Join a Virtual Professional Learning Community for TEACHERS

GaDOE has launched an innovative platform to provide the opportunity for science teachers to collaborate, connect and share thoughts and resources as well as encouragement. We are excited to start our second year of these wonderful communities. Who will lead our groups? See more about our Virtual Specialists [here](#). The sessions from last year are available on our [playlist](#).

We look forward to connecting!

Step 1: To get started, [visit the GaDOE community website via this link](#), select “Create an Account” and follow the prompts for setting up a new account on the platform.

Step 2: Once you have completed your account you will have to wait briefly for activation/approval. Once approved, you are ready to join a group! Navigate to the Groups section. For science teachers and leaders, there are several groups available to join: Select and join the groups you are most interested in. See our [community flyer](#) for more information.

Professional Learning Opportunities

The schedule for fall professional learning can be found on our [GaDOE Science Professional Learning Playlist](#), along with on-demand session already recorded. Please join us this fall as we explore integrating science and social studies, crosscutting concepts, virtual PLCs and more!

In addition, the GaDOE science team is looking for science teachers and leaders to assist as we develop new resources in the coming years. We are engaging in a range of projects, including instructional resources, videos, and assessments, and we need your help! Contracts are paid commitments and vary in size and scope. If you are interested in this opportunity, please take a moment to complete this [short survey](#).
Guide for Effective Science Instruction for All Students

The Guide for Effective Science Instruction is a document that contains information about 3-dimensional science teaching. The document contains examples of formative assessment, student interest surveys, and core idea progressions for the science GSE. The guide can be found on the GaDOE science webpage or at the following link: Guide for Effective Science Instruction for All Students.

The first part of the document discusses the different components of 3-dimensional science teaching. There is a section dedicated to the science and engineering practices, the cross cutting concepts, and how each show up in the Georgia Standards of Excellence. Then the document contains links to examples of different phenomena-based lessons that are available as part of the GaDOE science resources.

The document also contains links to formative assessment examples that are based off the science GSE. The formative assessments all contain directions for the activities, any documents needed for the activity, an answer key and a topic inventory example.

The next part of the document contains student interest surveys that can be used to determine what phenomena may meet students needs for the different standards.

Finally, the document contains a standards progression piece. This part of the document provides information about the standards in the grade level, the place where students have seen the core idea before, where students will see the core idea again, and a description of how the standards are connected. To find a more comprehensive walkthrough of this document and other resources, check out the video on mining for science resources.
Science Guidance

Effective science instruction can not only motivate interest and engagement for students, but can also be the engine for reading, writing, listening, and speaking. See the resources below for strategies and guidance on providing opportunities and supporting students in science.

Our science classrooms can support students moving from learning about to figuring out. Science provides the spark of curiosity that generates student interest and leads to reasoning. See Making Time for Science for resources and strategies.

Science is a story told in three dimensions. A phenomenon starts the story and it ends with students explaining, arguing, and modeling their ideas. Our science classrooms can be a space where students grow in experience and language. See The Synergy of Science and the English Language for strategies and tips.

The Council of State Science Supervisors has developed guidance for how American Rescue Plan funds can be used to support and advance science education. See guidance documents and resources here.

Staff Picks—Some of Our Favorite Things

Here are a few things we suggest you check out this fall:

Keith: Evidence-based Writing in the Science Classroom is collaboration session between ELA and science. We jump into what argumentative writing can look like in the science classroom and share resources, examples, strategies and more. See the Session slides for more information.

Renee: Reading, Writing and Science: The Perfect Combination is a video series that was developed by a science educator and author. Dr. Jodi Wheeler-Toppen provides tips to assist teachers in supporting students in reading and writing effectively in the science classroom.

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