

PROJECT SCIFI

THE SCIENTIFIC COAT INITIATIVE FOR FUTURE INNOVATORS

Greetings and welcome to Project SCIFI's first teacher newsletter! This is hopefully something that we will release every month to teachers that we have previously worked with or donated supplies to. Each newsletter will have information on current events in education, helpful articles, and links to cool activities that can be performed with your students!

In this edition we will provide information on historically Black universities and colleges (HBCUs) and important information on how to best support your students of color. At the end of the newsletter we have provided links to fun experiments that can be performed by students at home. If there is any additional content that you would like to be included in the newsletter, please email us at rikhildmakwana@gmail.com

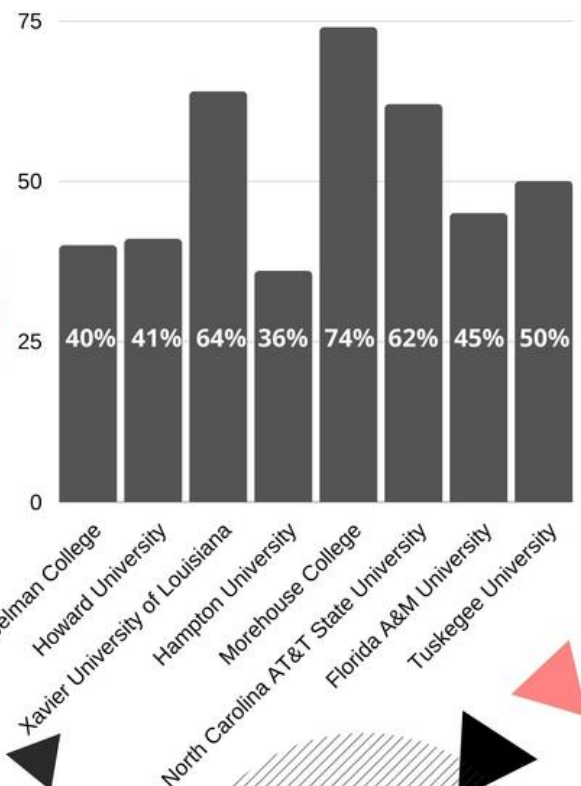
ACCEPTANCE RATES OF VARIOUS HBCU(S)

HBCU(s) are institutions of higher learning that were established in order to primarily serve the African American community. Spelman College and Howard Universities both have post-graduate placement rates of around 70% and are thus excellent choices for students to further their education before entering the workforce.

ADAPTING HBCU STRATEGIES FOR K-12 CLASSROOM

K-12 Faculty and educators can adopt practices from HBCU(s) to create a more diverse and influential culture for their students. In particular, these practices can help students of color to feel less marginalized while increasing race consciousness in students.

UNIVERSITY ADMISSION RATES

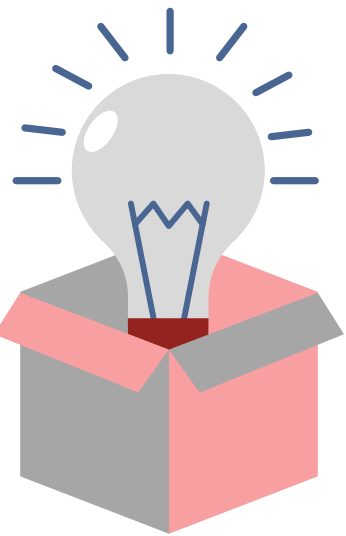
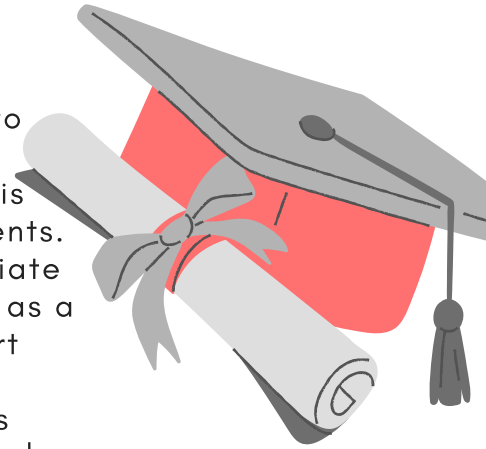


HCBUs have helped many Black Americans and other minorities improve their statuses and have helped fight stereotypes and prejudices held against them. K-12 schools can do the same.

The United Negro College Fund has put together a very valuable read called *Imparting Wisdom: HBCU Lessons for K-12 Education*. Below is a quick synopsis of the main points and practices that can utilize in a K-12 classroom:

Maintaining high expectations for all students

Setting high expectations for students help them stay motivated to reach their goals. Studies show that students tend to meet these expectations that faculty and teachers set for them. HCBUs do this through promoting graduate enrollment and mentoring their students. K-12 faculty can do the same with setting expectations for collegiate enrollment. Also simple practices such as naming each classroom as a college or tagging each entering class with the year they will start college subconsciously reminds students that the pursuit of these expectations starts with their present performance. Thus, students tend to be more motivated daily and seek the benefits of their hard work.

