

EDUCATION – POSTER #50

Climate Change Science Straight from the Horse's Mouth – Researchers Instructing Teachers

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The southern Nevada contingent of the Education Component has held four summer institutes for Clark County School District teachers (2009-2012). Our focus was to instruct southern Nevada's educators on climate change in the Southwest through various activities such as field trips, reading topics, in-class discussions, and guest lectures. A total of nineteen teachers were exposed to various subjects focusing on climate change science and research in order to foster their development of classroom curricula. Teacher assessments reveal that one of the most effective and enjoyable ways to communicate the subject was for them to learn directly from the researchers. For this reason, institute organizers arranged for numerous lectures, discussions, and field trips to be guided by researchers of climate change science and sustainability. Teachers subsequently used the information to create inquiry-based lessons for their classroom. We estimate that the information has been disseminated to 5,000+ CCSD middle and high school students so far.