed booklet that can be ordered for \$12 including shipping from the Museum of Science, Boston.

Product category:

For Scientists
Professional Development
For Educators

Audience:

Scientists
Informal Science Educators

Grad students in the exhibit halls









Sharing Science Workshop & Practicum





UMASS DONAHUE INSTITUTE • RESEARCH & EVALUATION GROUP

Center for High-rate Nanomanufacturing

Sharing Science Workshops, Fall 2009

Survey Results

July 2010



UMass Donahue Institute Report

Sharing Science Participant Feedback

Data from more than 140 participants (2009-2014):

- All participants report they enjoyed the practicum
- 88% found workshop very/extremely useful
- 93% report increased confidence in engaging visitors with science demos and conversations
- 85% felt it would help their careers in science & teaching.

Sharing Science Participant Feedback

“This was a wonderful experience. I feel much more confident explaining a complicated topic to non-scientists.”

“I really liked interacting with museum visitors. The best part was that the adults were as excited to learn as the children.”

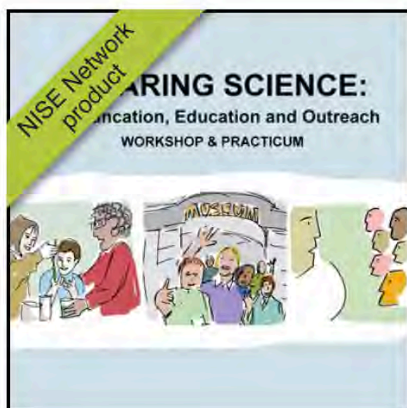
“It gave me ideas about communicating with different audiences.”

“It increased my confidence and made me more relaxed.”

“The workshop gave me an idea of communicating better with professionals as well as nonprofessionals in my daily life.”

Sharing Science - free on nisenet.org

Sharing Science Workshop & Practicum Planning & Implementation Guide



Description:

This Guide provides information and resources for planning and hosting a Sharing Science Workshop & Practicum for early career researchers that will enhance their science communication skills, engage their interest in education and outreach, and prepare them for providing effective and rewarding education outreach experiences.

An updated version (v 3.0) of the guide and materials was posted in February 2015. Contact nano@mos.org with questions/comments.

Product category:

For Scientists
Professional Development
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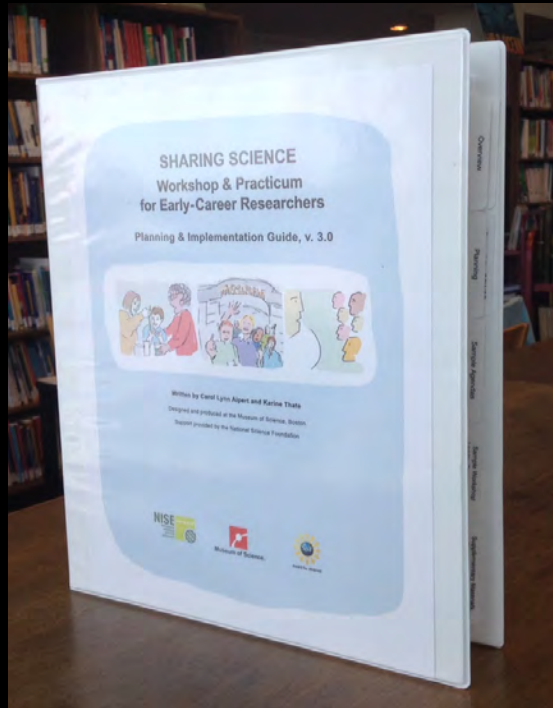
Resources

