SCIENCE EDUCATION PARNTERSHIP





2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

A better world through hands-on, minds-on science education

Science Education Partnership

2021-2022 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

73 Elementary schools accessed SEP Programs

This represents 98.6% of all schools in the district.

National Engineering Month Truss Building Challenge

A record **41** classes, (an estimated 1025 students,) participated in our annual NEM activity. active volunteers
from the
community
connected with
classrooms

A total of 1,019

classrooms registered for a SDS Volunteer Program opportunity

Science Kit Program

754 Science kits were loaned to educators across the district.

"Thanks @SEPSciCen. It's great to have science bins back! Lots of exciting science lessons will be happening @ZoneTCSchool."

Twitter comment from Gr. 7/8 teacher, Zone Twp P.S.

Science Discovery Squad Volunteer Program

324 classrooms interacted with a Science Division volunteer, virtually or inperson

Taylor Talks Environmental Science Series

- 9 monthly virtual sessions
- 566 classrooms registered

#3: THEY MAKE OXYGEN

29 hands-on activities created

A record

88 classrooms,
an estimated 2200
students, participated in
our learning opportunities
to celebrate Canada
Agriculture Day in
February of 2022

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SCIENCE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP: AN INTRODUCTION

The Science Education Partnership (SEP), formed in 1992, consists of the Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB), the St. Clair Catholic District School Board (SCCDSB), local businesses, industries, and community partners. A historical timeline of the SEP appears in Appendix B.

The SEP was formed for the purpose of expanding and supporting a quality "hands-on, minds-on" science program for students from Kindergarten to Grade 8. All science education programs made available for teachers through the SEP provide students with learning opportunities that develop and encourage collaboration, creativity, problem solving, and science literacy using hands-on materials. It is recognized that these skills ultimately help our students to become more responsible and more successful adults in the working community.

Our Mission

We are dedicated to supporting the elementary school science curriculum and teachers who inspire knowledgeable, responsible, and innovative students who are critical thinkers and become contributing members of society

THE FOUR FOCUS AREAS OF THE SCIENCE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

SCIENCE KIT PROGRAM: The SEP provides educators with hands-on science materials and equipment in the form of education kits. All SEP kits support the grade level expectations as described in the "Ontario Curriculum, Grade 1-8, Science and Technology (Revised 2007)".

SCIENCE DISCOVERY SQUAD VOLUNTEER PROGRAM: In February 2019, this newly reorganized SEP volunteer program was unveiled. The *Science Discovery Squad* was created to allow all SEP volunteer elements to come together in one cohesive program whose purpose is *connecting community with classrooms*. Volunteers with a background or interest in science visit classrooms to share their knowledge with students through interactive presentations. The four divisions of the program are: Agriculture, Bridge Building, Coding, and Science.

PARTNERS: SEP business and community partners have strongly supported the partnership through both financial and human resources means over the past 26 years. This support is invaluable as provincial funding is insufficient for schools to purchase all the science equipment that is required. The SEP continually seeks expansion through partner recruitment efforts and emphasizes partner recognition in all activities.

SCIENCE RESOURCE CENTRE: The Science Resource Centre, located at Errol Road Public School in Sarnia, serves as the hub through which teachers can access all SEP science education programs.

Focus Area Report: Science Kit Program

The SEP Science Kit Program provides educators with "hands-on, minds-on" science materials and equipment in the form of educational kits.

	Number of science kits booked	754
2021-2022 Statistics	Number of teachers participating	202
	Number of schools participating	67

Feedback from Educators in the 2021-2022 School Year

- 74 schools had access to SEP science kits in 2021-2022.
- "My class loved this kit! There were so many cool ways to learn about force." Gr. 3 teacher from Queen E. School in Petrolia.
- "These bins are great! Thanks again!" Gr. 3/4 teacher from McNaughton Public in Chatham-Kent.
- "So excited to have these back in the room. They really help the inquiry process." SK/Gr. 1 teacher from Rosedale Public School in Sarnia.



