



GONZAGA UNIVERSITY *SCIENCE IN ACTION!*

Annual
Report
2021-2022

The Gonzaga University **Science in Action! Program** connects groups of GU undergraduates with local elementary classrooms to teach hands-on, inquiry-based science activities to encourage confidence and enthusiasm for science.

A Look At Our Service This Year

459

Elementary
Students

1,455

Hours of
Service

89

GU Volunteers

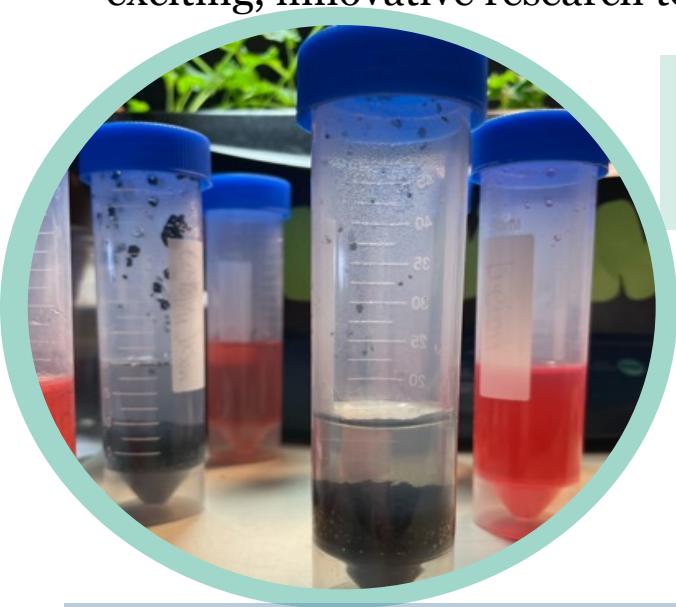
Year In Review. During the 2021-2022 school year our Gonzaga student volunteers were able to return to in-person visits with their partner classrooms. Both Gonzaga student volunteers and elementary school students were excited for this change! This year we served 21 local 1st-6th grade elementary classrooms in the Spokane Public School District. Through *Science in Action!*, local elementary students were able to do 200+ additional hands-on science activities in their classrooms.

What Do Teachers Have To Say?

“The lessons are well designed for engagement and content learning. The students were always pumped when it was SIA day and enjoyed the relationships, they built with the GU team.” -*Julia Gordon*
3rd Grade Teacher at Holmes Elementary School.

Bringing Research Into Local Schools

At ***Science in Action!*** we partner with Gonzaga faculty to bring exciting, innovative research to local students in Spokane.



Dr. Kyle Shimabuku (GU Civil Engineering) designed a science activity based on his research on water quality where elementary students use Biochar to clean a water sample from a model aquifer.

Dr. Brian Connolly (GU Biology) leads students at Shaw Middle School through a novel experiment modeling the subnivium and how climate might impact plant and animal species who depend on this winter refuge in our region. Students used iButton Thermocron data loggers and analyzed their data to draw conclusions.



Science in the Classroom

Gonzaga volunteers lead elementary students through a series of seven hands-on science activities over the course of the semester. Our in-class lessons cover a diverse selection of science fields from engineering, to chemistry and biology, and even earth science. Something new we added this year is Spokane region place-based lessons themed around our local Spokane River Watershed, such as constructing a beaver dam, modeling watershed pollution and restoration, and local geology.





What Volunteers Say

“This organization has truly been one of the highlights of my time here at Gonzaga. I feel that this program has both helped me to grow and allowed me to share my talents with so many amazing students.”

“I have come back to Science in Action again and again because it is always a great experience no matter what classroom, school, or group members I serve with.”

“Absolutely loved it, helped with public speaking and sharing my love of science with others!”

Contact

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