Overview

Founded in 1989 by Dr. Robert D. Ballard, JASON Learning is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that connects students with scientists and researchers in real- and near-real time, virtually and physically, to provide mentored, authentic and enriching science learning experiences.

JASON and its partners create these connections using multiple platforms and technologies, including award-winning, standards-based Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) curricula developed with NOAA, NASA, National Geographic Society and others; after-school and out-of-school activities; camp experiences; and exploration programs for museums, aquariums, libraries and community centers. The result is a year-round continuum of classroom and out-of-classroom learning.

In 2013, ISRI launched a campaign focused on youth education of recycling in partnership with JASON Learning – a joint effort of National Geographic and Sea Research Foundation. ISRI has worked with JASON Learning to design standards-based education modules that expand student’s minds and knowledge with the science of recycling. In fact, the industry needs scientists and engineers who have the training and vision to rework and reinvent discarded items as new materials and product building blocks.

Students learn hands-on about separating ferrous metals from non-ferrous, reducing plastic bottles to useful raw material, how some plastics are easily recycled while some are not, and how the recycling industry helps steward the environment by providing the building blocks that manufacturers need.

The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries Inc., partnering with JASON Learning, is helping recyclers across the country teach students about the exciting science and technology involved in what is a very “green” enterprise. Recycling is also an industry that needs scientists and engineers now and for the future, and ISRI hopes to inspire students consider the science of recycling as a possible career.

Since 2013:

- Approximately 4,000 teachers trained across the U.S.
- Nearly half a million students represented through teacher training and conference event outreach.