Objectives

Sharing Science



Planning & Implementation Guide free on nisenet.org

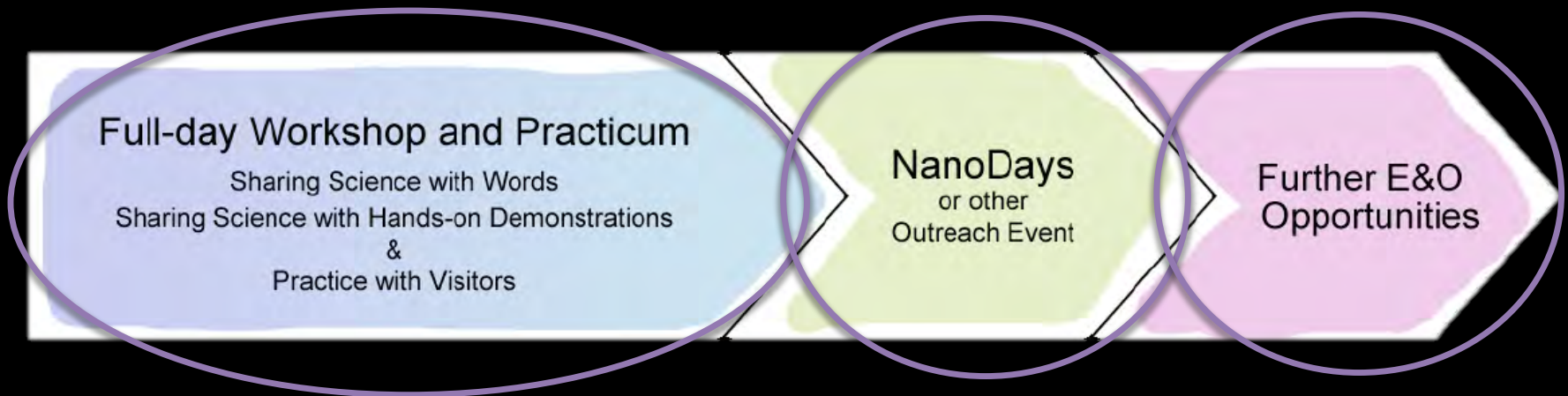


kthate@mos.org
calpert@mos.org
nano@mos.org

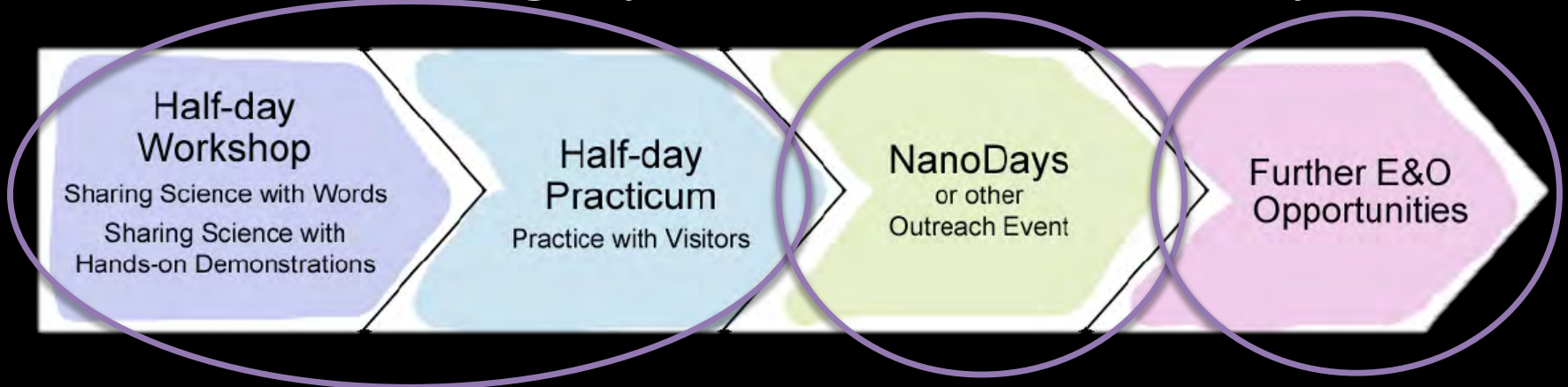


So, what happens during the
Sharing Science
Workshop & Practicum?

Scheduling Option 1 – One Full-Day



Scheduling Option 2 – Two Half-Days





Welcome! We're warming up with professional-style introductions.

(Pretend you're at a science conference networking session)



*Don't forget to... breathe, smile,
make eye-contact, provide the motivation
for your work, show interest in others.*

Sharing Science with Words

Rapid Prototyping: Design a brief intro for 12 year old

- ✓ How to engage?
- ✓ What language to use?
- ✓ How to make relevant?



- Small group practice with feedback, then try again!

Sharing Science with Hands-On Demos

Part 1: What makes for a good hands-on experience?





The Nanoscience Demonstrator's Guide

1. What is there for the visitor or student *to DO*?
2. How can I *pique their curiosity* about what I have to offer?
3. Where is the *“aha”* moment? How can I *enhance* or *dramatize* this moment of discovery?
4. What does the demo *reveal*? (e.g., observable phenomena). How does it compare to “normal” or “expected” behavior?
5. How can I help them *guess* at possible explanations?
6. How can I help them think of ways *to test* possible explanations?
7. What does the demo reveal about *underlying nanoscale properties* or behavior? How can I explain this in *very simple* language? *What analogies* can I suggest?
8. How can I help them begin to imagine ways that this behavior could be *harnessed to help us* do something?
9. How can I bring the interaction to a *satisfying* close?
10. How can I tell if it was a *successful* interaction?

Sharing Science with Hands-On Demos

Part 2: Practice with Peers, Get Feedback



Practicum on the Museum Floor

- Use new skills right away
- Test out different strategies
- Practice in low-stakes setting



Debrief and Brainstorm

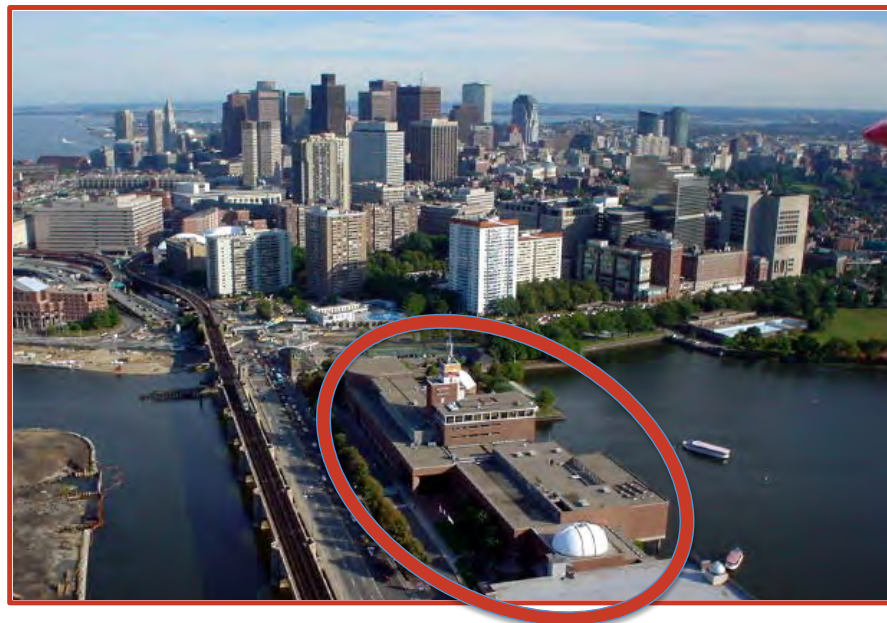


How could we teach others
to lead the workshop?



Gain valuable experience in science education & outreach...

Sharing Science Workshop & Practicum
for CIQM students and faculty
at the Museum of Science, Boston



Saturday, November 15, 10 am - 4 pm

Lunch vouchers and free parking provided

Online applications due October 24

<http://bit.ly/1Cisozq>

Questions? ciqm@mos.org



DMR-1231319

RISE Dissemination Workshop

November 2014



Alex
Laube



Sarah
Fisk



Brian
Pollock



Tracy
Englert



Nick
Wethington



Anna
Barr







So, how did it go?

Sarah Fisk

CNSE Children's Museum of Science & Technology

Anna Barr

California Academy of Sciences

Regina Hall

Museum of Natural History & Science, Cincinnati

Tracy Englert

University of Southern Mississippi

Jessie Herbert

spectrUM Discovery Area

Hardin Englehardt

Marbles Kids Museum



CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
OF SCIENCE + TECHNOLOGY

The CNSE Children's Museum of Science and Technology



Sarah Fisk
*Director of Education &
Museum Experience*





- Limited Pool of Potential Partners for the First Sharing Science Workshop
- Workshop Facilitation Space
- Transportation to The Museum
- No budget for any “extras”



- Finalized Details
 - Schedule
 - Reserve Spaces
 - Identify Staff Participants
- Put out a call to participate to CNSE
- Sent Out Pre-Workshop Surveys







- 9 Total Participants
 - 1 CNSE Staff Member
 - 2 CNSE Faculty Members
 - 3 CNSE Grad Students
 - 3 CNSE Undergrad Students
- All of the participants indicated that they had some level of interest in participating in volunteer science education and outreach activities during the next year or two.
- They also all agreed that working with visitors was personally rewarding.
- Everyone also agreed that as a result of the workshop & hands-on experience at The Museum that they felt more confident speaking about their research with non-scientist.



“Science is about relating to your audience.
If you can relate to them and speak their
language you will always succeed.”

“Thank you for the learning experience.
I really enjoyed it and learned much more
about relating science to other people. “



- CNSE CMOST Staff
- Students
- Visitors





Preparing Scientists for Working with Family Audiences

Anna Barr

Public Programs Specialist

California Academy of Sciences



CALIFORNIA
ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES

A Little About Me



California Academy of Sciences: Explore, Explain, and Sustain Life



An aquarium, planetarium, and natural history museum—all under one living roof!



NanoDays in the Naturalist Center



iSSW&P Experience

- » Workshop about giving a workshop—pretty much all the tools you need!
- » Chance to observe and participate in actual workshop
- » Networking, professional development opportunity



Implementation

- » Full-day workshop and asked participants to come back for NanoDays
- » Co-taught with colleague
- » Sent out invitations to Stanford Nano Shared Facilities and UC San Francisco labs



Implementation Successes

- » Colleague was indispensable!
- » Five participants: All reported more confidence speaking about research to non-scientists and would recommend to peers
- » Opened doors to future partnerships
- » Bonus staff training



