

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December 2018 | Issue No. 6

The AMSTI-USA Monthly Newsletter is published on the first business day of each month. All issues are archived on the AMSTI-USA page [HERE](#)
 For questions or comments, please email Cassie Haywood at chaywood@southalabama.edu.

From Leadership



Raphaella Archie | Assistant Director

This academic semester is nearing the end and the holidays are about to begin. AMSTI joined with schools and teachers across Region 10 to offer science compressed training. Over 120 teachers took advantage of this opportunity to gain certification for the grade levels they currently teach. This job-embedded training allowed teachers to get hands-on, face-to-face training to begin immediate implementation in their classrooms.

We have also held professional development opportunities in Math. Our K-2nd grade teachers explored Counting Collections, a structured opportunity for children to count a collection of objects. This experience with counting lays the foundation for understanding the base-ten system. The Multiplication and Division Content Session allowed 3rd-5th grade teachers to gain a deeper understanding of these operations in real-world context. Teachers analyzed tasks, studied the progression of multiplication, and used grade-level appropriate manipulatives to make meaning of rigorous problems for their students.

The participation in these learning experiences showed how Region 10 teachers are committed to growing professionally for their students. More professional development opportunities will be announced soon. *Have a Happy Holiday Season!*

K-5 Science Compressed Training

To be eligible you must have completed a Summer Institute for any K-5 Year 1 Science, implemented for 1 school year, then completed a Summer Institute for any K-5 Year 2 Science. Ex. 1st Grade Science Year 1 in 2018 and 5th Grade Science Year 2 in 2018. As you can see, the Summer Institutes could be years apart and don't have to be in the same grade level as long as they were in the K-5 grade band.

**If the training has 2 dates listed, both are required for certification. AMSTI is able to reimburse for substitute costs (up to \$300) a hour day. All sessions are from 8:00-3:00 at 93 Sidney Phillips Drive, Mobile, AL 36607.

Please see our new Wix webpage (www.amstiusa.org/training) or link directly to the registration form (<https://go.usa.at/bvmsj4b0zcc5200-2933>). Contact Susan Andrews with any questions (sandrews@southalabama.edu) or call (251) 665-4684.

Compressed Training	Date(s)
K: Plants & Animals	10/17/18
K: Weather Walk	9/11/18
K: Push & Pull	9/5/18
1: Sound, Light, & Sky	9/6/18
1: Wild Organisms	11/8/18

Counting Collections

Counting Collections Content Session
 October 16, 2018
 AMSTI-USA
 93 Sidney Phillips Drive

Materials Corner

New Website



Susan Andress | Business Manager

Over the summer we found out that Wikispaces was closing permanently. Our new website, amstiusa.org, is up and running. AMSTI.org is the statewide website. AMSTIUSA.org is our local, region 10 website.

Information that can be found on our website:

[Home Page](#) – upcoming events, photo slideshow of past events

[Staff](#)- contact information

[Training](#)- information about upcoming sessions with links to registration forms

[Bookkeeper's Corner](#)- link to substitute reimbursement request portal and how-to video

[Newsletter](#) – archives of previous issues

2018

Issue #1

Issue #2

Issue #3

Issue #4

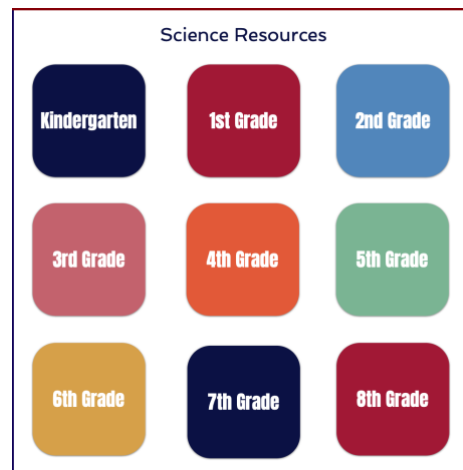
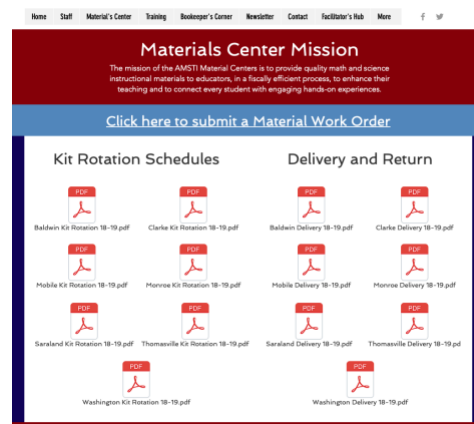
Issue #5



Crayfish Care

Material's Center-

- link to submit Material Work Order (for missing/damaged items)
- kit rotation schedules
- kit delivery/return schedules (updated each summer)
- grade specific pages with packing slips, organism care sheets/videos, correlation documents, special notes, errata sheets...



Information to be added soon:

-Safety Data Sheets to each grade level page

-Lead teacher information

-Poster attachments (grade level course of study, 3-Dimensional Learning Bookmark, Evaluate Chart

Math Highlights

AMSTI-USA Partners with the Alabama Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ACTM)

By Elizabeth Hammonds

The latest ACT conference was held in Birmingham, Alabama on November 1-2, 2018. The Keynote speaker was the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) president, Dr. Robert Berry. This year's conference focused on promoting equity within the math classroom so that every student has the opportunity to succeed.

AMSTI-USA secondary math specialist, Elizabeth Hammonds, in conjunction with AMSTI-UM presented a session called "Creating Equity Using the Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract (CPA) Model." The session was attended by teachers K-12 and focused on making sense of mathematics through manipulatives and pictures to build procedural fluency from conceptual understanding.

Next year's ACTM conference will feature Dr. Jennifer Bay-Williams as the keynote speaker. Her work focuses on student-centered mathematics and developing resources and tools for coaches to implement in their schools and districts. ACTM 2019 conference will be one you do not want to miss!



Math Fluency Resources for K-5th

By Angela Williams



Achieve the Core has compiled a collection of activities from a variety of valid sources in one place. These are focused on fluency and building number sense in a meaningful way. Many are routines that can be easily infused into daily lessons.

<https://achievethecore.org/page/2948/fluency-resources-for-grade-level-routines>



[Using the Rekenrek \(or Math Rack\)](#)

AMSTI's new Summer Institute training provides K-2nd grade teachers with a demonstration rekenrek that can be used to build fluency within 20. This tool is new to many teachers. The links below are videos that can help teachers learn more about this tool and ways it can be used for instruction.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddn5Yrbezss>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B4_YvwplQwU
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pk9TbuAPQ7E>
- <https://earlymath.erikson.edu/how-to-use-a-rekenrek/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3uhHMLiYiOU>

I LOVE THIS TOOL! If you are interested in using this tool with your students, the elementary math specialists at AMSTI-USA can help you make some for your students.

Science Highlights

Science PLT at Griggs Engaged in CER

By Aimee Rester



Teachers at Griggs Elementary School are learning about CERs (Claims, Evidence, Reasoning). Teachers were given a cup of sand and investigated the following question: Does water or wind erode sand faster? They used straws to imitate the wind and a spray bottle to imitate the rain. After the investigation, each group had a different claim and they were able to support their claim with physical evidence from their experiment.

One group claimed that water eroded sand faster because they did not spray the water on the sand, they unscrewed the lid and poured the water which created a stronger force. The other group was able to blow air through the straw which created a stronger force on their sand than spraying the water bottle. Both groups could support their argument from their evidence!