Looking forward to 2022-2023

- The new Science and Technology Ontario Curriculum will be implemented in 2022-2023. This provides an excellent opportunity to review science kit resources as they are aligned to this new document. Actions specific to 2022-2023 include:
 - o Kit titles will be prioritized for revision based on changes in the curriculum
 - o Quarterly surveys will be sent to kit users to obtain feedback
 - o Explore linking kit materials to dynamic documents that could be updated regularly
- Awareness of the SEP will be fostered through continued communication to teachers via the SEP website, school board Elementary Program Departments, the SEP Twitter account, teacher in-service opportunities, and email.

Focus Area Report: Science Discovery Squad Volunteer Program

The purpose of the Science Discovery Squad Volunteer Program is to connect community with classrooms. Volunteers with a science, engineering, agricultural, or technical background engage with students to enrich science learning.

2021-2022 Statistics





Canada Agriculture Day11One-volunteer-to-one classroom Virtual Visits31Agriculture Inquiry Boxes Distributed40Soil Science - Mass Google Meet Registrations71Total classrooms participating in 1 of 3 opportunities88Taylor Talks Environmental Science SessionsTotal number of virtual sessions offered9Average monthly registration65Total number of classrooms participating566SDS Science Division Wonder Wednesdays Mass Google Meet Registrations309In-person classroom demonstrations8One-volunteer-to-one classroom virtual visits7			
One-volunteer-to-one classroom Virtual Visits Agriculture Inquiry Boxes Distributed Soil Science - Mass Google Meet Registrations Total classrooms participating in 1 of 3 opportunities Taylor Talks Environmental Science Sessions Total number of virtual sessions offered Average monthly registration Total number of classrooms participating SDS Science Division Wonder Wednesdays Mass Google Meet Registrations In-person classroom demonstrations 31 40 51 52 53 54 55 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56	Canada Agriculture Day		
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Wonder Wednesdays Mass Google Meet Registrations 309 In-person classroom demonstrations 8	Total number of classrooms participating	566	
Wonder Wednesdays Mass Google Meet Registrations 309 In-person classroom demonstrations 8			
Registrations 309 In-person classroom demonstrations 8	SDS Science Division		
In-person classroom demonstrations 8	Wonder Wednesdays Mass Google Meet		
· ·	Registrations	309	
One-volunteer-to-one classroom virtual visits 7	In-person classroom demonstrations	8	
	One-volunteer-to-one classroom virtual visits	7	
National Engineering Month Truss Building Activity	National Engineering Month Truss Building Activity		
Number of Classrooms Participating 41	Number of Classrooms Participating	41	
SDS Virtual Library	SDS Virtual Library		
New videos created 2		2	
Number of unique viewers 116	Number of unique viewers	116	

Additional notes from the 2021-2022 School Year

- Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, the SDS Volunteer Program offered a range of
 opportunities including in-person visits, hands-on activity packages, one-to-one virtual visits
 with classrooms, mass Google Meet sessions, and video-instructed building activities. A total
 of 1,019 classrooms registered for a Science Discovery Squad volunteer program
 opportunity.
- The program had a record number of classrooms register in each of the following activities:
 National Engineering Month, Canada Agriculture Day celebrations, Science Division visits, and Taylor Talk sessions.

Focus Area Report: Science Discovery Squad Volunteer Program

Looking forward to 2022-2023

- Volunteers will be in-serviced in the new Science and Technology Ontario Curriculum that will be implemented in 2022-2023. An action plan will be created to ensure all Science Discovery Squad demonstrations align to this new document.
- Volunteer-led activities will be planned for *National Engineering Month* and *Canada Agriculture Day*.
- Both the Taylor Talks Environmental Science and Wonder Wednesday Series will continue as monthly presentations. Where applicable, accompanying "hands-on" activities will be offered to participating classrooms.
- Additional videos will be created and added to the SDS Virtual Library.
- In-person demonstrations will continue according to volunteer availability.
- Volunteer recruitment efforts will resume through presentations to service clubs and retiree groups, and by encouraging current volunteers to invite friends and former colleagues to become involved.