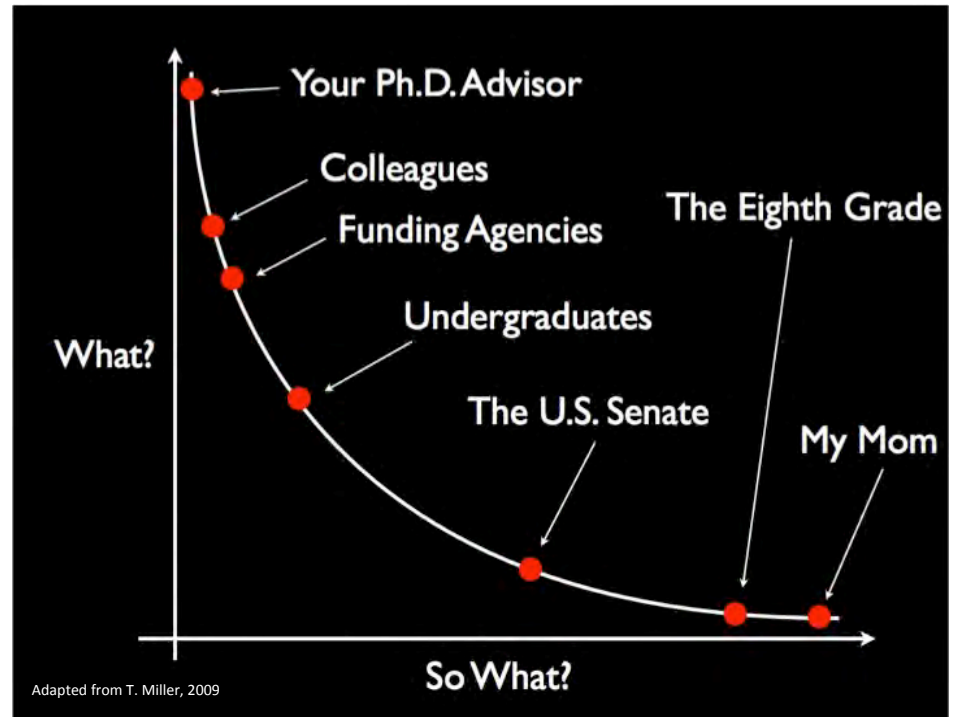
Implementation Challenges

- » More prep time for first offering
- » Tardy participants
- » More participants?
- » Tricky for participants to stay on “so what?” part of research and do so within time constraint
- » Matching appropriate demo to research



Impacts on My Practice

- » Good reminders for best practice: Keep audience in mind, take-home messages, etc.
- » Professional development opportunity
- » Springboard for similar offerings?



Impacts on Participants

- » All agreed working with visitors was personally rewarding and most found practicum part the best part
- » Equally interested before and after in participating in volunteer/outreach activities



Impacts on Participants

» Take-home lessons:

“When in doubt, add more details about the significance of my work instead of the details. Always pay attention to the audience’s engagement and adjust content to be more appropriate.”

“Sometimes it’s best to let the kids make the discoveries and learn the big picture while talking about the scientific implications with the parents so they’re also involved.”

Impacts on Visitors

- » More NanoDays activities (and a couple surprise ones on workshop day!)
- » Chance to talk with real researchers
- » Chance to learn from better-prepared researchers!



Future Plans?

- » Would love to offer on annual basis, but . . .
- » Public Programs merger: Fewer or perhaps more opportunities?



STEM Discovery Lab Coordinator
Museum of Natural History & Science
Cincinnati Museum Center

Brian Pollock





Cincinnati Museum Center

- Museum of Natural History & Science
- Cincinnati History Museum
- Duke Energy Children's Museum
- Special Exhibit Hall, The Edge of Appalachia Nature Preserve, Cincinnati Historical Library, Geier Research and Collection Facility, OMNIMAX Theater, and more.





Cincinnati
Museum
Center

STEM Discovery Lab



Brian Pollock
STEM Discovery Lab Coordinator



Cincinnati
Museum
Center

Museum of Natural History & Science at Cincinnati Museum Center





NanoDays

- Began presenting NanoDays in 2009
- Expanded Presenter list to include University of Cincinnati, Miami University, The University of Northern Kentucky, The College of Mt. St. Joseph, the American Chemical Society and the United States Air Force and Boy Scouts of America Troop 956
- Over 5,000 visitors for NanoDays 2015





The future of NanoDays at CMC

Added NanoCamp in the summer of 2013,
expanded in 2014, continuing in 2015.

Adding Nano Mini-Exhibition

Expanding presentations to more days and
more audiences.





Cincinnati
Museum
Center

Sharing Science Workshop

Workshop and
practicum held
March 28, 2015

Nine graduates
students and two
professors from
The University of
Cincinnati



Video: Brian's reflections on SSW&P at Cincinnati Museum Center





Implementing a Sharing Science Workshop & Practicum

Tracy Englert



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI®



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

- Founded: 1905
- Approximately 15,000 Enrollment
- Classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a RU/H: Research University (high research activity)



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

I'm the Reference Librarian for Science & Technology and Associate Professor for University Libraries



I've been at
Cook Library
since 2001



ILLINOIS

Masters of Science Library and
Information Science (2001)

I'm a community editor for STAR Library
Education Network Community of Practice for
librarians (including non-host librarians) to
interact and partner with STEM professionals
and organizations.

*NSF AISL-funded project



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Using the University Library as an setting for Informal STEM Learning

Science Cafes in the Library

This programming series began in 2010
after the Libraries were awarded a Science
Café mini-grant from NOVA scienceNow



science **cafes**.org



Since 2010, we've had over 30 faculty members and graduate students present their research to an audience of 1000+ members of the public and university community in the University Library





Experience at iSSW&P NISE Net workshop in Boston



"I got to do hands-on
interpretation on the exhibit floor
of the Museum of Science!"





