

# Innovating Science Teaching with Explore Science

Studies Weekly's  
**NEW**  
Science Curriculum



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# Introduction

Studies Weekly's brand-new K-5 Explore Science encourages students to investigate by conducting hands-on experiments, asking questions, and making observations of natural phenomena.

## Explore Science is...

### **Built to Standards**

Explore Science was designed to the NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards). The curriculum reflects the latest science best practices and adheres to the Framework for K-12 Science Education.

Studies Weekly built the curriculum using EQulP, NGSS Lesson Screener, EdReports rubrics, and other research-based models.

### **Reviewed and Validated**

Independent reviewer CSA Education used the NGSS Lesson Screener Tool to evaluate Explore Science and provided a positive review. Additional independent reviewers used the EdReports rubric and found it to have a powerful alignment with NGSS research-based best practices.

### **Continually Improving**

Other research organizations are providing continued feedback so Studies Weekly can make additional updates to support receiving the NGSS Design Badge as a high-quality curriculum.

Studies Weekly has also submitted Explore Science to EdReports for their independent evaluation.

Studies Weekly regularly conducts efficacy studies with school districts to continually evaluate this high-quality curriculum with ongoing research-based validation.

# Explore Science Evaluation

## Abstract

The EdReports Science K-5 Review Tool is a mechanism for assessing standards alignment, usability and design, and overall quality of science curriculum.

The science review criteria evaluates materials based on:

- Three-dimensional learning
- Phenomena-driven learning
- Coherence and full scope of three dimensions
- Instructional supports and usability

The independent assessment of Explore Science with this review tool indicated a powerful alignment to NGSS standards and high scores for each Gateway.

## Methodology

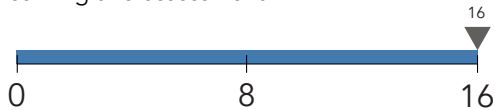
Two science education contractors independently reviewed Explore Science using the EdReports Science K-5 Review Tool. These reviewers used the EdReports Review Criteria, a sequential review process with indicators that reflect high-quality instructional materials, and the corresponding EdReports Evidence Guide, an elaborative material with additional details about the indicators in the Review Criteria.

# Kindergarten Evaluation

## Gateway 1: Designed for NGSS

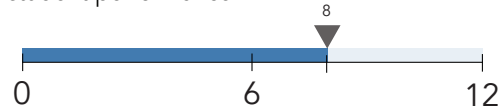
### Criterion 1.1 Three-Dimensional Learning

Designed for three-dimensional learning and assessment.



### Criterion 1.2 Phenomena and Problems Drive Learning

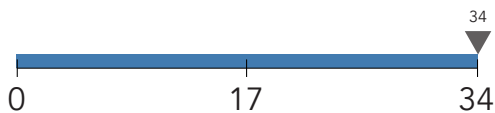
Science phenomena and engineering problems drive learning and student performance.



## Gateway 2: Coherence and Scope

### Criterion 2.1 Coherence and Scope

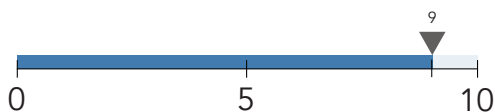
Coherent in design, scientifically accurate, and supports grade-band endpoints of all three dimensions.



## Gateway 3: Usability

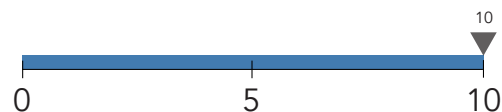
### Criterion 3.1 Teacher Supports

Opportunities to effectively plan and utilize materials



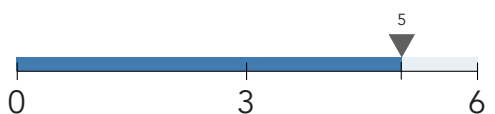
### Criterion 3.2 Assessment

Includes a system of assessments that measure student progress towards the standards.



### Criterion 3.3 Student Supports

Designed for each child's participation in grade-level content.



### Criterion 3.4 Intentional Design

Visual design is engaging and incorporates digital technology.

