

Cindy Corlett

Sierra Middle School, Parker, CO

Middle School Science Education

8th Grade



2005 Honorees



“Although I am a science educator, I recognize the importance of other subjects and connections between disciplines. I believe that learning is more authentic and effective for students if they understand the relationships between subject areas and topics. I also believe that the interdisciplinary and cross-curricular connections are especially important at the middle school level... I often work with my interdisciplinary team to develop units of study to integrate all core subjects... *The Age of Exploration* integrated unit is just one example of collaboration that leads to a high level of student engagement. The students have choices as to which individual they will ‘become.’ The lists of choices included influential explorers, scientists, mathematicians, and artists. The unit has several components including: research, creation of a birth certificate, development of an obituary, and the culminating activity. As a culminating activity, students work in cooperative groups to create a dinner party complete with costumes, food, and of course, appropriate ‘centuries old’ conversation. It is amazing to watch interactions as Galileo speaks with Ponce De Leon and Decartes!” – *Cindy Corlett*

“Every science teacher in the eighth grade has to teach the same material. How is it that Mrs. Corlett makes it so fun? The material itself isn’t what she made fun; it’s the way the information was taught. It was the hands-on learning and the examples that didn’t seem possible until you saw the truth behind it that made you anxious for her class... While some teachers are only attentive to student needs during class, Mrs. Corlett is the kind of teacher that also cares about the person behind the student.” –

Courtney, former student



Other Highlights:

Member, National Science Teachers Association

Milken Award Winner (2004)

Vincent J. Marteka Jr. Award Winner (2002)

National Board Certification, Early Adolescent Science

Education Member, Civil Air Patrol (2001-2005)

Aerospace Education Speaker, Colorado State Capitol (2005)

Recognized for Outstanding Achievement, Douglas County School District School Board (2001-2005)

Creative Classroom Contest Winner, Nasco, Cary Junior High (1997)

Published Author, *Science Scope*

Years Teaching: 15

Average Class Size: 28

Classes Taught Per Day: 6

School’s Percent of ESL Students: 1

School Type: Public, Suburban

Type of Class: Teams