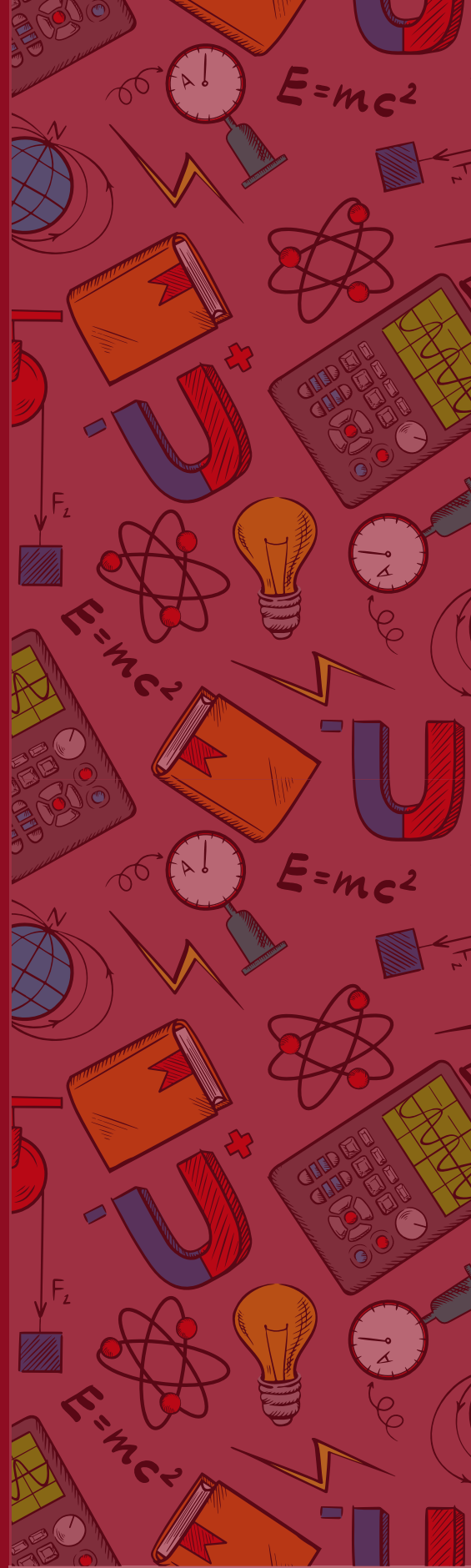


SANTA FE SCIENCE INITIATIVE



Santa Fe
science
initiative

Statement from the Board

The Santa Fe Science Initiative (SFSI) has been dedicated to its mission of “Nurturing the Art of Doing Science and Promoting Scientific Literacy in Northern New Mexico” since 2002. Over these many years, our organization has fostered science education through professional development workshops supporting instruction in grades K-8. We have focused this effort with workshops that emphasize deeper understanding of science content knowledge with classroom teaching strategies that model inquiry science.

Since 2020, we have adapted our professional development to also include in a virtual format. To that end, several consultants with expertise both in science as well as virtual instruction, have enhanced our programming. Mindful of the kind of changing needs of classroom teachers, SFSI continues to enhance our staff of presenters to remain current and provide the most effective and relevant science instruction for educators.

This new programing also necessitated the development of new partnerships. Those include the Director of Community Education from the Audubon Center and the Director of Education at the Santa Fe Watershed. This expansion not only offered teachers a new range of topics and workshops, but also increased their awareness of local, accessible outdoor venues. In addition, during Summer 2022, SFSI joined the Santa Fe Outdoor Education Collaborative in a supportive role with a four-day Summer Science workshop for teachers in grades 3-5.

As we reflect on this past year, the successful evolution of the SFSI offerings and partnerships is reflected in the growing enrollment and interest in our organization, as well as a stronger partnership with the Santa Fe Public Schools.

Board of Directors

- Diane Garber, President
- Susan Benjamin
- Pamela Dresher
- Helen Fabel
- Mary Howard
- Katherine Neer
- Joan Shandler

Advisory Board

- Olivia Messinger Carril
- Erin Gaddis
- Tom Goolsby
- Mollie Parsons
- Angela Walker

Workshop Attendance

Workshop 1: Pollinators of New Mexico

Workshop 2: Science Literacy, Building Confidant Readers and Writer

Workshop 3: Patterns in Nature

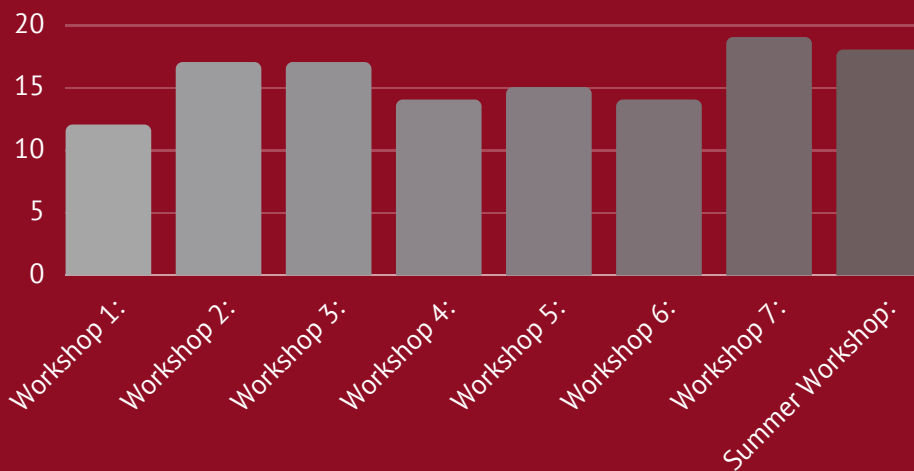
Workshop 4: Backyard Birding

Workshop 5: Science Literacy

Workshop 6: Wildland Fire Science

Workshop 7: Native Flowers

Summer Workshop: 3rd-5th Outdoor Education



What Teachers Said...

- “Today’s workshop renewed my commitment to getting my students back outside.”
- “So many great ideas and great resources”
- All of the Santa Fe Science workshops are so productive for me and my students. The workshops are always creative and friendly.”
- “Thank you for sharing your expertise”
- “Thank you for this useful and challenging training. They all link together so logically and beautifully.”
- [I enjoyed] “going outside and finding symmetry and prime numbers. This reminded me to do this with my kids.”



What Teachers Want More Of...

- "Continue with the connections with math and science and the environment."
- "More activities, especially writing strategies."
- "I would love to go on a seed walk next fall to collect, identify and catalog native grasses and plants."
- "More workshops on endangered species and climate change workshops."
- "Learning about biotic communities and importance of fire."
- "I would like different science lessons for younger children."
- "More about plants that grow in New Mexico."

Next Steps

SFSI will continue to respond to the needs and interests of classroom teachers with a growing variety of life science topics and instructional strategies, always aligned to the NM STEM Ready! Science Standards and current 'educational best practice'.

As we meet challenges of the coming year 2023-2024, we will continue to rely on and enjoy the virtual Zoom format for most of our workshops. We are looking forward to additional in-person workshops as our community emerges from Covid restrictions, and as the spring, summer and fall weather entices outdoor exploration. Our goal for 2023 is to inspire educators to share the excitement and beauty of the world of nature around us with their students

