**STATE OF DELAWARE SCIENCE coalition**

The Delaware Science Coalition is a partnership whose purpose is to improve the teaching and learning of science in Delaware.

The partnership includes the Department of Education, Delaware school districts, and representatives of the Delaware business community.

**POSITIVE ATTRIBUTES OF THE PROJECT**

* + There is emphasis on consistent science teaching and learning K-8.
  + Teachers are encouraged and supported in developing positive attitudes toward science.
  + The hands-on activities motivate students to learn.
  + The program is inquiry-based. Students, like real scientists, learn to ask questions, make tests, and develop concepts based on their experiences.
  + Activities in the program can be integrated with other content areas.
  + Field trips and enrichment activities are encouraged.
  + The in-service program allows teachers to work through each activity and share ideas before they present lessons to their students.
  + Almost all materials needed for the lessons are included in the kit. (Consumable and non-consumable)
  + Kits are delivered and picked-up, so they do not need to be stored in the classroom.
  + There is a good correlation between the concepts presented in the kits and the State Standards.
  + The end-of-kit assessments developed by the Coalition help teachers to monitor student learning and to inform their instruction.

The project guidelines call for site-based professional development, which will promote long-term, positive change in teaching strategies.

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