NanoDays @Cook Library





Experience with iSSW&P implementation – success/challenges



What I liked best about the Sharing Science Experience was “talking to peers about the challenges of sharing science to a general audience”



Experience with SSW&P implementation – success/challenges



I found “their reactions toward their own findings” most surprising about working with festival visitors





Experience with iSSW&P implementation – success/challenges

Two of the iSSW&P
participants successfully presented a
Nano program April 10, 2015 at
The Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival



*Part of NISE Net mini-grant



Future Plans:

iSSW&P participants will be presenting a STEAM program using two NISE Net Exploring Material programs: Thin Films and Stained-Glass Windows at the Hattiesburg Public Library this summer to elementary through middle grade learners.

EVERY HERO HAS A STORY

AT THE LIBRARY THIS SUMMER

JUNE

Monday	6/1	All Day	Summer Reading Begins
Tuesday	6/2	9:00-12:00	S.T.E.A.M.* (Hattiesburg)
Wednesday	6/3	9:00-9:30	Group Story Time (Hattiesburg)
		10:00-10:30	Story Time (Hattiesburg)
Thursday	6/4	10:00-10:30	Petal Story Time
Tuesday	6/9	9:00, 1:00, & 4:00	Movie Matinee (Hattiesburg)
Wednesday	6/10	9:00-9:30	Group Story Time (Hattiesburg)
		10:00-10:30	Story Time (Hattiesburg)
Thursday	6/11	10:00-10:30	Petal Story Time
		10:00	Festival South Program (Hattiesburg)
		12:00	Festival South Program (Hattiesburg)
Saturday	6/13	1:00-3:00	Star Wars Party (Hattiesburg)
Tuesday	6/16	9:00-12:00	S.T.E.A.M.* (Hattiesburg)
Wednesday	6/17	9:00-9:30	Group Story Time (Hattiesburg)
		10:00-10:30	Story Time (Hattiesburg)
Thursday	6/18	10:00-10:30	Petal Story Time
Tuesday	6/23	9:00, 1:00, & 4:00	Movie Matinee (Hattiesburg)
Wednesday	6/24	9:00-9:30	Group Story Time (Hattiesburg)
		10:00-10:30	Story Time (Hattiesburg)
Thursday	6/25	10:00-10:20	Petal Story Time
		10:30-11:30	Arts & Crafts (Petal)
Tuesday	6/30	9:00-12:00	S.T.E.A.M.* (Hattiesburg)

JULY

Wednesday	7/1	9:00-9:30	Group Story Time (Hattiesburg)
		10:00-10:30	Story Time (Hattiesburg)
Thursday	7/2	10:00-10:20	Petal Story Time
		10:45-11:30	S.T.E.A.M.* (Petal)
Friday & Saturday	7/3-7/4		Library Closed
Tuesday	7/7	9:00, 1:00, & 4:00	Movie Matinee (Hattiesburg)
Wednesday	7/8	9:00-9:30	Group Story Time (Hattiesburg)
		10:00-10:30	Story Time (Hattiesburg)
Thursday	7/9	10:00-10:30	Petal Story Time
Tuesday	7/14	9:00-12:00	S.T.E.A.M.* (Hattiesburg)
Wednesday	7/15	9:00-9:30	Group Story Time (Hattiesburg)
		10:00-10:30	Story Time (Hattiesburg)
Thursday	7/16	10:00-10:20	Petal Story Time
		10:45-11:30	S.T.E.A.M.* (Petal)
Tuesday	7/21	9:00, 1:00, & 4:00	Movie Matinee (Hattiesburg)
Wednesday	7/22	9:00-9:30	Group Story Time (Hattiesburg)
		10:00-10:30	Story Time (Hattiesburg)
Thursday	7/23	10:00-10:30	Petal Story Time
Saturday	7/25	1:00-3:00	Super Heroes @ Your Library (Trail Party-Hattiesburg)
Saturday	8/1	10:00-4:00	Last Day to Pick Up Prizes

*S.T.E.A.M: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math

Tuesday's STEAM activities target lower elementary through middle grade learners. STEAM programs begin at 9AM and end at 12PM. The program is come-and-go: hands-on activities are self-paced. Reservations are not required.

Selected movies are rated PG.

THE LIBRARY

HATTLIBRARY.COM

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

spectrUMo

The logo for the University of Montana SpectrUMo. The text "UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA" is in a light gray, uppercase, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "spectr" is in a bright orange, lowercase, sans-serif font, and "UMo" is in a dark maroon, uppercase, sans-serif font. To the right of the text are four circular graphic elements: a blue circle with a dark blue dot in the center, a large pink circle with an orange dot in the center, a dark maroon circle with a yellow-green dot in the center, and a small orange circle with a pink dot in the center.

Museum Overview

- We are a small museum located in Missoula, MT established through the University of Montana in 2006
- Expanded to downtown location with extended public hours and programming in 2013
- We offer open hours, camps, field trips, birthday parties, local outreach at various events and travel statewide to bring our museum to rural and tribal communities.
- Approx. 55,000 people served per year through all programming
- 30 staff members, only 4 full-time with a mix of volunteers, work-study college students, AmeriCorps Associates and high-school volunteer program
- All of our programs are facilitated hands-on activities led by trained staff - our exhibits are our amazing staff!

