

Nancy Elliott

Chillicothe Middle School, Chillicothe, MO

Middle School Science Education

7th and 8th Grade



2005 Honorees



"I believe that the best learning happens when students are actively engaged in meaningful activities integrated multiple disciplines. And I know that instruction cannot be a one size fits all approach... My classroom is filled with student work and projects of growing plants and animals. We raise fish and brine shrimp to feed them. We've had lizards, mice, kittens, chickens, ducks, and quail living in our room. Students enjoy the plants and animals and use them in their inquiry studies. Throughout the year the classroom changes from a crime lab, to a medical clinic, to architectural offices where students are designing buildings and testing them against forces of natural disasters such as floods, tornadoes, and earthquakes."

"I believe that students should be involved in real world meaningful science and that is why I started a Stream Team and Quail Project at the middle school. These are the largest and most active extracurricular groups in the school. Here students are out collecting water quality and habitat data. They are working with experts from the Conservation Department and Department of Natural Resources. I believe that every student that leaves my classroom is a better steward of his or her environment as a result and I think this should be a part of science education." – *Nancy Elliott*

"Mrs. Elliott main-

tains very high standards for herself and her students. She constantly researches teaching strategies and means of engaging her students in the field of science. Over the years, Mrs. Elliott has

been awarded several grants that have focused on improving the quality of work completed by students and placing equipment in the hands of students in an effort to familiarize them with today's technology. Mrs. Elliott's work with implementing the Total Quality management system into her classroom has allowed many students to plan for success and to set appropriate learning goals for her classroom. Not only have these activities impacted Mrs. Elliott's classroom, they have changed the way we do business at Chillicothe Middle School."

– *Bryan Prewitt, principal, Chillicothe Middle School*



Other Highlights:

District Conservation Teacher of the Year

Water Quality Teacher of the Year, Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Teacher of Excellence

Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year

Teacher of the Year, Missouri Federation of Teachers

Member, National Science Teachers Association

Member, Missouri State Teachers Association

Years Teaching: 18

Average Class Size: 22

Classes Taught Per Day: 6

School's Percent of ESL Students: 0

School Type: Public, Rural

Type of Class: Inclusion