

The West Virginia Energy Initiative



The WV Energy Initiative was a program designed to provide middle school teachers in West Virginia with the knowledge needed to successfully integrate energy information across the middle school curriculum. Participating middle school teams developed integrated instructional materials that focused on themes surrounding the energy industry, including the production, utilization, conservation, and harnessing of coal, oil, and natural gas. All teacher-created lessons:

- emphasize national and state content standards and objectives for their content areas
- incorporate hands-on activities and real-world applications from the oil, natural gas, and coal energy sectors
- incorporate 21st Century Skills and Tools
- involve backward design and project-based learning components

The WV Energy Initiative ended in a celebration where all teachers and students who participated in the project networked, shared experiences, and won valuable prizes. Funding from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation and Energize WV supported this effort.