"Our truss testing went well. You'll notice that Eastonn's truss took 310 N of force before it broke. We had to be resourceful... (we) linked the two buckets together... added more water until the truss finally broke. Eastonn and the rest of the class were SO excited... I'd like to thank you for giving my students these engineering opportunities! It's one of the things they will always remember."

Gr. 4/5 Teacher, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim

Focus Area Report: Partners

The SEP is dedicated to recruiting program partners and having our partners help monitor and manage programs.

The SEP would like to acknowledge the continued support of: **SEP Education Partners** ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD Lambton Kent District School Board Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journ **SEP Business & Community Partners** 2021-2022 **Partner Recognition Professional Engineers** Ontario Lambton Chapter **Kiwanis SEP Education Partners** are responsible for all costs associated with: Science Centre facility at Errol Road Public School Science Centre staff Board-wide courier services to schools Support from LKDSB and SCCDSB Elementary Program staff Release time for LKDSB and SCCDSB teachers as participants Partner of SEP Curriculum Teams **Contributions:** LKDSB departmental support from Financial Services, How the SEP Information Technology, and central office support staff. **Donations** are Used SEP Business & Community Partners donations are sought on a project-by-project basis to be used for: All consumable and non-consumable science kit contents All consumable and non-consumable materials used for Science Discovery Squad Volunteer Program activities Additional costs associated with the Science Discovery Squad Volunteer Program, including travel and network meetings

Focus Area Report: Science Resource Centre

The Science Resource Centre is the central hub, responsible for managing, maintaining, and delivering all science resources and programs effectively.

Looking forward to 2022-2023

- The SEP Science Resource Centre will continue to be the key contact location for all elementary schools in the LKDSB and SCCDSB.
- The SEP Steering Team will complete a generalized long-range plan in October of 2022
 naming overall objectives for future activities in each focus area. Short-term objectives will
 be revised on an annual basis.
- The Science Centre Technician will continue to collaborate with personnel from both school boards and communicate regularly with all community and business partners.





APPENDIX A: SEP Five Year Plan 2017-2022

SCIENCE RESOURCES – educational resources provided for teachers		PARTNERS The SEP is dedicated to recruiting program partners and having our partners help monitor and manage programs.	SCIENCE RESOURCE CENTRE The science resource centre is responsible for managing, maintaining, and distributing science resources and	
			coordinating supplementary programs efficiently.	
SCIENCE KIT PROGRAM	SCIENCE DISCOVERY SQUAD			
The science kit program	VOLUNTEER PROGRAM			
provides educators with	In Feb. 2019 all SEP volunteer			
"Hands-on, Minds-on" science	initiatives were combined into			
material and equipment in the	one cohesive program; The SDS			
form of educational kits.	Volunteer Program, which			
	connects community			
	volunteers who have an			
	interest or background in			
	science with classrooms to			
	enrich the science curriculum.			
Five Year Objective: Increase program usage Increase program awareness Complete a cyclical kit review schedule	Five Year Objective: Increase the number of volunteers Increase number of volunteer opportunities for classrooms Increase Science Discovery Squad program awareness by continuing to promote volunteer opportunities that connect community with classroom	Five Year Objective: Increase number of contributing partners Recognize and acknowledge partners and the SEP within the community	Five Year Objective: © Enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of service from the SEP	
Measurable Indicators: o Total annual bookings	Measurable Indicators for each division:	Measurable Indicators: o Number of newly	Measurable Indicators: o Number of bookings	
Number of schools	Number of volunteers	recruited partners	per kit title	
participating/total schools	Number of requests for	Total number of	Number of filled and	
 Number of teachers using 	volunteer assistance	contributing partners	unfilled kit requests	
kits vs. total number of	 Number of schools 	 Total of all partners 	 Number of filled and 	
classrooms at each school	participating	financial contributions	unfilled Science	
	 Number of teachers participating in SDS program initiatives Qualitative responses from 		Discovery Squad bookings	
	teachers via feedback form			
OVERALL FEFECTIVENESS MEASI		l	l	

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS MEASURE

- Total number of teachers participating in all SEP science resource programs vs. the total number of classrooms within both systems
- o Total number of schools accessing the SEP science resource programs vs. the total number of schools
- Qualitative feedback, periodically collected on a cyclical basis, from a survey of all teachers in the system

APPENDIX B: Donation Report July 1,2021 to June 30,2022

A note about the SEP Donation Report:

There have been limited expenditures in 2021-2022 as neither the Science Kit Program, nor the Science Discovery Squad Volunteer Program, operated at 100% due to pandemic safety protocols and moves to on-line learning. Science kit revision has been on hold since the 2019-2020 school year for the same reasons. Funds donated specifically to update science kits have not been used since the revision process was suspended at that time.

