An Energetic Approach to Teaching

Joshua R. Wickman

Funded by National Science Foundation Graduate Teaching Fellows Program in K-12 Education (GK-12) DGE 0538555





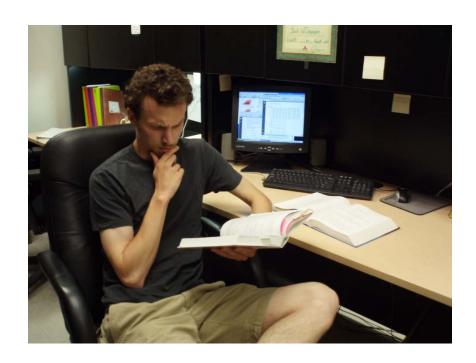




Outside the Classroom

- PhD student in Physics and Astronomy
- Research in particle theory and cosmology (thesis advisor: Qaisar Shafi)





Inside the Classroom

- 11th grade Integrated Science
 - Working with Tim Brewer, Jessica Jackson, and Dana Boltuch







Inside the Classroom



My job: resource in the classroom



Why Focus on Energy?

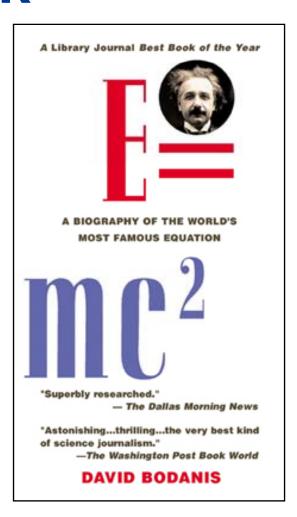
- Astronomy
 - Stellar fusion
 - EM spectrum
- Ecology
 - Alternative energy
 - Energy hierarchy between trophic levels
- Underlying principle



Launching Point – *E=mc*² Book

- Different perspective
- Cross-curricular approach
 - English
 - History
 - Literacy
- Demystifies
 Einstein's work





Follow-Up – Hands-On Exploration

- Energy stations
 - Many different forms of energy transfers
- Guided inquiry







Results and Conclusion

- Outcome
 - Better grasp of energy
 - Ties many concepts together
- Challenges
 - Covering all required topics in a timely fashion



Acknowledgments

- Delaware GK-12 Project Leaders
- Delaware GK-12 Fellows (especially Dana Boltuch)
- St. George's Technical High School science teachers (especially Tim Brewer and Jessica Jackson)
- Dr. Qaisar Shafi
- National Science Foundation (NSF)

