

STEM Alliance Partnership

2020-2021 School Year



Montshire Museum of Science is committed to supporting local and regional teachers & schools to provide opportunities for high quality science teaching and learning through the *Montshire STEM Alliance* program. The Museum recognizes that long-term relationships with schools and their faculty are at the heart of sustainable change and growth in instructional practice. Therefore, our work with schools is rooted in partnership between and among school leaders, teachers, and the museum's expertise and educational resources.

The model we have developed is responsive to the changing educational landscape, priorities and emergent needs of Vermont and New Hampshire's rural schools, teachers and administrators. The Montshire supports individual teachers across grade levels to implement inquiry-based science and engineering units, aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), into their instructional practice, while supporting school leadership in their efforts to align and prioritize school- and district-wide science teaching and learning.

STEM Alliance Partner Schools & Teachers are supported with the following professional development resources:

- **STEM Workshops:** Grade-level, collaborative workshops led by a Montshire Science Educator, as well as teachers from other schools across the region, to introduce an inquiry-based approach to an NGSS-aligned science curricular topic and support teachers' planning and instructional practice of this topic. These workshops are intended to seed knowledge-development, comfort and confidence around specific science topics, as well as promote collaborative exploration and idea generation for a variety of inquiry-based implementation methods. This year, workshops will be remote, with focal topics scheduled across the year.
- **One on One Coaching:** A Montshire Science Educator provides individual or team-based coaching in support of teachers' implementation of a specific STEM topic or content area. *Scheduled upon request; Previous attendance at an aligned STEM Workshop encouraged.*
- **Community Connection:** Online sessions among teachers who participated in a STEM Workshop to discuss curricular implementation, and to explore obstacles, opportunities, and additional resources for strengthening and extending the curriculum together. *Scheduled to accommodate participants.*
- **Curriculum Kits:** Teachers have exclusive access to curricular kits curated and designed by the Montshire's team of science educators to align with the NGSS focus topics explored through online workshops. *Upon request; Previous attendance at an aligned STEM Topic Workshop required.*
- **Student Science Workshops:** Montshire Educators visit your class remotely (or in-person as regulations allow) to facilitate or co-facilitate an inquiry-based science learning experience for your students. *Upon request.*
- **School-Wide Professional Development:** Montshire Science Educators provide a school-wide professional development workshop for partnering schools.

- **Montshire at Home:** Access to an array of online learning resources designed and curated by the Montshire’s education team, including video and photo explorations of science concepts, downloadable activities, teacher guides and live special events that align to and support engagement in grade-level NGSS topics.
- **Teacher Tea Time Webinar Series:** The Montshire’s education team will host a series of brown-bag webinars featuring experts in STEM teaching, learning, and practice from throughout our community and beyond. *Scheduled across the year.*
- **Alliance Newsletter:** Including links to upcoming professional development opportunities hosted by the Montshire, spotlights on fellow STEM Alliance teachers, and related community resources for STEM engagement among students, families and teachers
- **Leadership Check-Ins:** Montshire Science Educators will meet with the principal/leadership from partnering schools at the beginning, middle and end of the school year to set priorities, expectations and goals, and to monitor and track progress towards reaching those goals.
- **Annual Museum Membership:** All teachers from partnering schools receive a single-person annual membership to the Montshire Museum of Science.
- **Formative Evaluation & Reporting:** Formative program evaluation data that can be used by school leadership to track progress towards school- or district-wide goals for science instruction and learning.

The Montshire will work with partnership schools to modify programmatic activities to the needs and circumstances of instruction and learning that emerge in the coming school year. We are confident that each of the resources listed above can be adapted to accommodate virtual, hybrid and in-person instructional contexts.

For the 2020-2021 School Year, our Participation Fees: The Montshire works with multiple schools across the region in building the school’s capacity to provide a high-quality science education program. The Museum’s fees for this professional science education capacity building program is based on the amount of staff resources committed to each school and other direct costs associated with these services. In light of current health issues and state-mandated restrictions, for the 2020-2021 school year, we are offering these partnership services at a special reduced rate that is generously supported and supplemented by grant funding.

Number of Classrooms in your School	STEM Alliance Participation Fees
Up to 6 Classrooms	\$1000
7-10 Classrooms	\$1500
11-15 Classrooms	\$2000
16+ Classrooms	Custom Pricing Package

*Schools with a Free and Reduced Lunch rate of 25-50% receive a 10% discount
 Schools with a Free and Reduced Lunch rate of greater than 50% receive a 25% discount.*

If you would like to become a partnership school, renew your partnership or have any questions, please contact Amy VanderKooi at amy.vanderkooi@montshire.org or 802-649-2200 ext. 234.