Budget Line	Opening Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Closing	
Funds for: Science Kit Revision & Refurbishing					
Arlanxeo (last receipt 2018)	4,440.37	0.00	567.36	3,873.01	
Seaway Kiwanis (last receipt Feb. 2020)	2,998.69	0.00	0.00	2998.69	
RBC (last receipt 2017)	478.14	0.00	0.00	478.14	
OPG/BWP (last receipt 2018 – Funds for Gr. 5 and Gr. 6 Energy kits)	376.89	0.00	0.00	376.89	
Funds for: Science Discovery Squad Volunteer Programs & Activities					
Imperial/Golden K Kiwanis (last receipt Jun. 2022 Golden K Kiwanis, Imperial Nov. 2021)	7,735.72	3,427.50	2,088.18	9,075.04	
Funds for: Science Kit Program & Science Discovery Squad Volunteer Program					
LKAITC (last receipt Mar 2021 – funds for kits and activities with agriculture connections)	22,494.94	0.00	2,457.35	20,037.59	
Pioneer (last receipt 2018 – funds for kits and activities with agriculture connections)	1,755.40	0.00	0.00	1,755.40	
Funds for: Science Centre Facility & Staff Development					
Misc. Grants (last receipt 2010)	156.79	0.00	0.00	156.79	
TOTAL	40,436.94	3,427.50	5,112.89	38,751.55	

APPPENDIX D: History of the SEP

The Science Education Partnership is a unique enterprise that has thrived for over 25 years. Key details in the development of the SEP are listed below.

1992

- Dow approached the Lambton County Board of Education, (now the Lambton Kent District School Board) and the Lambton County Roman Catholic Separate School Board (now the St. Clair Catholic District School Board) to form the Lambton County Science Education Partnership.
- A one-time grant from the Ministry of Education and Training was received. This funding was dedicated to in-service training of teachers as new science kits were developed.
- A primary (grades K-3) and junior (grades 4-6) curriculum team was established to build science kits.
 1993
- Polysar (now Alanxeo,) became a partner and provided funding to be used to renovate and furnish the Science Resource Centre.
- The first science kit, "Primary Bounce, Roll and Spin", was built and tested in two classrooms. The pilot teachers and curriculum team members finalized the inventory, and this was duplicated into multiple copies. An in-service to introduce the kit to teachers was held with one teacher from every school attending. This process would become the model for development of all future science kits.

1994

- A technician for the Science Resource Centre was hired.
- The Science Resource Centre, housed at St. Joseph School in Sarnia, officially opened in November.

1995

- Imperial Oil joined as a human resources partner. Retired engineers, scientists and technical people became involved in the Adopt-a-Scientist Program. Volunteers in this program assisted with "handson" science activities in classrooms.
- Sarnia Hydro (now Bluewater Power) committed their support to build a "Power of Electricity" kit for the junior division.

1996

Interprovincial Pipeline (now Enbridge) became a partner.

1997

- Via the community group, Friends of the St. Clair River, funds were donated from the Ministry of the Environment, Canada Trust Friends of the Environment, and Shell Environmental Fund. This was used to build a River Science Kit.
- Cabot Carbon joined the SEP

1998

- Amalgamation of school boards occurred resulting in the co-terminus boards from Lambton and Kent counties joining, thereby doubling the district size. A transition team was formed to determine how the partnership would expand to service the entire district.
- The official name, Lambton County Science Education Partnership changed to Science Education Partnership.
- The new "Ontario Science and Technology Curriculum Grades 1-8" was introduced. The curriculum teams worked to align all science kits to this new curriculum.
- Imperial Oil, previously a human resources partner, became a financial partner.
- Other new partners contributing within the year included Meritor Industries and the Maple City Optimists.

