

NGSS NOW

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



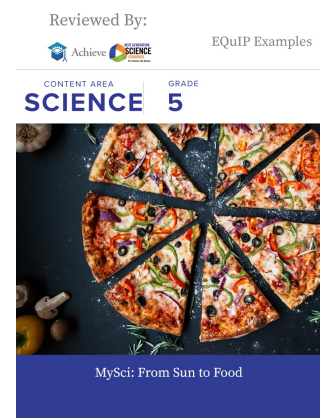
1 Apply Today to Join Achieve's Science Peer Review Panel!

Achieve is excited to announce that we are seeking educators to join the [Science Peer Review Panel](#) ("Science PRP"), an elite group of educators who work to evaluate and share [high-quality lesson sequences and units](#) that are designed for the NGSS. Peer Reviewers have an opportunity to connect with a network of educators across the country committed to advancing science education for all students, develop their expertise in the NGSS, and work to make better science instructional materials more widely available to the science education field.

This opportunity includes free, valuable professional learning experiences designed to deepen your understanding of the NGSS and the evaluation process for instructional materials. Please share this opportunity with your state networks. Apply to join the Science PRP [by filling out this online survey](#) by December 12, 2018, and send any questions to vwolbrink@achieve.org.

2 New Quality Grade 5 Unit Example: From Sun to Food

In this MySci unit, [From Sun to Food](#), students consider the question, "if we eat pizza, why don't we look like pizza?" To try to explain this phenomenon, students develop and refine a farm model throughout each lesson. Students will see how matter is cycled through ecosystems and how energy flows from the sun to the consumers in a food chain. As students engage in the activities in this unit, the Crosscutting Concepts of Energy and Matter and Systems and System Models are emphasized. This would be a great example to share with the fifth-grade teachers in your state.



3

Two Job Opportunities at Achieve: Director, District Support and Program Associate, Science



Achieve is hiring for two new positions to support efforts to improve science education and implement the NGSS across the U.S.

These positions are [Director, District Support](#) and [Program Associate, Science](#). More information and instructions for applying are available in the links above and on [Achieve's website](#).

If you have any questions about these open positions, please email hr@achieve.org.

4

New STEM Teaching Tool: Why it is crucial to make cultural diversity visible in STEM education?

This [new tool](#) from [STEM Teaching Tools](#) can help educators think through diversity considerations in their classrooms. While having diverse representations of scientists in the classroom is important, instruction must also recognize who has done science, for what range of purposes, and how diversity enriches science. Science in the U.S. often focuses on science practiced in Western, educated, industrialized, rich, and democratic societies, but should recognize that all cultural communities have--and do--engage in science and technology endeavors that relate to their interests, goals, and values.

5

Webinar: Aligned to What? Using Task Criteria to Support Aligned Assessment Systems

Last month, Achieve released a suite of assessment task evaluation tools to support the rigorous evaluation of classroom and large-scale assessment tasks measuring student learning for three-dimensional science standards. This webinar, co-sponsored by the [Learning Policy Institute](#) and Achieve, will dive into how states and educators have used these resources to support more effective assessment design, vetting, and use, as well as how they can be leveraged to build capacity locally and across the state. Two states will share their experiences using these resources, and brainstorm ways to leverage common criteria and a rigorous process to support coherent system. Register [here](#) and attend the webinar on November 15, 2:00pm ET.

6

English Learners in STEM Subjects: Transforming Classrooms, Schools, and Lives ebinar: Retaining STEM Teachers

A new report, [English Learners in STEM Subjects: Transforming Classrooms, Schools, and Lives](#) from The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine examines the research on English Learners' learning, teaching, and assessment in STEM subjects and provides guidance on how to improve learning outcomes in STEM for these students. The report considers the complex social and academic use of language delineated in the new mathematics and science standards, the diversity of the population of ELs, and the integration of English as a second language instruction with core instructional programs in STEM.

English Learners *in* STEM Subjects

TRANSFORMING CLASSROOMS,
SCHOOLS, *and* LIVES

