

JASON FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION

Parent Organization: NA

Web Address: <http://www.jasonproject.org/home.htm>

Grade/Age Levels: 4th – 9th grade

Overview: JASON's supplementary curricula are designed with the world's leading scientists and educators. They provide rich learning experiences using a hands-on inquiry program that mirrors the work of real researchers. The flexible instructional design allows for cross-curricular integration or single subject implementation across disciplines. JASON uses real scientific expeditions to teach both science and mathematics. These experiences are brought to the classroom through many multimedia formats ranging from texts to large broadcasts at local network sites around the country. As well as providing a rich student curriculum, JASON also provides professional development to train teachers to implement this curriculum. (*Source: http://www.jasonproject.org/jason_science/overview.htm*)

Subjects Covered: Science and math

Size of Program: Serves nearly 1.7 million students each year, and is used by approximately 33,000 teachers in the U.S. and abroad.

Where Offered: JASON has an international network of affiliates known as Primary Interactive Network Sites (PINS). These sites sell JASON curricula and offer professional development and support to local educational institutions. To find a local PINS, go to http://www.jasonproject.org/jason_store/orderLocal.htm

Time Spent by Students: JASON units are modular, therefore timing can be determined by the teacher.

Partners/Sponsors: Bechtel, National Geographic Society, Exxon Mobil, Sun Microsystems, Oracle, National Science Center Foundation, Inc, EDS, Northrop Grumman, Shell, NASA, NOAA, US Dept. of Ed., National Parks Service, NSTA

Format: Print, Online, DVD, CD-Rom, on-site workshops, and hands-on materials

Materials Available on Web and/or Purchase:

JASON Products and Services

- JASON Curriculum – Student Learning Adventures
 - JASON Expeditions - \$339 for curriculum and JASON Online Access for 1 year
 - JASON Science Adventures -\$119/adventure kit
 - JASON Math Adventures -\$119/adventure kit
- JASON Academy Professional Development Solutions
 - Onsite
 - Curriculum Training
 - Interactive Science Workshops
 - Summer Expedition Institute
 - TI/Vernier Training
 - Annual JASON Conference

- Coaching Services
- Online
 - Curriculum Training - \$225
 - Content Courses (science, math, pedagogy)

Training – Avail/Required: JASON Academy – online and onsite workshops for teachers

Results to Date: In 2001, “researchers conducted a small-scale quantitative investigation of science understanding that compared students in JASON classrooms to similar students studying science in non-JASON classes. On a performance task, the JASON students achieved significantly greater gains in their understanding of science concepts and the scientific process of inquiry.”

Cost Structure: Adventure Kits and Courses are a one-time cost. Materials Kits would be a continuing cost. JASON produces a new expedition each year but previous years curricula are available and could be reused. The cost of the expedition pack and access to TJO is slightly increased if used more than one year.

Funding: Support from private organizations and government agencies such as the U.S. Department of Education, NASA and NOAA, as well as the costs paid by consumers.

Other Interest Point(s): JASON is currently involved in two research projects in science and literacy and math. More info available at http://www.jasonproject.org/jason_about/research/research.htm

The Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) is the local JASON Primary Interactive Network Site. OMSI offers professional development workshops to Oregon teachers who wish to participate in the JASON project (see <http://www.oms.edu/education/jason/calendar.cfm> for dates) and allows participants to view expedition broadcasts through either the Oregon Access Network or by traveling to the OMSI site. Staff members at OMSI are also available to help teachers develop individual curricular pieces and implement the project in their classroom. (Source: <http://www.oms.edu/education/jason/curriculum.cfm>)