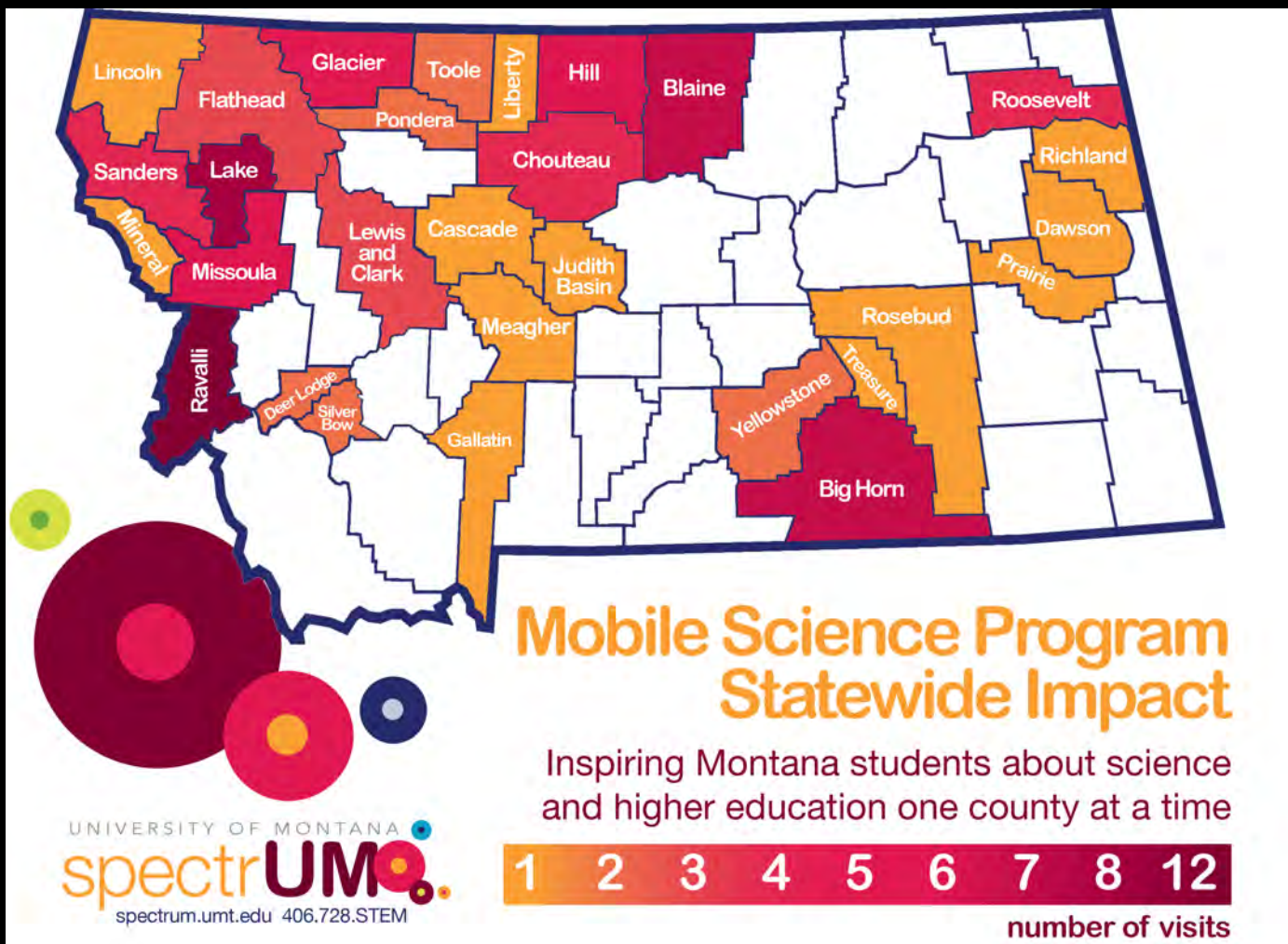


Big Sky
Brain Project

BrainLab







SSW&P Workshop and Implementation

- Held on February 28th for 9 graduate students and post-docs
- 3.5 hour workshop, with practicum scheduled individually to follow (Nano Days, other visits)
- We saw a marked increase in ability of participants to engage with visitors, especially younger children
- All participants found the workshop useful, especially the rapid prototyping introduction
- Most participants expressed interest in another workshop, and also will help recruit for fall implementation
- Utilizing the NISE-Net nano activities proved to be a bit of a challenge, but was good for participants to step outside their areas of research to explain science

SSW&P Workshop and Implementation

- We regularly host graduate students and post-docs for presentations and activities about their research during open hours and at camps and clubs
- We recruited most of the participants through this network of volunteers
- This workshop was a great way to engage with them further and provide professional development to improve their skills in communicating science to the public
- Splitting the workshop and practicum seemed to work out well, but a few of the participants were unable to get a practicum scheduled before finals/summer obligations
- Next planned implementation is fall 2015 for training of next year's volunteers

Grad Student and University Researcher Presentations



Explaining Heat Transfer and Nano



Crash Course in Nano Fabric



Questions?

nicholos.wethington@umontana.edu

www.spectrum.umt.edu



406-728-STEM

The image shows the Marbles Kids Museum in Raleigh, NC. The building is a two-story structure with a brick base and a large glass upper section. A large, colorful sculpture made of interlocking rings is mounted on the glass facade. The building is surrounded by trees and a grassy area. A person is walking on the sidewalk in front of the building. The sky is clear and blue.

