MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE - SUCCESS STORY

New computer-based science program is better than a textbook according to MS582 science teacher

At MS582, Tom Eyck Upper School in Brooklyn, New York, their new computer-based science program is proving to be a better way of teaching than the traditional textbook. We visited the school and spoke with science teacher, Mr. Eric Unger;

"This new computer-based teaching material is just so much better than a textbook. My students are just way more interested in anything I can present on-screen. I have so much more control over what I can deliver and the system aligns well against our science curriculum. I can even customize the computer-based learning materials that come with the Scitek system.

Engaging the students

The variety of the materials that we have with this system helps address all the different learning styles our students have. With the HTML lessons I can have them all doing the same thing at the same time or I can let them go away and do individual or group activities based around a lesson topic like food chains. When we did that I had them all do the same lesson at the same time, and then, as a project, I had them go away and create the food web displays you see outside my room. That really worked well and they all got engaged in doing it."

To find out more about the impact of this innovative teaching resource on the teaching of science at MS582, we spoke with school principal, Mr. Brian Walsh. He told us; "My experience with the science cart is the impact it has on teacher planning. I can see how well it conforms to our curriculum and how well it draws in the kids. In my view, teaching is a combination of theatre and the delivery of facts.For our students it's the presentation of the facts that's important, you need the 'theatre' element but with our students, the fact that the cart uses technology to do it is key."

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Mr. Eric Unger,
Science Teacher

85 Corporate Drive, Holtsville NY 11742, Tel: 1-800-237-3482, Fax: 1-631-758-1788