Together with teachers, we help children discover the world through hands-on science

Program Summary
Located in Vancouver, BC, the Scientist in Residence Program is a school-based collaboration between scientists and elementary school teachers. Working together, they offer students powerful opportunities to explore the world, conduct inquiries and make their own discoveries.

Childhood is a critical time for science. Science can illuminate a world of wonders and scientific thinking can help every child succeed. Many people decide whether or not they are “good” at science or “interested” in science when they are very young. Our hope is for every child to continually learn about the world, about science, and about themselves as science learners.

Collaborative design. All VSB elementary school teachers (kindergarten to grade 7) are invited to participate in the program. Teachers outline their goals in an application and we work to find a scientist in the community to support them. Working in partnerships of two teachers and one scientist, they co-design and co-deliver a suite of lessons that engage students in meaningful hands-on experiences and inspire students with minds-on scientific inquiry.

Funding. To ensure that every child can dive right into their own inquiries, the program provides flexible funding for science equipment, specimens, supplies as well as transportation for science field trips.

Lesson Plans: Teachers and scientists document their work in comprehensive lesson plans that are posted online for anyone to use free of charge. Thousands of lesson plans are downloaded from the website every year.

Partners in Science: This program is made possible by generous Program Partners. For more information, please visit our website www.scientistinresidence.ca.

Leadership Team
Lisa Tautz, Managing Director
Jody Langlois, VSB Associate Superintendent
Paige Axelrood, Founder and Advisory Board Chair

Recent Scientists-in-Residence
Professor Shona Ellis (Botany), Dr. Ingrid Sulston (Biochemistry), Lea Elliott (M.Sc. Ecology);
Dr. Kate Gregory (Paleontology), Dr. Jonathan Kellogg (Oceanography), Dr. Ben Loosely (Chemistry), Dr. Dominic Tollit (Marine Mammal Ecology), Dr. Raymond Nakamura (Biology), and many more.