



QuarkNet

Stories from the classroom

Personally, QuarkNet has reinvigorated my teaching. After being an educator in a rural area for 18 years, with little subject-specific professional development, physics becomes more about simplification of mathematical principles and less about the amazement of discovery. QuarkNet has introduced me to practical application of current, dynamic, absolutely phenomenal real-world physics.

As far as my students are concerned, I am hampered by having to implement the NYS Physics Curriculum, which contains very little modern physics. Through QuarkNet, I have been introduced to scatterplots (which I have implemented in a variety of mechanics lab activities) and spreadsheets (which I have not previously taught at all, but with this year's one-to-one Chromebook initiative, have used with as many labs as possible.) I also have a variety of examples, stories, and resources that I can pull from to interject particle physics into conversations of energy/mass conservation, new discoveries, and practical applications of "why we need to learn this."

The opportunities provided through QuarkNet (Data Camp at Fermilab, cosmic ray muon detector in my classroom, etc.) are absolutely phenomenal and give both myself and my students a glimpse into a world we would not otherwise know exists.

Anne Huntress
South Lewis Central School
Turin, NY
Syracuse University Center