Implementation fidelity I: design team commentary

In an interview, the authentic and robust Rock Cycle investigation (KK and KS) convey that it is a multi-component set of curricular tools guided inquiry and investigation. curricular modules, and the intention was that teachers would select from available parts for their classroom use, and draw from the rich ancillary material shared as a Teacher’s Guide. The priority was to engage curious young minds in inquiry in an authentic way, on-line and off-line.

KS: “Not everyone’s going to go online for these—and I don’t, and I co-authored it... I don’t expect teachers to go all the way from A to B for the first activity and A through D in the second activity. I do hope that they are able to pull parts from everywhere within the investigation. I kind of know that technical issues [arise] and they are not going to be every building. So that’s a deterrent for teachers. So they may not use the investigation as RITES plans for it to be used...but I do think that they will use what they learned in the short course.”

“...we designed this investigation to be fairly encompassing but not completely. We hope that teachers bring in extra things, hands-on things, to do.”

Implementation fidelity II: artifacts and observations RITES PD short course: content, networking+how to use on-line.

The Reformed Teaching Observation Protocol (RTOP) was applied to 3 school visits in Cranston, RI, observing RITES alumni using rock cycle content/materials. High RTOP scores in the classroom were more inquiry based learning was displayed. Note that RTOP scores in the range of 40-90% are common across STEM teaching, and that higher scores correlate with stronger learning gains in students. (Lawson et al., 2002).

3/22/2012 [Sleuthing 1A]
3/21/2012 [sedimentators]
3/20/2012 [RITES related technology in your classroom experience]
3/19/2012 [Building a background and inquiry into the rock cycle]
3/18/2012 [Rock Cycle guided inquiry investigation]
3/17/2012 [Rock Cycle guided inquiry investigation]
3/16/2012 [Rock Cycle guided inquiry investigation]
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3/02/2012 [Rock Cycle guided inquiry investigation]
3/01/2012 [Rock Cycle guided inquiry investigation]
2/28/2012 [High learning needs class, sedimentation]
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2/25/2012 [High learning needs class, sedimentation]
2/24/2012 [High learning needs class, sedimentation]
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