

## Country Focus: Grenada

On 29 January 2020, ITEN Teacher Fellow Jason Douglas held an in-school professional development workshop for his peers on the topics of Active Learning in Optics and Photonics and on the use of free PhET Interactive Simulations.

Teachers reported that the workshop activities helped to **resolve common naive ideas or misconceptions that learners often have** when studying physical science.



9

### Teachers

...from the math and science departments at The Anglican High School modeled student-centered learning by engaging in low-cost activities with lenses.

One approach employed during the workshop was "PODS," a technique that helps learners engage in inquiry by (1) Predicting, (2) Observing, (3) Debriefing and (4) Synthesizing.





**Jason Douglas** is head of the mathematics department of his school, and has responsibilities for teaching both math and physics.

Jason believes that **good STEM teacher professional development** should give teachers the opportunity of **being students and feeling exactly how the students feel in the classroom.**



Teachers in the workshop reiterated that a common challenge for STEM teachers in many countries is that even when they have laboratory spaces, teachers travel from room to room to deliver their lessons, making the preparation and maintenance of equipment very difficult.



The Active Learning in Optics and Photonics approach can be very helpful in engaging students with everyday visual phenomena, including how the human eye works, how eyeglasses can improve vision, and why we perceive colors as we see them.

