



SBC Ameritech Classroom

Meet the Fall 2004 Cohort Teachers

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Summer 2004

Deb Miller, Fishcreek Elementary, Third Grade (Stow)

Deb Miller was joined by colleagues from Physical Education, Music and Art to plan an interdisciplinary unit on Force, Motion and Simple Machines. The team weaved together some innovative ideas and formulated a unit plan which includes all of the disciplines. The teachers in the special areas will attend once a week. A teleconference with Thomas Jefferson Institute in Mexico City is planned for the purpose of exchanging original music composed by the students. Students will participate in the design of a protective covering for a raw egg as an engineering challenge. The team is planning many more exciting adventures in learning.



Pat Close, Deb Miller
and Judy Mikes

Christi Bates, Holden Elementary, Second Grade (Kent)

Bright or Dim? Loud or Quiet? How do light and sound impact the lives of humans? Christi's class will investigate how light and sound are produced, how it is transferred and the sources. She plans to use web quests and student produced video experiments to impart the understandings. She also will collaborate with a music teacher to show the students how instruments make sounds. A field trip to Music and Speech and activities to measure sound and light will make this an exciting unit.



Christi Bates

Jenifer Maddox, Woodland Elementary, Fourth Grade, (Stow)

Jenifer is using endangered animals and a connection to the students at the Thomas Jefferson Institute in Mexico City to teach students about the writing process. Writing friendly letters will be a lot more exciting for these fourth graders when given the opportunity to pen pal with a student in a foreign country. Jenifer will also have students writing letters to keepers at the zoo, creating recipes for an animal's favorite dish as well as writing informational reports on each animal. A story from the point of view of the animal will provide an opportunity for students to write a persuasive story. Daily journaling, daily diary entries as animals, and news broadcasts should make writing a creative endeavor in the SBC Ameritech Classroom.



Jenifer Maddox

Adam Marino, Roberts Middle, Sixth Grade (Cuyahoga Falls)

Adam's students will explore energy resources and present information to classmates using PowerPoint presentations. Utilizing the information gathered, students will be creating energy booklets. Speakers on the building of energy efficient houses will be invited to explore this topic with students who will create designs for a home. Posters about the conservation of energy will be created and displayed both in the home school and here at Kent State University.



Adam Marino

Introducing Spring 2005 Cohort Teachers

Bonnie Harper and Debbie Twynham, Brimfield Elementary, Fifth Grade

Bonnie and Debbie have teamed to create a meaningful experience at the SBCAC using the topics of light and sound. They are integrating language arts and science lessons in the exploration of these forms of energy, how they travel, are absorbed or reflected, and how they are measured. A teleconference will be arranged so that the students can view the creation of a vacuum in a bell jar and explore the possibility of the transmission of light and sound through that vacuum. Students will design original musical instruments which they will use to illustrate frequency and volume. Technology will be employed as students create web quests on light and sound. Palm Handhelds will be utilized for journaling daily reflections on specific lessons. PowerPoint presentations on scientists who have impacted our knowledge of sound and light will be created by the students. Both the web quests and the PowerPoint presentations will be shared with other fifth grade classes back in their home school. The Field Local Schools' gifted and talented coordinators, Pat Moore and Elaine Reynolds, attended the summer cohort training with Debbie and Bonnie. Their encouragement and support was evident and appreciated.



Debbie Twynham



Bonnie Harper

Beth Trivelli, Davey Elementary School, First Grade

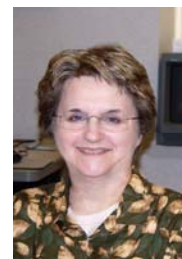
First graders of Beth Trivelli will investigate the basic needs of living things using the scientific inquiry method. Student's questions will drive investigations into plants and animals. Surfing the internet and taking walks on campus, will allow students the opportunity to pursue the answers to their questions. A teleconference with the Akron Zoo is planned so students can get information on animals. This will be followed by a teleconference to the Institute of Thomas Jefferson in Mexico City where the first graders will exchange information about the animals in their zoos. ABC booklets about animals will be created by the students. Interactive story books will be utilized and a trip to the Reinberger Room at the KSU library will enable students to experience the wide variety of books on animals. The experience will culminate in an Author's Tea where students books on CD's will be viewed.



Beth Trivelli

Marlene Osborn, Roberts Middle School, 7th Grade

Students will be asking the questions: "Why am I who I am? Why am I not a rhino? Marlene has crafted a unit on the study of genetics where students will build understandings of the role genes, chromosomes, DNA, and amino acids play in inheritance. She will be doing videoconferencing with several locations around the country to introduce the concepts of forensics, the genome project and genetic disorders to her students. Students, using the computers, will design genetic babies and pamphlets on genetic disorders. A presentation on these genetic disorders will be prepared for Dr. Unger's Class on DVDs. Interwrite boards will be utilized for data collection and the teaching of Punnett squares.



Marlene Osborn