

# Educator Resources

The *Natural Inquirer* is a science education journal for middle school students. A journal contains six to seven articles, rewritten from the original published scientific paper. This *Natural Inquirer* Monograph contains just one article. When you use this monograph in your classroom, you may take advantage of the educational resources available in the monograph and on the Web site. The monograph stands alone as a classroom resource. The following sections will provide everything you need to use this monograph in your classroom:

**Meet the Scientists:** Introduces the scientists whose research is presented. This section can be used to discuss careers in science.

**Glossary:** Introduces potentially new terms used in the monograph. Visit <http://www.naturalinquirer.org> for a word search associated with this glossary.

**Thinking About Science:** Provides one idea about the nature of scientific inquiry.

**Thinking About the Environment:** Provides background information to introduce the topic studied by the scientists.

**Introduction:** Introduces the problem or question the scientists addressed.

**Method:** Presents the method used by the scientists to collect and analyze their data.

**Findings:** Presents the results of the research.

**Discussion:** Places the findings into the context of the original problem or question.

**Reflection Sections:** These questions are not a test! They are placed after the Introduction, Method, Findings, and Discussion sections to help students critically think about what they have read. They can also be used to informally assess student comprehension.

**FACTivity:** Presents an activity that can be done in the classroom and out-of-doors.

**Citation:** Gives the original article citation.

**Lesson Plan:** Presents a lesson plan for using the *Natural Inquirer* monograph in the classroom.

**Correlation to Science Education Standards:**

Presents Science Competency Goals for North Carolina (7th grade) and National Science Education Standards (grades 5-8) that can be addressed by the monograph.

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Let us know what **YOU** think about the *Natural Inquirer*. Visit <http://www.naturalinquirer.org> and fill out the online educator evaluation form. Your input helps us to continually improve the *Natural Inquirer*.

If you are interested in having your 7th grade science class featured as an Editorial Review Board in a future edition of the *Natural Inquirer*, please contact:

Babs McDonald at [bmcDonald@fs.fed.us](mailto:bmcDonald@fs.fed.us) and put “Educator feedback” in the subject line.

If you are an educator in western North Carolina, please contact Jennifer O’Leary at [joleary22@msn.com](mailto:joleary22@msn.com).

For more information about the *Natural Inquirer*, to order additional copies, or to explore educator and student resources for using the journal, visit

<http://www.naturalinquirer.org>

For other information or assistance, contact

Babs McDonald at [bmcDonald@fs.fed.us](mailto:bmcDonald@fs.fed.us). Please put “Educator Feedback” in the subject line. Physical address: 320 Green St., Athens, GA 30602-2044, 706-559-4224.