



May 15, 2007

Dear Science Teachers

I am excited to announce that the UPTAQ, Understanding the Profile of Tampa Bay's Aquatic Quality Program will be officially launched this summer!

The primary aim of the UPTAQ Program is to provide Pinellas, Manatee and Hillsborough counties 4th and 5th grade science teachers sustained hands-on experience in scientific research in Tampa Bay so they can better understand the practice of science, and better transmit to their students and fellow teachers a feeling for its practice. The main component of the UPTAQ program is a summer short course that includes hands-on learning opportunities with environmental scientists and educators. During the summer portion of the program teachers will participate in research sampling trips in Tampa Bay and collect research data. While participating in this program, the UPTAQ project personnel will assist teachers in designing customized curriculum using national science education digital libraries to meet the Florida FCAT goals. Teachers will also receive classroom water quality kits, field guides, curriculum activities, environmental biogeochemical analysis, GPS and GIS training. In addition, teachers who participate in this program will have the opportunity to receive graduate or continuing education credit.

We invite you to participate and look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen M. Carvalho-Knighton".

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