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Nobel Prize Material in the Introductory Physics lab Curriculum¹ WATHIQ ABDUL-RAZZAQ, West Virginia University — Introductory physics lab provides a unique experience for students to learn physics kinesthetically. Learning in this style may help students who do not learn as effectively from lectures, reading assignments, and written homework. Lab is also a stage for improving physical intuition which is invaluable to the aspiring scientist or critical thinker. Unfortunately, the benefits of physics lab are often insufficient to hold the attention of students in introductory physics courses. Well-designed Nobel-Prizematerial experiments can help breed curiosity within the students by providing a useful context for students to learn about exciting science. A curious nature is extremely valuable toward engineering studies, medical studies, science studies or any other study. Nobel Prize material can be made digestible to an undergraduate student and this narrows the gap between science learned in college courses and science performed by professionals. Nobel Prize material is the best that a field of study has to offer, and learning about these novel ideas promotes a creativity and curiosity about science that traditional introductory physics lab curriculums cannot produce.

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