



“ I believe that the most valuable part of the ReSET experience is the exposure. For the children and the teachers, it is the exposure to real scientists and engineers. For me, it is exposure to these beautiful, intelligent children who need to be told that the world is theirs if they are willing to strive for it. ”

—Peter D. Evanoff, volunteer

The ReSET program is supported by the following corporate sponsors:

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TRW	Hattie M. Strong Foundation

For more information on the ReSET program and how it can open new doors for your child, contact Director Harold Sharlin—

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## The ReSET Volunteer Program

Opening the Doors of Discovery and Opportunity

IT TAKES ONLY A SPARK ...

to kindle a fire of curiosity and  
imagination in the mind of a child.

**ReSET**—an intergenerational volunteer program that inspires and motivates children to discover and explore the worlds of science, math, and technology—can positively impact student ambition, attitude, and achievement.



# McDonald's or McDonnell Douglas?

Shouldn't we give our children a fair shot at a promising future?

## MAKING THE GRADE

### The Challenge Facing our Children

Studies have shown that after the age of 12 a child's interest in science and math begins to wane. For many children, these subjects are intimidating, frustrating, and seem to have little relevance to their daily lives. They pass through most of their school years with a limited understanding of the important role science and math play in today's world, and the career opportunities a strong background in these subjects can offer.

Motivation to pursue math and science careers is low because most children have had little (or unpleasant) exposure to these subjects. Not only do children miss out on a rewarding journey of personal discovery and educational enrichment, but they also forfeit the chance for a career that offers a variety of personal and professional benefits.

**" We are certain that ReSET enhances our science program and leads to specific achievement, along with development of interest in further science pursuits. "**

—KATHERINE A. JAMES, PRINCIPAL, SHEPHERD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## MAKING IT REAL

### The ReSET Experience

ReSET volunteers are retired scientists, engineers, and technicians who give their time, energy, and expertise to schoolchildren in the D.C. metro area. The diversity and depth of experience reflected in our volunteers is impressive, from a geologist who helped plan the first landing on the moon to a biochemist who was laboratory chief at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Because our volunteers have had successful careers in their respective professions, they are living, breathing vocational guides who can make a dry curriculum come alive.

*ReSET makes science and math accessible, meaningful . . . and fun! Our inquiry-based approach gives students direct, intuitive, dynamic encounters with science and math—improving their literacy and awareness, and promoting a positive attitude towards once "scary" subjects.*

Volunteers commit to one hour of classroom time a week over a six-week period. Through hands-on science experiments, classroom exercises, and field trips, volunteers engage students in the fascinating world around them—turning the ordinary into the extraordinary. Experiments and field trips complement each other and enhance the teacher's curriculum. For example, an electrical engineer might show a class of 4th graders how electricity is generated using magnets and wires, then take them on a field trip to an electric generating station.

ReSET volunteers get acclimated to being inside an elementary school classroom by attending orientation meetings where veteran volunteers share their experiences, and by sitting in on actual classes to observe current volunteers in action.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

### A Collaborative Partnership

EVERYBODY benefits through participation in a ReSET program. **Teachers** broaden their curriculum by inviting "real" scientists, engineers, and technicians into their classrooms. **Volunteers** experience the pleasure and fulfillment that come from making a genuine contribution to the lives of children, not only by opening their eyes to the wonders of science and technology, but also by building self-esteem and instilling positive educational values. **Sponsors** reap the psychological rewards and long-term professional benefits of serving their communities by helping to prepare our children to confidently enter a technologically savvy 21st Century workforce.

*Our children benefit most of all.*

The knowledge that ReSET imparts to children provides a basis for many life skills they will need as adults, from working a computer to managing their finances. ReSET encourages curiosity, initiative, and practical problem-solving abilities; builds self-confidence and respect for the opinions of others; and raises science and math literacy, readiness, and appreciation.

**" Over the past several years, my children have been fortunate to have been exposed to the life experiences of the ReSET volunteers . . . My daughter Carly is a fifth grader who has wonderful goals set for her future. Thank you for the positive inspiration that you have bestowed on her from your wonderful program. "** —VALERIE WILSON, PARENT

## MAKING IT POSSIBLE

### How You Can Get Involved

Endorsed by the D.C. and Montgomery County Public School systems, ReSET has been serving the D.C. community since 1989.

ReSET is presently seeking funding from granting organizations, including private corporations, individuals, foundations, and professional associations.

**To participate in a ReSET program—**

- As a VOLUNTEER
- As a TEACHER
- As a SPONSOR
- Or if you'd like to learn more . . .

**Call 202-966-2122 or reach us at [www.resetonline.org](http://www.resetonline.org)**

**Just how important is your support? Well . . . consider a world without Edison.**



Despite his teacher's conviction that he was mentally "unstable," Thomas Alva Edison went on to become a scientific genius, earning patents for more than 1,000 inventions, including the incandescent electric lamp, the phonograph, and the motion picture projector. Edison's mother encouraged her son's curiosity and inquisitiveness through an elementary school physical science book. By the age of 10, the burgeoning young scientist had set up a small chemical laboratory in the cellar of their home. His inventions would transform the world.