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The nuclear science wallchart and teachers' guide

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Abstract

The Nuclear Science Wallchart and its companion Teachers' Guide were developed by a national committee of scientists and teachers and are published by the Contemporary Physics Education Project (CPEP). The Wallchart is designed as a tool for high school and community college teachers who wish to introduce concepts of nuclear science into their chemistry or physics curriculum. The Wallchart has several sections which fall into three basic categories: 1) the introduction of basic nuclear science concepts (e.g., radioactivity), 2) ties to 21st century research (e.g., the search for the quark-gluon plasma at RHIC), and 3) applications (e.g., nuclear energy). In California, the basic concepts fall naturally into the State Science Standards for high school Chemistry. The Teachers Guide, subtitled "You don't have to be a Nuclear Scientist to Understand Nuclear Science", expands on the material on the chart and includes supplementary information in areas such as environmental concerns.