

# Science Is Elemental: Update #7

09/30/23

## Volunteers for expansion

In my last newsletter, I spoke about the Science of Soccer and Music and Vibration summer camps. You can read more about my experiences at these camps [here](#) and [here](#), or on the next page. Note that the website addresses may change to .org instead of .blog soon.

So far, I have impacted (hopefully for good) a handful of students. If all the opportunities that stem from my existing work with ArtPlayLearn and The Springwell School pan out, I could potentially impact quite a few more. However, that would still only be, at most, several tens or perhaps a hundred kids getting integrated science classes through SIE. I would like to impact many more.

I am thrilled to announce that I have three sets of volunteers. Three new volunteers will be working with me to expand the reach of the classes I have been teaching thus far, either through teaching themselves, or developing new classes. I couldn't be happier. Eight (so far) volunteers, through Chemists Without Borders, are working with me on the clearinghouse projects to: a) make science education opportunities more accessible, and b) support science education decision making. These will also impact a far greater number of students. As many as seven more volunteers will be involved with the Network of Scientists project to support elementary school teachers. I am currently working to create the technical means to host the network.

In all areas, I am looking for more volunteers. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please go to the Science is Elemental website, or contact me at [ann.miller@scienceiselemental.org](mailto:ann.miller@scienceiselemental.org). Thanks so much!

**Mission: Change science education to encourage more understanding of and respect for the scientific process by all high school graduates, through starting science education in the early grades**



## New website address and additions!!

Science is Elemental has a new and enhanced website coming soon!

I'm finally taking the step to match the website domain with my working domain. Please look for [scienceiselemental.org](http://scienceiselemental.org) soon.

On the site, you will also find a new volunteer page and a new donor page. If you have some time and interest, I am definitely in need of volunteers. Please fill out the form, or if you would rather, just contact me at [ann.miller@scienceiselemental.org](mailto:ann.miller@scienceiselemental.org)

Finally, if you have a few dollars to spare, it will take some to bring science to more kids. Please consider donating on the donations page.

## Camp update and follow-on

I learned so much this summer from the kids, an amazing intern, my fellow teacher, and the wonderful leader and staff at The Springwell School.

One of the main things I learned is that to reach a lot of students with camps and lessons integrating science and sports and the arts, it can't just be me. Or even me and a few other people.

In my vision, all science classes for elementary school-aged students would integrate with other subjects and other activities that kids find interesting.

I know there are teachers out there already doing this. My hat goes off to them. Just two weeks of camp taught me how hard this is to do.

One of the enduring visions for Science is Elemental is to provide professional development that focuses on just this: integrating science with other interests so that students care about learning the science.

We are considering several paths to do this in addition to expanding the current efforts. These include: 1) connecting with teachers' professional organizations, 2) connecting with teacher preparation programs in colleges and universities, and 3) developing a specific professional development program.

More on this as the work continues. If you are or know of a teacher who has thoughts about this, please let me know!



# Humanitarian needs

## *Tikkun olam*

As this newsletter goes out, we are in the midst of a series of Jewish holidays, with the most holy high holidays, Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur just past. Rosh Hashanah, literally “head of the year” is the Jewish new year. Yom Kippur is the day of atonement in which Jews atone for any sins they may have committed.

In that spirit, if I have offended you, please accept my apologies.

In this season, and with Thanksgiving and the winter holidays approaching, I think of tikkun olam, the Jewish concept of repairing the world. One of my deepest concerns is the great rifts among people identifying in different ways. In the spirit of multiculturalism and wanting to repair the world in any way possible here are three charities from three religious groups. I am sure there are many more, so please donate, if you can, to any group from any religion or cultural group that does work to repair the world.

Islamic Relief USA [irusa.org](http://irusa.org)

World Vision [worldvision.org](http://worldvision.org)

Repair the World [wepair.org](http://wepair.org)

