



Sloan Career Cornerstone Center

Profiles of Geoscientists



Linda Knight

Teacher
Houston Public Schools
Houston, TX

Education:

BA, Knox College (English)
MS, Indiana University (Earth Science)
Ed.D, Indiana University (Science Education)

Job Description:

High School Teacher

Video Transcript 1:

"I spend most of my time with twelve and thirteen year-olds. Which for some people sounds like a pretty horrible way to go, but it's very exciting - exciting interaction. They're interested, curious, young people and they're interests may not - when they walk through the door - may not just be targeted towards earth science, but they are curious enough that if given the opportunity, given - to fiddle with sand and water and to actually explore interesting ideas, they - they enjoy it."

Biography:

Dr. Knight received a B.A. in English Literature from Knox College (1965) and then an M.A.T. in Earth Science (1970) and an Ed.D. in Science Education from Indiana University (1975). She entered college intending to be an English teacher but found her first geology course (taken to meet college requirements) to be so interesting that she kept signing up for more geology courses. Eventually she redirected her goals toward teaching earth science. Over her twenty-three years of teaching in the public schools of both Indiana and Texas, Dr. Knight has found that her English, Earth Science, and Teaching knowledge have blended together to both enrich her teaching and support a variety of exciting career-related projects. She has co-authored a widely-used Earth Science textbook, developed a number of curricular units for her school district, and created topographic landform models that are commercially available through Wards Scientific. She has served as president for the Texas Earth Science Teachers Association and the National Earth Science Teacher Association, as well as serving as a member of the Education Advisory committees for AGU and GSA. She created Earth Focus, a student environmental journal (www.rice.edu/armadillo/Projects/Edodillo/Earthfocus). Distributed nationally, this journal offers middle and high school students a means of

"Profiles of Geoscientists"

Prepared as part of the Sloan Career Cornerstone Center (www.careercornerstone.org)

Source: "Careers for Geoscientists" © American Geological Institute

publishing their own research and ideas about earth and environmental topics. Dr. Knight has received a number of grants and won several awards, most notably, the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching, the GSA's Excellence in Earth Science Teaching Award, and the Business Week Award for Instructional Innovation. Dr. Knight is presently serving as co-director of the Rice University/Houston ISD Model Science Lab, a middle school enhancement program in the Houston Independent School District, Houston, Texas.

"Profiles of Geoscientists"

Prepared as part of the Sloan Career Cornerstone Center (www.careercornerstone.org)

Source: "Careers for Geoscientists" © American Geological Institute