1999

- An intermediate curriculum team was formed to build kits for grades 7-8.
- Navistar and Siemens Tilbury Plant became new partners.

2000

- A satellite centre was established in Chatham. It was staffed half time to service the schools in the south part of the district.
- New contributors to the SEP included Pioneer Hybrid (now Monsanto), and Kent Agriculture in the Classroom.

2001

- A grant from the Ministry of Energy, Science and Technology was received and used to build and copy three new kit titles.
- Several members of the Steering Team presented a session on the SEP at the province-wide Science Teachers Association of Ontario Conference in Toronto.

2002

- Due to the impending closure of St. Joseph School in Sarnia, a relocation committee was formed to find a suitable site for the Science Resource Centre. The committee successfully determined that Errol Road Public School was the most viable option, and the centre was re-established there in July.
- A tenth anniversary open house was held at Bayer in June. The celebration consisted of a timeline display, refreshments, and hands-on activities.

2003

- Suncor pledged support to produce two Ecosystems pilot kits for Grade 7.
- Ontario Power Generation agreed to fund two kit titles, Electricity for Grade 6 and Conservation of Energy for Grade 5.

2004

- Basell and Nova Chemicals each submitted a donation to the Partnership as a result of an aggressive letter campaign by the Recruitment Committee. Dow, Bayer, Cabot Carbon, Imperial Oil and Kent Agriculture in the Classroom continued their support of the Partnership for another year.
- The office at the Sarnia Resource Centre was renovated and a new laptop was purchased.
- The Science Education Partnership website was launched.
- The Science Education Partnership was nominated for a 2004 Technology Innovation Award sponsored by The Learning Partnership
- The Science Education Partnership was nominated for a National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada Michael Smith Award for Science Promotion.

2005

- As a result of a partner recruitment letter campaign, Union Gas and Guspro in Chatham became partners. Dow, Lanxess (formerly Polysar, Bayer), Imperial Oil, Cabot Carbon, Nova, Laidlaw, Ontario Power Generation, and Kent Agriculture in the Classroom continued their support of the Partnership.
- The Adopt-a-Scientist Program marked the tenth year of helping with "Hands-on, Minds-on" science in the classroom.

2006

- Partners, Bluewater Power Distribution Company and Pioneer all renewed their commitment to the SEP.
- Adopt-a-Scientist Volunteers were named on the Mayor's Honour List in Sarnia.

2007

 A district-wide Teacher Resource Fair was organized to include over 25 booths that included educational vendors, school board resource programs, local community organizations that offer programs for students.

- A new five-year strategic plan was developed to guide SEP activities from 2007 to 2012.
 2008
- The Ontario Curriculum, Grade 1-8, Science and Technology document was revised in 2007. Curriculum teams performed a gap analysis of our science kits to determine which areas needed to be addressed.
- Volunteers Fern Noel and Don Murray presented a session on Solutions and Mixtures at the provincial conference of the Science Teachers Association of Ontario.

2009

- Ontario Power Generation returned as a partner in the SEP.
- Bridge Building Engineering Week activities coordinated through the SEP involved the largest number of students involved in one project province wide.
- Adopt-a-Scientist requests reached an unprecedented 115 requests.

2010

- A "Getting Started" document was developed for each Intermediate level (Grade 7/8) kit.
- Pioneer and Union Gas returned as financial partners in the SEP.
- SEP outreach activities included a presentation to the Golden Kiwanis Club, presentation of an informational booth at both the Lambton and Kent County Science Fairs, and a science activity booth at a City of Sarnia children's festival, Kids Fun Fest.
- The Sarnia and Chatham Science Resource Centres were consolidated into one location at the Sarnia Errol Road Public School site in May 2010.

2011

- Bluewater Power returned as a financial partner.
- Four new volunteers joined the Adopt-a-Scientist Volunteer Program.

