



Center to Advance the Teaching of Technology & Science

CATTS was established in 1998 to strengthen professional development and advance technological literacy. CATTS initiatives are directed toward four goals:

1. Development of standards-based curricula
2. Teacher enhancement
3. Research concerning teaching and learning
4. Curriculum implementation and diffusion.

CATTS is the professional development arm of ITEA.

CATTS promotes the use of the Standards for Technological Literacy created from ITEA's Technology for All Americans Project, a nationally supported initiative designed as a basis for curriculum and resources pertaining to the study of technology. CATTS provides teacher enhancement opportunities through selected programs, workshops, and conference ranging from the elementary to university level.

CATTS conducts research on teaching and learning through directed programs designed for quality teaching practices and assessment, development of resource materials, and support of teaching environments.

CATTS develops and disseminates educational materials through consortium work involving participants from states/provinces through local educational agencies or groups. Consortium participants receive quality products and services specific to their local and professional development needs.

CATTS promotes partnerships with agencies, organizations, and other associations to advance technological studies in order to achieve common goals for developing technological literacy and improving student achievement.

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The *Center to Advance the Teaching of Technology & Science* utilizes a Consortium as a national advisory group to identify needs, develop interest, generate support, and maintain a commitment to advance the teaching of technology, innovation, design and engineering (*TIDE*.) Through the Consortium, organizations and agencies can build alliances and pool resources, expediting solutions to their respective needs for high quality professional development. Alliances established among public agencies, institutions, organizations, and private businesses facilitate the development of relevant products and services. A contractual agreement and fee entitles Consortium members to receive specified deliverables. Grants are also used to support the Center's activities and to supplement the Consortium's low fees.

2008 CATTTS Consortium

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For more information about how your state can become a leader in the profession, and details about membership in the CATTTS Consortium, contact:

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Invention, Innovation, and Inquiry

ITEA's I-cubed was a four-year project funded by the National Science Foundation to develop technological literacy units for grades 5 and 6. The units are based on Standards for Technological Literacy: Content for the Study of Technology (ITEA 2000), approved by the National Research Council and endorsed by the National Academy of Engineering as vital in the education of every child. The ITEA CATTs coordinates the project implementation.

Project activities included designing thematic units that develop technological literacy in students; developing teaching and learning resources based on selected technological and science literacy standards; and disseminating the units to teachers in training workshops and distance learning. Unit resources were developed for two overarching themes: The Design and Innovation unit examines ways in which inventions and innovations are developed and how they affect us personally, socially, and economically. Technological Systems acquaints students with ways systems are developed, produced, controlled and assessed. Medical, agricultural and biotechnology, energy and power, manufacturing, communications and construction systems will be introduced. Each unit has a standards-based content, suggested teaching approaches, and detailed learning activities including brainstorming, visualizing, testing, refining, and assessing technological designs. Students will have an opportunity to learn how inventions, innovations, and systems are created and how technology becomes part of people's lives.

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