Marbles Kids Museum
Raleigh, NC

**Maximizing Your
Nano Outreach &
Education Impact**

Hardin Engelhardt
Education and Evaluation Specialist



Alex Laube, STEM Play Lead
Hardin Engelhardt, Education and
Evaluation Specialist



STACKING

BUILDS QUICKLY
BUT NOT STRONG

NEED TO INTERLOCK
PAGES WAY UP!

Problem-solving.

Building
BIG
futures.

Communicating.

Creating.

Collaborating.

IDEAS
INSPIRATION TAKES FLIGHT

INT

Today's Specials

Fruit Smoothie



Veggie Stir Fry



Tossed Salad





Money Palooza

In partnership with your North Carolina banks

The sign features a pink piggy bank on the left, surrounded by various coins including a 10-cent coin, a 25-cent coin, and a 1-cent coin. The word 'Money Palooza' is written in large, red, bubbly letters. Below the main title, it says 'In partnership with your North Carolina banks'.





IMAX



Workshop Reflection Video

Alex Laube



Maximize Your Outreach and Education Impact Workshops

Sharing Science!

Brad Herring

Director of Nanoscale Informal
Science Education
Multimedia Developer
Museum of Life and Science

Alex Laube

STEM Program Play Lead
Marbles Kids Museum



www.NISE.org

www.science.org

www.marbleskidsmuseum.org



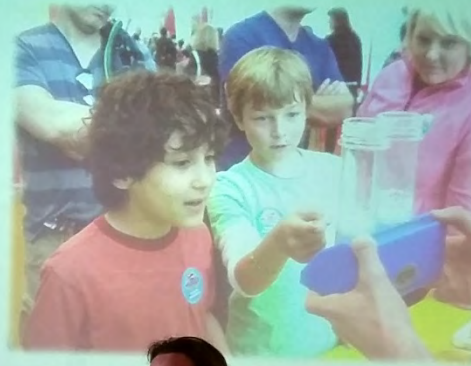
Sharing Science!

