



Weekly Newsletter October 31, 2005

Science Fair is in the Air!

It's that time again; science fair is just around the corner. The Science and Mathematics Education Center at UNCW sponsored a school district planning meeting on October 19th. The regional competition will be held on UNCW's campus March 4th. The state competition will be held on March 25th. Information on county competitions should be coming to your individual schools soon. In the meantime, check out the SMEC website for planning information and other resources:

<http://www.uncw.edu/smec/sciencefair.html>

The GK-12 Fellows recently got together to review the movie **October Skies**. They are putting together a program to get students excited about participating in science fair. Ask your Fellow for details.

Healthy Websites

Obesity is becoming a "growing" problem for America's young people who live in a "fast food nation". The combination of poor diet and little exercise is leading to health problems such as hypertension, diabetes and obesity. The government recently issued another version of the food pyramid. If your students are concerned or confused about this important issue, check out these sites:

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/Fpyr/pyramid.html>

<http://www.mypyramid.gov/>

<http://www.mypyramid.gov/kids/index.html>

http://kidshealth.org/kid/stay_healthy/food/pyramid.html

<http://www.bam.gov/index.html>

Upcoming Events

NCSTA
Science Resources
From the Mountains to the Sea
North Carolina Science Teachers Association
2005 Professional Development Institute
November 10 & 11, 2005
Joseph S. Koury Convention Center
Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at Four Seasons
Greensboro, North Carolina
Planning Guide

<http://www.ncsta.org/institute/>

37th Annual NCSTA Professional Development Institute
Koury Convention Center
Greensboro, NC
November 10-11, 2005

Click on a food group in the pyramid to learn more.



Pumpkin Chunkin' Physics

It's a tough time to be a pumpkin! Pumpkin tossing, chunking and catapulting contests are taking place all over the country. Many teachers use these fun competitions to help their students learn some basic physics. Now that Halloween is over, you might be able to get some pumpkins donated for a competition at your school. For more information on this topic, check out these sites:

http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2005/10/1026_051026_pumpkintoss.html

<http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/science/core/physics/html/PUMPKIN.HTM>

<http://science.howstuffworks.com/question502.htm>

<http://www.punkinchunkin.com/main.htm>

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