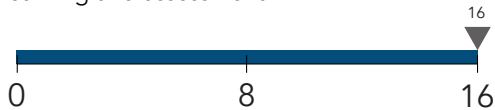
**Narrative Evidence Only**

# Grade 1 Evaluation

## Gateway 1: Designed for NGSS

### Criterion 1.1 Three-Dimensional Learning

Designed for three-dimensional learning and assessment.



### Criterion 1.2 Phenomena and Problems Drive Learning

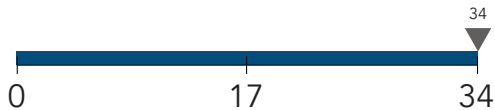
Science phenomena and engineering problems drive learning and student performance.



## Gateway 2: Coherence and Scope

### Criterion 2.1 Coherence and Scope

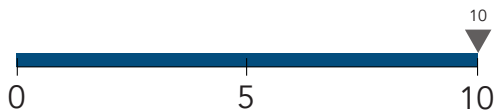
Coherent in design, scientifically accurate, and supports grade-band endpoints of all three dimensions.



## Gateway 3: Usability

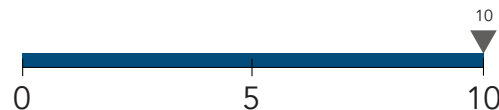
### Criterion 3.1 Teacher Supports

Opportunities to effectively plan and utilize materials



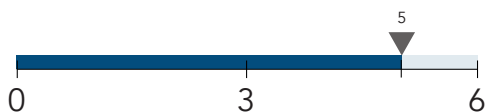
### Criterion 3.2 Assessment

Includes a system of assessments that measure student progress towards the standards.



### Criterion 3.3 Student Supports

Designed for each child's participation in grade-level content.



### Criterion 3.4 Intentional Design

Visual design is engaging and incorporates digital technology.

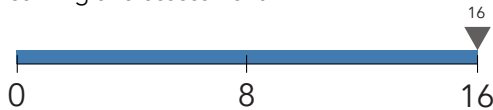
**Narrative Evidence Only**

# Grade 2 Evaluation

## Gateway 1: Designed for NGSS

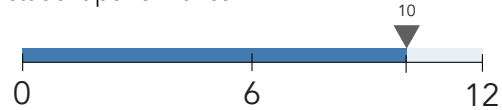
### Criterion 1.1 Three-Dimensional Learning

Designed for three-dimensional learning and assessment.



### Criterion 1.2 Phenomena and Problems Drive Learning

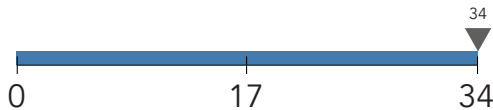
Science phenomena and engineering problems drive learning and student performance.



## Gateway 2: Coherence and Scope

### Criterion 2.1 Coherence and Scope

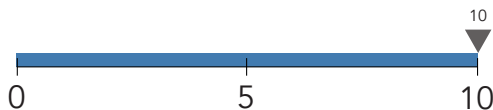
Coherent in design, scientifically accurate, and supports grade-band endpoints of all three dimensions.



## Gateway 3: Usability

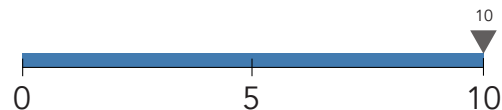
### Criterion 3.1 Teacher Supports

Opportunities to effectively plan and utilize materials



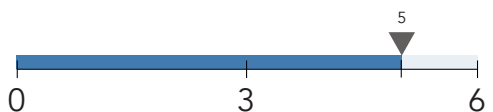
### Criterion 3.2 Assessment

Includes a system of assessments that measure student progress towards the standards.



### Criterion 3.3 Student Supports

Designed for each child's participation in grade-level content.



### Criterion 3.4 Intentional Design

Visual design is engaging and incorporates digital technology.