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Alex Laube

STEM Program Play Lead
Marbles Kids Museum



www.NK.org

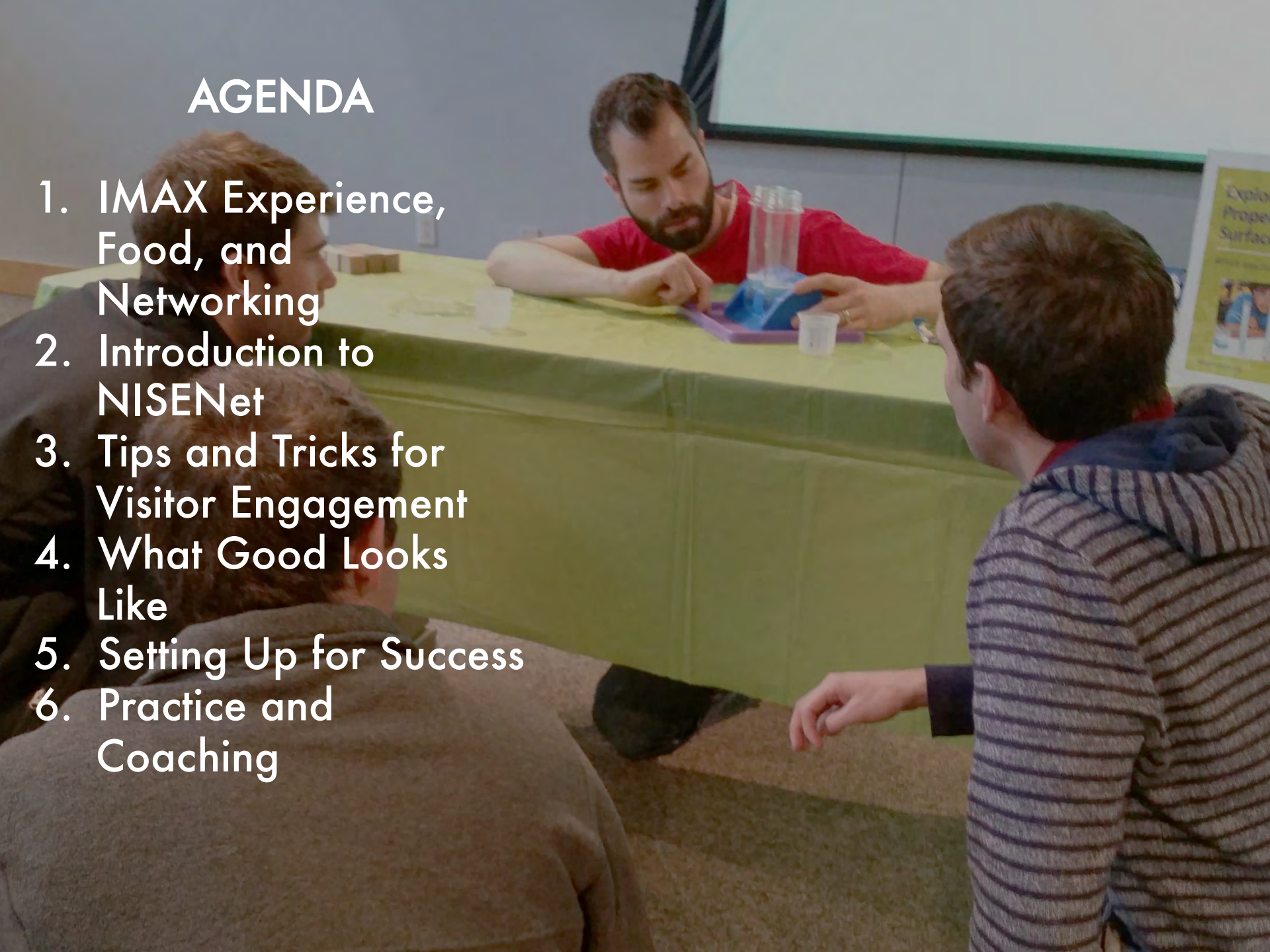
www.museum.org

www.marbleskidsmuseum.org



AGENDA

1. IMAX Experience, Food, and Networking
2. Introduction to NISENet
3. Tips and Tricks for Visitor Engagement
4. What Good Looks Like
5. Setting Up for Success
6. Practice and Coaching



Impact

*Learning and growing
with the children we serve*



For Exhibits ↑



Learning and growing
with the children we

Carbon
Copy

Toddlers
Hollow

















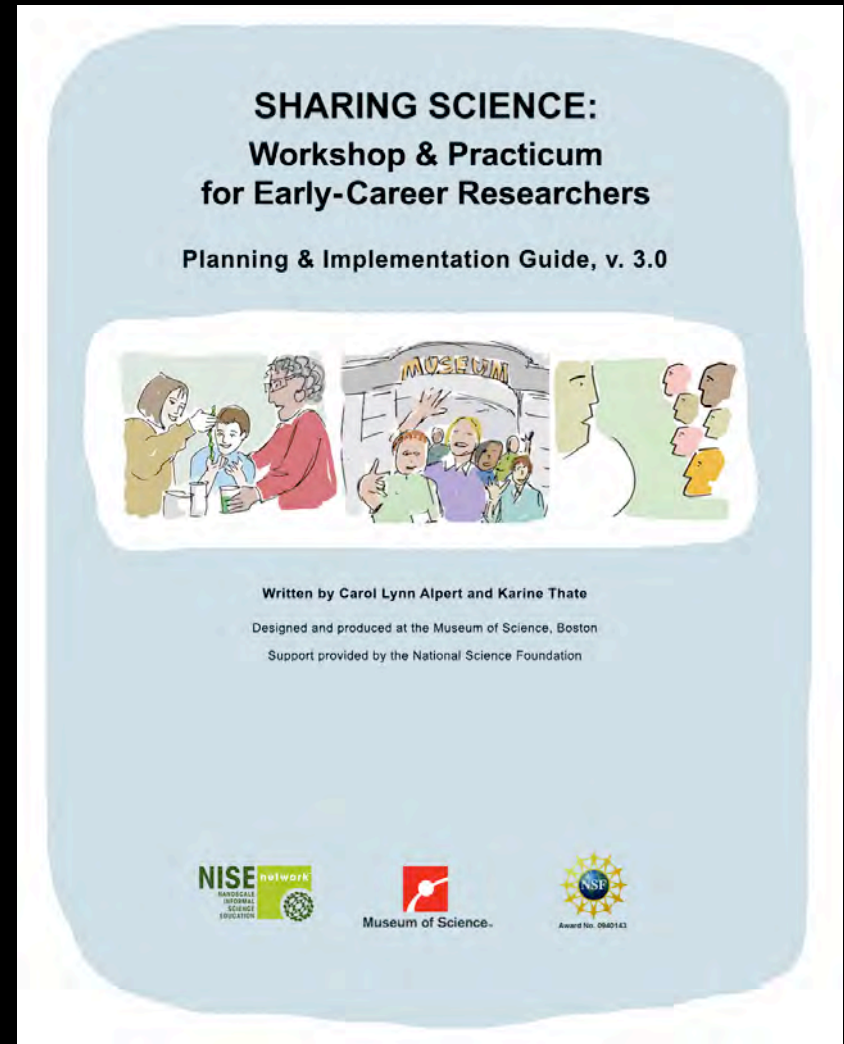




Discussion & Questions

Are you interested
in implementing the
Sharing Science
Workshop & Practicum
at YOUR institution?

Let us know!



Thank you!



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