

Authors and Consultants

Experience Science™ is designed by teachers, supervisors, and academic experts whose experiences and study of instructional best practices have positively impacted student learning. Our authors, partners, consultants, and reviewers bring new ideas, innovations, and strategies to deliver an inspiring program.

Authors



Terrance Burgess, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Science Education, Michigan State University

Terrance Burgess, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor of science education in the Department of Teacher Education at Michigan State University. His research focuses on how increasing equitable science learning opportunities for elementary youth of color within the urban school setting affects outcomes. Additional areas of his research explore how teachers' positionalities and their implementation of standards-driven curricula impact students.



Sophia Esperanza Garcia, Ph.D.

Senior Instructor, Texas Christian University

Dr. Sophia Garcia is a proud Fort Worth native and first-generation college graduate. She has taught middle school, high school, and collegiate level science courses. Currently, she teaches Human Anatomy and Physiology at Texas Christian University. Dr. Garcia is dedicated to supporting youth interested in STEM through targeted programming that provides opportunities for skill building, career exploration, education planning, and mentorship.



Mike Heithaus, Ph.D.

Professor of Biological Sciences and Executive Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences & Education, Florida International University

Dr. Heithaus is a marine ecologist, educator, and science communicator. He has published more than 200 scientific papers and is known for his work on predator-prey interactions, especially in oceans. He has spent more than 20 years bringing the excitement of science to the classroom and public audiences by authoring textbooks, developing project-based materials, and appearing in dozens of documentary films.



Jesse Wilcox, Ph.D.

Associate Professor in Biology and Science Education, University of Northern Iowa

Before becoming a professor, Jesse was a high school science teacher and taught physical and earth science and biology. Jesse has won numerous teaching awards, has presented hundreds of times at science and STEM education conferences, and has published dozens of articles in science and STEM education journals. He has served as the NSTA Director of Professional Learning, Co-chair of the NSTA Leadership Council, and an NSTA Board member. He has also served as the Chair of the Iowa Science Teaching Section of the Iowa Academy of Science. Jesse is passionate about working with science teachers to develop engaging and meaningful lessons for their students.

Consultants



María Guadalupe Arreguín, Ed.D.

Dr. María Guadalupe Arreguín, Ed.D., is a professor of early childhood and elementary education at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Her research focuses on inquiry-based learning, early childhood-dual language education, and interactive learning in dyads.



Almitra Berry, Ed.D.

Dr. Almitra Berry holds a B.A. in political science/public administration, an M.Ed. in curriculum and instruction, and an Ed.D. in educational leadership with a specialization in curriculum and instruction. Her credentials include a reading endorsement, language development, and bilingual/crosscultural language acquisition and development for Spanish language instruction.

Contributors & Reviewers

Experience Science™ collaborates with diverse and talented science experts to create remarkable videos that reinforce science content and make learning fun.



Contributors

Tamara Robertson is a television host and Emmy-nominated producer best known for her role as a co-host and fabricator on the reboots of "Mythbusters." Tamara is a patent-holding, OSHA-certified chemical & biomolecular engineer with over a decade of experience as a design engineer. Tamara hosts a series called "Maker Science" and she co-produces a STEM outreach comic called "Seekers of Science" with Dr. Tracy Fanara.

Dr. Tracy Fanara is an environmental engineer and research scientist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Tracy is a television host and expert on many networks including The Weather Channel, National Geographic, Newsy, and Discovery. She is co-author of the STEM outreach comic, "Seekers of Science," with Tamara Robertson.

Maynard Okereke, who is better known as the Hip Hop M.D., is a civil engineer. Maynard is an award-winning science communicator, having received both the Asteroid Award for "Best Streaming Content" and the People of Change Award for his community outreach efforts. He's been featured on Netflix's "Ada Twist Scientist", The Science Channel, *Curiosity Stream*, and his STEM outreach work has been published in "Scientific American".

Teacher Reviewers

Samrudhi Acharya

Luther Jackson Middle School
Falls Church, VA

Alban Biba

iLearn Schools
Fair Lawn, NJ

Carrie Brown

Linden Middle School
Linden, MI

Lisa Camponeschi

Pilgrim Park Middle School
Elm Grove, WI

Dana DeMoure-Umscheid

Pleasant Hill Middle School
Pleasant Hill, MO

Kathleen Fagan

Arundel Middle School
Odenton, MD

Adam Hess

School District of Lancaster
Lancaster, PA

Dr. Tasha Jordan

Riverview Gardens School District
Saint Louis, MO

Carrie Launius

Saint Louis Public Schools
Saint Louis, MO

Adrian Lester

Montbello Middle School
Denver, CO

Andrew Lutz

Summit Middle School
Fort Wayne, IN

Brad Rhew

Guilford County Schools
Greensboro, NC

Jacquelyn Rivas

Salk School of Science
New York, NY

Rachel Shafer

Retired Teacher
Woodinville, WA

Jamie Swanson

Pennsbury School District
Fairless Hills, PA

Mike Szydlowski

Retired Teacher
Columbia, MO

Content Reviewers

Stefan Debbert

Professor
Lawrence University of Wisconsin
Appleton, WI

Katie Nemeth

Instructor
University of Minnesota Duluth
Duluth, MN

Joseph McCullough

Physics Instructor
Cabrillo College
Aptos, CA

Scott Rochette

Professor and Chair
State University of New York Brockport
Brockport, NY

Vanessa Castleberry

Lecturer and Professor
Baylor University
Waco, TX

Alyssa Vikesland

Associate Professor of Instruction
University of Texas at San Antonio
San Antonio, TX

Lisa Farmer

Instructional Associate Professor
University of Houston
Houston, TX

David Lemke

Professor and Regents' Teacher
Texas State University
San Marcos, TX

Jackie Speake

CORE and STEM Education Counselor
CORE and STEM Education Consulting,
LLC
Pittsburgh, PA

Tracy Fanara

Environmental Engineer and Scientist
Inspector Planet
NOAA
Tampa, FL