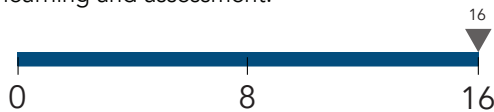
**Narrative Evidence Only**

# Grade 3 Evaluation

## Gateway 1: Designed for NGSS

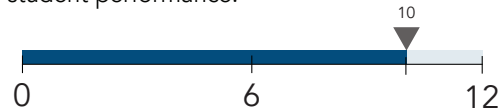
### Criterion 1.1 Three-Dimensional Learning

Designed for three-dimensional learning and assessment.



### Criterion 1.2 Phenomena and Problems Drive Learning

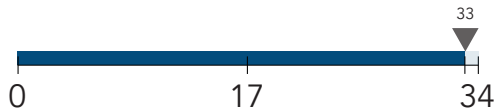
Science phenomena and engineering problems drive learning and student performance.



## Gateway 2: Coherence and Scope

### Criterion 2.1 Coherence and Scope

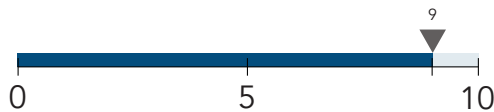
Coherent in design, scientifically accurate, and supports grade-band endpoints of all three dimensions.



## Gateway 3: Usability

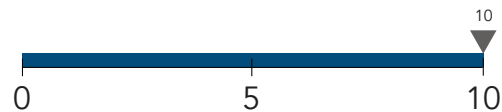
### Criterion 3.1 Teacher Supports

Opportunities to effectively plan and utilize materials



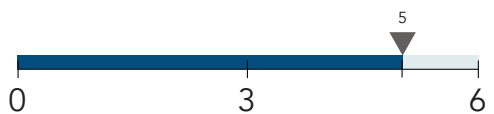
### Criterion 3.2 Assessment

Includes a system of assessments that measure student progress towards the standards.



### Criterion 3.3 Student Supports

Designed for each child's participation in grade-level content.



### Criterion 3.4 Intentional Design

Visual design is engaging and incorporates digital technology.

**Narrative Evidence Only**

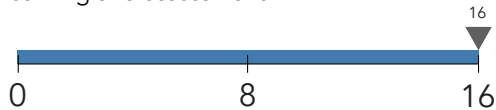


# Grade 4 Evaluation

## Gateway 1: Designed for NGSS

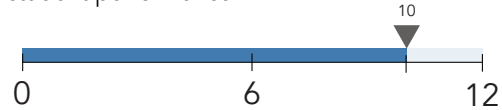
### Criterion 1.1 Three-Dimensional Learning

Designed for three-dimensional learning and assessment.



### Criterion 1.2 Phenomena and Problems Drive Learning

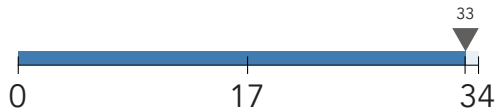
Science phenomena and engineering problems drive learning and student performance.



## Gateway 2: Coherence and Scope

### Criterion 2.1 Coherence and Scope

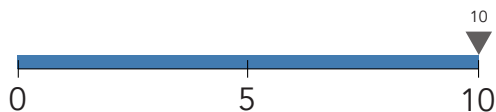
Coherent in design, scientifically accurate, and supports grade-band endpoints of all three dimensions.



## Gateway 3: Usability

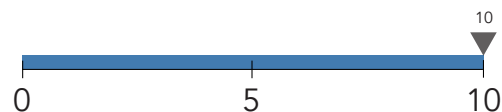
### Criterion 3.1 Teacher Supports

Opportunities to effectively plan and utilize materials



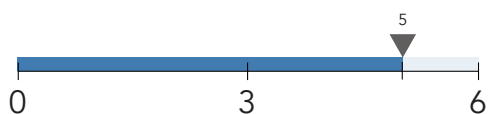
### Criterion 3.2 Assessment

Includes a system of assessments that measure student progress towards the standards.



### Criterion 3.3 Student Supports

Designed for each child's participation in grade-level content.



### Criterion 3.4 Intentional Design

Visual design is engaging and incorporates digital technology.

