

## Preparing For a Classroom Visit

Many Great Lakes researchers are also competent professors who deal with undergraduate and graduate students on a daily basis, but they may be ill prepared or uncomfortable when it comes to facing a classroom full of middle or high school students. This presentation will provide techniques and suggestions for scientists who are invited into classrooms, so their visit can be worthwhile and enjoyable for the students and researcher as well. A visit to a local classroom can be a challenge for a researcher, but it can be a memorable experience for young students who may not have had the chance to interact with a working scientist. Classroom visits can also help researchers hone their skills of sharing technical information with non-technical audiences. Interactions with younger students can spark a real interest in learning more about scientific fields. The session will provide tips to reduce anxiety and better prepare researchers for a visit with younger, energetic students.

# Your Role in the Classroom

- Presenter
- Resource
- Mentor
- Judge/Reviewer - Be a science fair judge or consultant.

# Trash or Treasure?

- **Provide Supplies** - One person's trash is another person's treasure. Reuse and recycle materials and supplies by sharing them with schools.
- Outdated lab supplies and old equipment are still usable by teachers and students for demonstrations and projects.

- So, you have been invited to present at a local school's career day, but you do not know what to expect. This presentation will help prepare researchers for the questions and comments that students may have in store. Learn how to plan your presentation and provide an exciting talk that will make students want to follow in your footsteps and become involved in a career in science. Sharing the highlights of your career as well as the pitfalls of your work will help provide students a realistic look at the work involved in Great Lakes research. The presentation will provide suggestions and techniques to provide an informative and stimulating look at your field of science.

# Getting Your Message Across

# K.I.S.S. Approach

- Keep it Simple Scientist

Use Photos and Illustrations

# Experiential Education



Expect "The" Career Questions

Junk the Jargon

# Analogies and Mataphores

Tell a Science Tale

Equations = Trouble

**Stress the Why.. Not the What..**

After Your Visit...