

## ELEMENTARY SCIENCE - SUCCESS STORY



### Creating excitement at Treutlen Elementary with a new science program

Around the room, the Science teacher, Mrs. Sharon Hattaway, has created colorful murals and Science themed artwork. Students' dioramas also decorate the room. They even have a series of aquariums and vivariums with live fish, insects and turtles.

We talked with Science teacher, Mrs. Hattaway, to find out more about the impact of the new Science lab; "The boys and girls here really love this program. They are really excited to get in here and work together on the modules. We have all our classes come in to the lab and our third, fourth, and fifth graders are able to work totally independently on the assignments. With our younger students, in first and second grade, I like to use the projector and lead the whole class through the introductory lessons.

#### Helping students score 100% on tests

Now that the older students have been working on the system for a while they are working well and are getting a real grasp of the Science principles they cover. Very few of them have to re-do any assignments and most of the time they score 100% on the tests.

School principal, Mrs. Naomi Reed, paid the lab a visit while we were there, she is a real advocate of the new Science program and is excited by the way it is helping the boys and girls become more and more Science literate;

"This program excites me because of the way it has caused our students to embrace Science. They just love to come in here to work on the modules. It's not just the impact it is having on Science, my teachers are noticing the impact it is having on vocabulary, reading and writing. The impact on Science is important. We have to address the Georgia CRCT and I know our scores are going to be much higher. I can tell this when I visit the lab and observe the students, it's not very often that they score less than 100% on the assessments that are part of the assignments.

**Students, teachers and parents love the lab**



"We want to teach beyond our State standards to help our students compete with the best in the nation and the world. Living with Science allows us to do that."

Mrs. Naomi Reed,  
School Principal



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Mrs. Sharon Hattaway,  
Science Teacher

Another really important aspect of the Science program is the excitement it has created with the students, our teachers and our parents. With boys and girls going home excited about Science, we get lots of parental interest, they can't wait to come in and see the lab at parent evenings.

Lea Hall, Literacy Coach, told us how she is finding the work that the students are doing in Science is helping in literacy;

“This really supports our push on literacy which is based on ‘Reading First’. It is extending their vocabulary and their experiences with the hands-on activities. The multimedia format supports the multiple learning styles of our youngsters and keeps them engaged.

They are able to verbalize Science concepts. Now they take interest in the weather report and can talk about it with their parents at home; that is really exciting.”

### **Science program helps all students to succeed**

Mrs. Wendy Lumley, the School's Curriculum Co-ordinator, also sees the impact that the new Science resource has on the students; “What I think is so great about the way ‘Living with Science’ works is that it is so equitable. Everyone gets the same opportunity to study Science because all the things they need are in the lab. We are not reliant on having students bring in bits and pieces to do Science. With the technology-based learning delivery all the students have the same advantage and all have the chance to excel in Science. The work that the students do is supplemented to the Science they do in their home rooms. We spoke with a number of the third-grade teachers at the school to see if it has been helping.

Mrs. Dawn Helms told us, “We have just done magnets in the classroom and they know so much about magnetism and how magnets work. This helps us to teach much more Science, when they know so much and they say, “Hey, we know that, we did it in Science lab!”

### **Easy-to-manage system speeds up learning process**

According to Mrs. Angie Proctor, another third grade teacher, her students are also benefiting from the lab. “They love it and they can't wait to get in there. What I have found amazing is how quickly they have picked up on the way the system works, especially the technology part of it. Having it all in one place is great, sometimes they can get through two assignments a day.

The importance of success in Science is becoming a national drive, with an ever increasingly importance being placed on testing in Science as part of No Child Left Behind.