

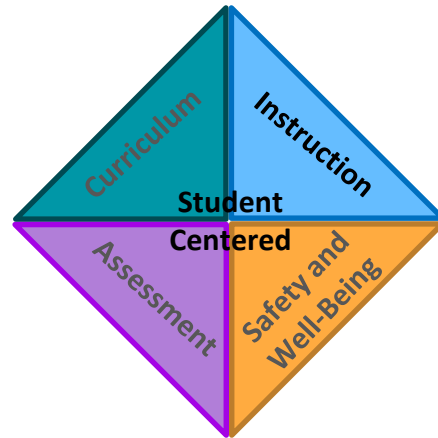
Science Re-Entry

The NM STEM Ready! Science standards progress so the content spirals with students being exposed to more in-depth learning as they advance through the grades.

How should districts and or schools decide what needs to be taught in science while adapting to different modes of learning?

Considerations

- Teachers should keep in mind that students will start the year with a diversity of skills, knowledge and wonderings that can be addressed through “*just-in-time*” instruction and adjustments of grade level standards instead of re-teaching or remediation.
- In the spring we experienced a focus on ELA and Mathematics, however, science is a critical part of a well-rounded education for all students.
- This is a moment of opportunity to redesign or replace learning activities that are not standards-aligned and instead create time and space for meaningful student engagement. However, teachers need time and professional learning support to adapt instruction.
- Keep in mind, all New Mexico STEM Ready! Science Standards are **essential for all students**. Remember that the NM STEM Ready! Science Standards include all of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) plus six NM Specific Standards.



What Does This Look Like?

- Bundling standards and sequencing instruction supports how standards in the previous and current grade level connect to other standards in the current grade and address requisite skills and knowledge. Bundles can be created at the topic level or Disciplinary Core Idea (DCI). Once bundles are created lesson development can begin.
- Science teachers can use the learning progressions provided in [Appendix E](#) of the NGSS to scaffold on-grade-level lessons and units during the school year. They should also utilize the Connection Boxes, underneath the Foundation Boxes in the standards, to identify standards that build across the grade bands.
- Using [Appendix L](#) for connections to Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Mathematics and [Appendix M](#) for connections to CCSS for Literacy in Science and Technical Subjects, and the Foundation Boxes in the standards for the Connections Boxes to CCSS ELA/ Literacy and Mathematics to create multidimensional science education .
- Review the [Recommended Course Maps K-12](#) documents to identify relevant bundles in NM STEM Ready! Science Standards. [K-5 course map](#) , [Secondary Course Maps](#)

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Recommended Reflection Questions

Use these questions with your PLC to examine current practice and engage in forward planning.

- How will you ensure equitable access to on-grade learning? What [practices or tools](#) can you use to review curriculum and remove extraneous material that is not on grade-level, e.g. favorite activities or textbook chapters that are not standards-aligned?
- Do existing resources prioritize student [sense-making](#) using the three dimensions of the standards rather than discrete content? If materials unnecessarily focus on skill attainment in isolation (memorization of facts), can these skills be developed in a more meaningful way?
- How can adaptations be made for [various learning scenarios](#) in ways that support all students?
- How are you ensure safety protocols are followed in the various learning environments?

Where can we start?

Administrators

Support teachers to collaborate, plan and adjust instruction on a regular basis. Understand the unique needs of science teaching and learning, including the time, space and resources needed.

- ❖ [Stem Teaching Tool for Administrators](#)
- ❖ [K-8 Science During COVID \(WestEd\)](#)
- ❖ [Science Practices Supervision Tools](#)

Teachers

Keep science teaching and learning coherent, by bundling standards. Use grade-level standards and provide “just in time” supports for requisite skills and knowledge.

- ❖ [Next Generation Science Storylines](#)
- ❖ [Bundling the NGSS](#)
- ❖ [Dimensions of Science Education and distance learning resources \(WestEd\)](#)

Students, Families, and Communities

Support student science learning at home by making connections to topics that meaningful to you.

- ❖ [NGSS parent guides](#)
- ❖ [Advice for Families](#)
- ❖ [Advise for students](#)

Big Questions for Science Acceleration

