

Science teachers and their students wrestle with energy concepts at nearly every grade level. What is energy? Where does New Mexico's energy come from? Is energy from the sun different from the energy that powers our daily lives, from our cars to our bodies? The Framework for K-12 Science Education provides a foundation for K-12 teaching and learning about energy as a crosscutting concept across the disciplines. Educators from the New Mexico Informal Science Education Network use the Framework to develop and present the annual Summer Teacher Professional Development Institute.

Educators from seven different New Mexico Informal Science Education Network (NM ISE Net) institutions supported the 2015 *Energize New Mexico* Teacher Professional Development Institute in Farmington at the beginning of June. The goals of the teacher professional development component of NM ISE Net are two-fold: 1) to provide access to excellent teacher professional development; and 2) to increase the capacity of New Mexico's science museums to provide teacher professional development.

Twenty-two elementary and middle school teachers representing three school districts gathered at the Farmington Museum for a five-day workshop to learn about energy and connections to literacy and assessment. The course was based on WestEd's Making Sense of Science Energy course with some additional material about New Mexico's energy resources. The Farmington Museum is located on the banks of the Animas River which gave participants front row seats to amazing flows during the week.

Four of the Institute's instructors facilitated additional weeks of Making Sense of Science in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Las Cruces in collaboration with NM Public Education Department. This small investment by NM EPSCoR will have huge impacts on teachers around the state, and on the 4,560+ students they will reach over three years.



FROM TOP: The 2015 Energize New Mexico Professional Teacher Development Institute cohort; NM ISE Net member Tish Morris walks the participants through a collaborative activity

ENERGIZE NEW MEXICO SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTE