



Bioscience Association of Maine presents:

ME BIOSCIENCE DAY

November 16-20, 2020



#mebioscienceday

ME Bioscience Day 2020 FAQs

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What is ME Bioscience Day?

ME Bioscience Day is a statewide event aimed at promoting STEM education. Traditionally, scientists and bioscience professionals visit middle schools in Maine on one day in November, talk about their work and company, and perform a hands-on activity with the students. In 2019 we worked with 26 schools and reached about 3,500 students.

Who can participate in ME Bioscience Day 2020?

Any middle school in Maine can participate, public and private.

How is ME Bioscience Day going to be conducted in 2020?

To answer in the simplest way: the presentations and hands-on activity are pre-recorded and ready to be played in the classroom/at home. We will send science teachers a link to the videos as well as a package with instructions, additional activities and hands-on materials, if requested. ME Bioscience Day 2020 is a virtual event that is designed to fit 3 scenarios: in-person classroom instruction, at-home remote learning under the hybrid instruction model AND fully remote learning. It's basically a customizable lesson plan that can be used and adjusted, according to your and your students' needs.

When is ME Bioscience Day this year?

The week of November 16-22. ME Bioscience Day usually happens on a specific day in November at all participating schools in Maine but because of the discrepancies in schedule and the hybrid model of instruction, we ask that your ME Bioscience lesson is conducted during that week. It is up to you when and how you will conduct it. You can play the videos to your students in the classroom and conduct the hands on activity "live" OR it can be an at-home activity only with students watching the videos and performing the activity on their own.

Do all science teachers from one school have to participate?

No. Individual teachers can also participate and provide the ME Bioscience Day experience to one or more groups of students at a given school.

Do I need to sign up to participate in ME Bioscience Day this year?

Yes, registration ahead of time is necessary. Only teachers who sign up ahead of time can participate in ME Bioscience Day 2020. To sign up please email us at info@mainebioscience.org.

What format will ME Bioscience Day take in 2020?

Pre-recorded videos that can be played in the classroom or at home. One of the videos is focused on hands-on activity instructions that can be paused and played as the students work on the activity. The teachers will also be given materials and written instructions that will help with conducting the activity.

Will volunteers come to my school?

No. Because of COVID restrictions we have decided to go fully virtual. However, we will most likely have live Q&A sessions available via Zoom during the week of November 16-22.

What is the hands-on activity this year?

The hands-on activity this year is universal for all schools and it's a genetic traits inventory activity. It explains genetics and genetic traits briefly. Then students take inventory of their own genetic traits (such as tongue rolling ability, hand dominance etc) and compare with the rest of the class. The results are then charted. We will also have an optional activity that is truly hands-on: PTC taste trait test. If you'd like to perform this activity with your students, we will send you PTC taste papers and instructions. The papers will come to your school and you can distribute them to your remote students, if you choose to do so.

When will I get the videos and the materials?

We are aiming for November 9th. If you choose to do the optional PTC taste paper activity, the PTC paper may arrive after November 9th but before November 16th.

Will ME Bioscience Day 2020 take place via Zoom?

No. We will send you re-recorded videos, instructions and materials ahead of time so that you can conduct ME Bioscience Day on your own time and in whatever way works best for you, your school and your students. However, we may have some live Q&A sessions with the presenters available during the week of November 16th.

How will the live Q&A sessions be performed?

We don't exactly know yet. Once we have information from all schools, we will schedule our presenters at times that work best for most schools. We will have a couple options available but may not be able to accommodate everyone.

Will my remote students be able to participate in ME Bioscience Day 2020?

Yes, absolutely! ME Bioscience Day 2020 is designed to fit in-classroom instruction, as well as remote learning situations.

What is BioME?

BioME (Bioscience Association of Maine) is a trade industry group focused on advancing and promoting life sciences in Maine and beyond.