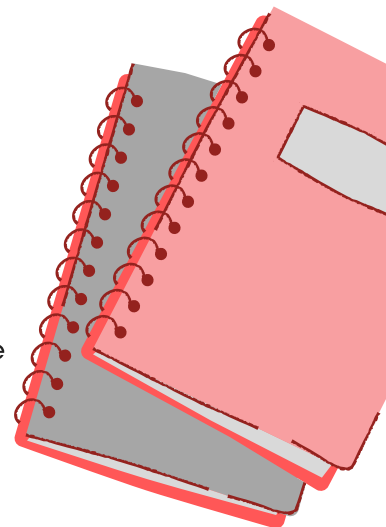


Being intentional about infusing culturally relevant pedagogy into their instructional practice

HCBUs make an effort to infuse such culturally relevant pedagogy into their culture because it creates an impactful experience that reaffirms a strong self-identity for their students. This also creates a sense of racial consciousness in students of different races that can help break down the prejudices present in society. Different student-led activities such as podcasts, poetry, yoga, and other creative ideas can be implemented in the classroom to help students of different backgrounds to embrace their own culture and sense of self, while educating others.

Being intentional about infusing culturally relevant pedagogy into their instructional practice

HCBUs faculty are known to engage with their students not only inside the classroom, but outside as well in their extracurricular activities and research projects. This level of engagement helps students feel more connected to their campus, which results in higher graduation levels. Teachers and faculty at the K-12 level can implement this sort of culture to also create a better sense of community. Teachers should also engage in "intrusive advising". Intrusive advising is an action-oriented approach where teachers are constantly checking in on their students and providing them with tips to help not only their academic pursuits but also their personal ones to help motivate and reach their goals. Studies show that "African American, Latino, and Native American students develop a stronger sense of community and feel valued when they build quality relationships with faculty and staff in and out of the classroom" (pg 8). This will, thus, help students feel that educators care about their success.



In conclusion, HBCUs provide a great model of how to help K-12 faculty inspire and motivate their students, especially students of color, to achieve their potential and not let racial adversities stand in their way. Imparting Wisdom is a fantastic guide with many practices tips that I highly recommend teachers, students, and parents to read.

Access the website/ source [HERE](#)

QUICK LINKS

Exploratorium "Science Snacks"

Has small demonstrated experiments using accessible at-home experiments. Click [HERE](#) to access the website.



In these unusual times, we're all adjusting to a different way of living and learning. At Thames & Kosmos we continue to dedicate ourselves to instilling a love of learning and wholesome family activities in children (and adults!) of all ages.

We've compiled a collection of free resources for you—parents, caregivers, educators—to share with the little ones in your life. From simple experiments that you can do in your home, to fun videos showcasing fantastic scientific effects, to word finds and coloring pages to keep minds sharp and fuel creativity, we've got a little something for everyone. We even have free expansions and variants for some of our most beloved board games to add some variety to your next game night. Take a look!

- PRINT-N-PLAY GAMES**
 - The Crew
 - Imagino
 - Legends of Andor: Journey to
- EXPERIMENTS**
 - Experiments with Air
 - Experiments with Heat
 - Experiments with Sound
 - Experiments with Water
- ACTIVITIES**
 - Word Searches
 - Coloring Pages
 - Mazes
- VIDEOS**
 - 3 Cool Experiments
 - Create an Explosion of Color
 - Experiment with Static Electricity

Ted-Ed At Home

Has resources for students, educators, and parents. The student section has a huge selection of articles and short videos and can be filtered by topic. Click [HERE](#) to access the website.

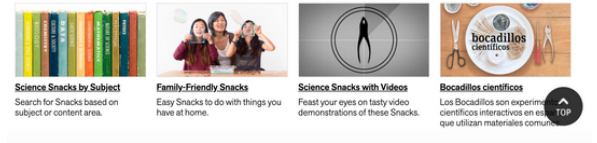
What is a Science Snack?

Science Snacks are hands-on, teacher-tested activities that bring explorations of natural phenomena into the classroom and home. Each activity uses inexpensive, easily-available materials, offers detailed instructions and images, provides a clear explanation of what's going on, and is adaptable to a wide range of curricula, content areas, grade levels, and settings.

And don't miss our [Special Collections](#)



Above: Condiment Diver Science Snack



Thames and Kosmos

Has a page called "Science At Home" with easy diagrams and short videos of things to create/ conduct at home. Click [HERE](#) to access the website.



Are you teaching or learning from home?

Created to support the millions of students, parents and teachers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the TED-Ed@Home daily newsletter provides people with high-quality, interactive, video-based lessons spanning all age groups and subjects, for free.

Learn more about TED-Ed@Home
TED-Ed — TED's youth and education initiative — aims to spark and celebrate

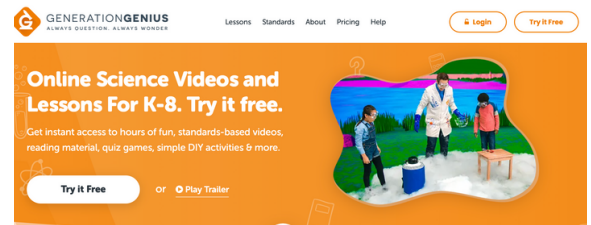
Biology Stimulations

biologystimulations.com is better for high school-age students as it has stimulations, blog posts, and games mostly regarding evolution, heredity, natural selection, Hardy-Weinberg practice problems, etc. Click [HERE](#) to access the website



Generation Genius

generationgenius.com has a library of videos/ resources for students (K-8), teachers and parents. Click [HERE](#) to access the website.



Thank you for reading through this issue, and see you next edition!