



Visiting Educator Profile



Sandra Russell

Science Teacher, Grades 9-12
Starpoint High School
Lockport, NY

Bio

Sandra teaches Earth Science and Biology in grades 9-12 at Starpoint High School in Lockport, NY. Her 39 years of teaching experience includes teaching at grade levels from kindergarten to college. She has permanent teaching certification in Earth Science, Biology, Mathematics, General Science, Elementary Education, and Physical Education. In addition to teaching students, Sandra has extensive experience in training other teachers. She is a MESSENGER Educator Fellow, a field trainer for GLOBE, and a field trainer for Thinkfinity (formerly Marco Polo). She is also a consultant for the New York State Education Department as an item writer and a participant on the range-finding committee. She has presented at numerous national and regional conferences, including the NSTA eastern regional conference in 2006; MESSENGER Educator Fellow Training Workshops in 2006; and the STANYS Conference in 2004, 2005 and 2007.

Her basic philosophy in teaching science is getting across the idea that science is exciting. There is a great, big world and universe out there, and she believes in taking her students and fellow teachers out to personally discover it. She believes that students are more successful at learning by doing—through hands-on experiences. It is also more fun for everyone involved—including the teacher herself! She believes that anyone can learn but everyone learns differently. She therefore strives to present material to students through multiple methodologies. Finally she believes that enthusiasm is contagious. Her hope is that her enthusiasm for science and learning in general rubs off on her students. She wants her students to be as excited about learning in general and learning about science in particular as she is.