

# Assessing the Impact of the MSPs: K–8 Science (AIM: K–8 Science)

Horizon Research, Inc. Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Iris Weiss, PI  
iweiss@horizon-research.com

Eric Banilower, Co-PI  
erb@horizon-research.com

Sean Smith, Co-PI  
ssmith62@horizon-research.com

## Overview

“Assessing the Impact of the MSPs: K–8 Science” is a three-year RETA led by Horizon Research, Inc. to study the impact of NSF’s Math and Science Partnership (MSP) program on teacher content knowledge, classroom practice, and student achievement. AIM is developing content-specific instruments in six topics to use in a cross-site study. The study is examining the relationship between the nature of teachers’ professional development experiences and both teacher and student outcomes across a number of MSP projects. The study is also documenting details on the professional development offered to teachers (i.e., the interventions), as well as measuring teacher content knowledge, teacher beliefs about teaching and learning, classroom practices, and student learning using common instruments across participating MSPs.

## Indicators of Success

- Creation of instruments with strong validity and reliability
- Data that further our understanding of the impacts of different approaches of PD on teachers, teaching, and student learning

**Acknowledgments:** This poster was prepared with support from the National Science Foundation through a grant to Horizon Research, Inc. (NSF Award No. 0928177). Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

*horizon*  
RESEARCH, INC.