2012

- Adopt-a-Scientist volunteers developed a Gr. 8 Water Systems demonstration that was offered district-wide to help celebrate the International Year of Chemistry.
- A new five-year plan was created to span 2012-2017.

2013

- Farm Credit Canada was welcomed as a partner. Their contributions were used to build new kindergarten kits.
- The Science Education Partnership celebrated 20 years of "Hands-on, Minds-on" science education. Close to 600 students participated in a science fun fair held over two days in Sarnia and Chatham.

2014

■ This year marked the 10th anniversary of Engineering Month Bridge Building Activities. This opportunity is offered district wide annually, and all but 4 schools in the district have participated. Two hundred and ninety-four classes have taken part, and volunteers have logged more than 4000 hours in the classroom since the project began.

2015

- The Seaway Kiwanis joined the SEP as a partner.
- This was a record year for science kit and Adopt-a-Scientist booking numbers.

2016

• The 20th Anniversary of the Adopt-a-Scientist Volunteer Program was celebrated with an assembly at Errol Road Public School.

2017

- New record high statistics were reached for both Science Kit and Adopt-a-Scientist program usage.
- Working with the Lambton Kent Agriculture in the classroom committee, volunteering farmers visited
 58 classrooms to speak with students and celebrate Canada Agriculture Day in February of 2017.

- The RBC Foundation joined the SEP as a financial partner.
- A new five-year plan was developed to continue all SEP programs into June of 2022.

2018

- Sarnia Lambton Golden Kiwanis joined as a partner.
- A subcommittee was formed to focus on development of a marketing plan to recruit new volunteers for Adopt-a-Scientist.

2019

- Dresden Rotary Club and Corteva Agrisciences became SEP Partners.
- A presentation about the SEP was given at the Science Teacher's Association of Ontario annual conference in Toronto in November of 2018.
- All SEP volunteer elements were reorganized into one cohesive program and rebranded as the Science Discovery Squad Volunteer Program. A news conference showcasing volunteer activities was held on February 21, 2019. This resulted in wide coverage in local papers and radio.
- A "Virtual Volunteer" format of the Bridge Building activity was tested in Chatham-Kent where teachers worked through the bridge building activity by using instructional videos.

2020

Schools were closed from March 16, 2020, to June 30, 2020, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
 Although science kits could not be distributed to educators during this time, SDS volunteers rallied to create short, science themed activities that could be presented to classrooms meeting virtually.

2021

- A safety protocol complying with all Public Health directives was created to allow for the limited distribution of science kits.
- All volunteer initiatives were offered in a virtual format.
- A Virtual Library was created to allow educators from both boards to access videos of volunteer demonstrations and activities. Twenty-six videos were created throughout the year and shared in this manner.
- Taylor Talks was developed as an environmental science learning opportunity. An efficient virtual meeting delivery model saw close to 100 classrooms take part for two sessions in the spring of 2021.

2022

- Safety protocols complying with pandemic Public Health directives necessitated a limited distribution of science kits and in-person volunteer efforts until all restrictions were lifted as of March 21, 2022.
- Volunteer efforts for National Engineering Month, Canada Agriculture Day, and Taylor Talks Environmental Science Series saw classrooms participate in record numbers.

APPENDIX E: SEP Steering Team Members 2021-2022

Lambton Kent District School Board

Ben Hazzard Superintendent of Education

Carla Wilson Coordinator of Student Achievement, Elementary

Pam Gallant Program Consultant

Rodney Kilmer Vice Principal, Errol Road Public School, Sarnia Erin Van De Wiele Principal, McNaughton Public School, Chatham

St. Clair Catholic District School Board

Laura Callaghan Superintendent of Schools

Brenda Corchis Elementary Catholic Curriculum Coordinator
Renee VanDamme Marcus Elementary Technology Support Teacher

Industry & Community Representatives

Bryce McGarvey Imperial Oil Limited

Judy Krall Lambton Kent Agriculture in the Classroom Committee

Ron Laflair Science Discovery Squad Volunteers
Dennis Loucks Sarnia Lambton Golden Kiwanis Group

Science Resource Centre Staff

Wendy Hooghiem SEP Science Resource Centre, Sarnia

