

NGSS NOW

6 things to know about quality K-12 science education in June 2018



1 Join us! New EQuIP Professional Learning Opportunity on Environmental Education

Are you developing K-12 environmental education lessons or units? Join us for a free two-day EQuIP professional learning session. Come learn how to use and apply the EQuIP Rubric so that the units you are developing will truly be designed for the NGSS. The professional learning will also help participants better understand the NGSS and the natural connections between environmental science and the NGSS. This session is in-person only and will take place July 12-13 at the California Endowment Center in Oakland, California. Learn more and register to attend [here](#).



2 Video Conversation Series from LinkEngineering

LinkEngineering is continuing its [video conversation series](#) "for easy, inspiring professional development." The next conversation in the series, "TeachEngineering: Making the Most of Free STEM Curriculum with Mike Soltys" will be held on June 12 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. ET. Videos of past conversations are also [available](#) online.



3 Transforming Science Education in San Francisco



This [article](#) in *Education Week* from the Stanford-SFUSD Partnership looks at the researcher's perspective on a partnership to improve science teaching and learning between the SFUSD Science Team and the Center to Support Excellence in Teaching at Stanford University.

"These analyses of classroom practice helped drive the emphasis in

the plans for professional development (PD) for the next three years. This plan includes roles for instructional coaches, teacher leaders, and site-based professional learning communities. While it was obvious that some portion of the PD needed to focus on the structure of the new curriculum, we also needed to target core instructional practices that would make the implementation of the curriculum more effective in terms of student learning."

4

From NSTA: Making Sense of Three-Dimensional Teaching and Learning



The National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) is hosting a two-day workshop to help participants dive into three-dimensional science instruction. During the workshop, participants build a solid understanding of the three dimensions and how they integrate, and take home a powerful toolkit of resources to further their implementation efforts. The workshop will take place on July 14-15 in Philadelphia, and is held in conjunction with the STEM Forum and Expo hosted by NSTA. Don't miss the chance to learn from some great

presenters, including a member of Achieve's Science Peer Review Panel! [Click here](#) to register and learn more.

5

Iowa CORE: Upping the Ante in Science Classrooms

Laura Williams, who works for the Great Prairie Area Education Agency, [writes](#) on the Iowa CORE blog about authentic, community-based learning designed around the science standards in her districts. Projects that solve real-world local problems in the classroom provide students a chance to use Science and Engineering Practices while integrating multiple science disciplines in an engaging way.

"When students take on a project they are passionate about, it creates the need to know more. Learning becomes relevant and this is where the learning comes alive and can reach students beyond a textbook or a paper they will turn in and forget about. When you put them in a position to make an impact and have an authentic audience for their work, their buy-in is great and long-term memory prevails."

6

From Ready Washington: NGSS to the WSSLS: A View from Downstream



Check out this great Medium [piece](#) by Erin Lark, a secondary science teacher at Evergreen Public Schools in Southwest Washington.

"Whether used with a conjunction between or as separate terms, equity and access are key aspects of successful, inclusive, education programming. The achievement gap, a term referring to disparities in academic performance in subgroups of students (e.g. low socioeconomic status, Latinx, or female students), is a reality weighing heavily on the minds of educators and policy makers. Adoption and implementation of the NGSS and rollout of assessments in 2018 are means for narrowing this gap; global science

achievement is supported through science education that embraces diverse backgrounds, strengths, and needs through mindful instructional delivery."

