

K-12 Teachers

The Rural Science Education program impacted 22 teachers, and enabled them to broaden the scope of science taught in their classrooms, develop confidence in teaching certain topics after they observed [OSU Fellows](#), and provided them access to OSU expertise and resources and science theory, techniques and vocabulary. Teachers were connected with the university by attending summer training, mid year and end of the year evaluations, and teacher workshops. All of these activities took place on campus to help teachers become familiar with campus and faculty.

The OSU 12 Fellows collaborated with the teachers to bring in inquiry-based activities for their classrooms. Teachers were given copies of lesson plans for future use. One teacher commented: “Confidence improved in tackling labs as a result of the interactions with Fellows”.

Four teachers [presented workshops](#) on activities developed through the program at local, state, regional and national NSTA meetings. This is remarkable as teachers in rural school rarely attend NSTA meetings. The experience provided networking opportunities for the teachers, and resources for their classrooms. At a state meeting over 30 teachers attended a teacher-run workshop on Natural Selection, which greatly impacted the teacher’s level of confidence.

Additional unique impacts:

- A high school teacher in the program received a ‘Partners in Science’ grant from the M.J. Murdoch Charitable Trust for summer research in collaboration with an OSU faculty mentor in the program. On completion, she will receive additional funding for curriculum development.
- The garden project was a ‘huge asset’ for a teacher in [Alsea School](#) in providing hands-on activities while helping students fulfill state assessment work sample requirements.
- OSU Fellows built a growth chamber in Alsea School and a salmon incubator in [Cascades Elementary School](#) for future classroom lessons.