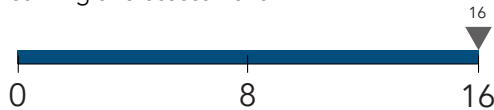
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# Grade 5 Evaluation

## Gateway 1: Designed for NGSS

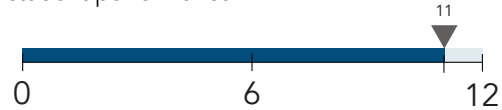
### Criterion 1.1 Three-Dimensional Learning

Designed for three-dimensional learning and assessment.



### Criterion 1.2 Phenomena and Problems Drive Learning

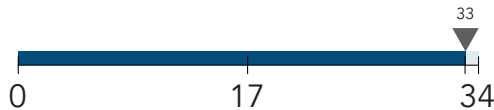
Science phenomena and engineering problems drive learning and student performance.



## Gateway 2: Coherence and Scope

### Criterion 2.1 Coherence and Scope

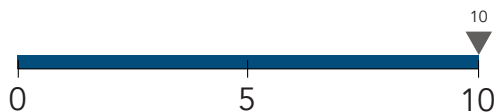
Coherent in design, scientifically accurate, and supports grade-band endpoints of all three dimensions.



## Gateway 3: Usability

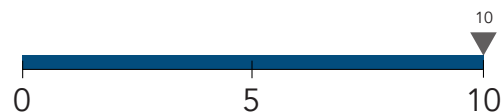
### Criterion 3.1 Teacher Supports

Opportunities to effectively plan and utilize materials



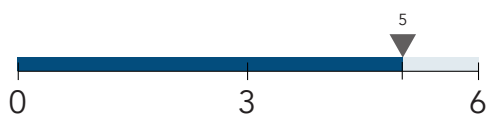
### Criterion 3.2 Assessment

Includes a system of assessments that measure student progress towards the standards.



### Criterion 3.3 Student Supports

Designed for each child's participation in grade-level content.



### Criterion 3.4 Intentional Design

Visual design is engaging and incorporates digital technology.

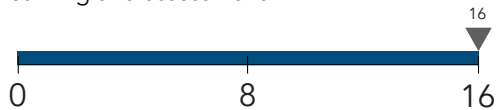
**Narrative Evidence Only**

# Grade 5 Evaluation

## Gateway 1: Designed for NGSS

### Criterion 1.1 Three-Dimensional Learning

Designed for three-dimensional learning and assessment.



### Criterion 1.2 Phenomena and Problems Drive Learning

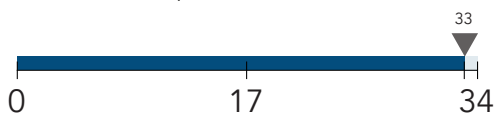
Science phenomena and engineering problems drive learning and student performance.



## Gateway 2: Coherence and Scope

### Criterion 2.1 Coherence and Scope

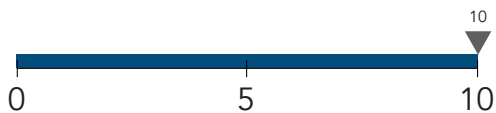
Coherent in design, scientifically accurate, and supports grade-band endpoints of all three dimensions.



## Gateway 3: Usability

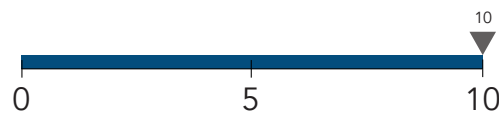
### Criterion 3.1 Teacher Supports

Opportunities to effectively plan and utilize materials



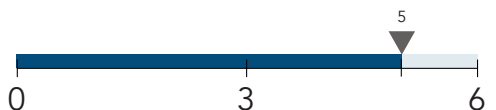
### Criterion 3.2 Assessment

Includes a system of assessments that measure student progress towards the standards.



### Criterion 3.3 Student Supports

Designed for each child's participation in grade-level content.



### Criterion 3.4 Intentional Design

Visual design is engaging and incorporates digital technology.

**Narrative Evidence Only**