



DARTMOUTH MONTSHIRE INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Experimenting with Plants:

Science Investigation Curriculum for Middle School Students

Project Details	
Funder	National Science Foundation
Lead Organization	Dartmouth College
Outreach budget	\$107,000 (over 5 years)
Total project budget	--
Project dates	9/1/06 - 8/31/10
Related Research Project	--

Principal Investigators and Project Staff

- ▶ G. Eric Schaller, Scientific P.I., Department of Biology, Dartmouth College
- ▶ Greg DeFrancis, Outreach Science Education P.I., Director of Education, Montshire Museum of Science
- ▶ Rachel Donegan, Program Manager, Science Educator, Montshire Museum of Science

Project Summary

This project creates a community outreach component to Dr. Schaller's current research supported by the National Science Foundation. The project builds on another Dartmouth-Montshire Institute curriculum program, [Environmental Detectives](#) by expanding the repertoire of student investigations to include plant activities. Students conduct investigations that parallel the research process of Dr. Schaller's lab as they engage in designing bioassays for the effects of common chemicals on the germination and growth of plants. The project includes curricular support and professional development for participating teachers and features opportunities for direct interaction between the middle school teachers, their students, and scientists in Dr. Schaller's lab.