



# GRADE 2

# Science Curriculum

Oradell Public School District  
Oradell, NJ

2023

# Oradell Public School District

## **Grade 2 Science Curriculum Committee Credits:** Oradell Public School District

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## **Board Policy**

This revision is aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Science, the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Computer Science and Design Thinking, the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills, and includes connections to Social-Emotional Learning Competencies.

## **Affirmative Action**

During the development of this course of study, particular attention was paid to the elimination or exclusion of any materials which might discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, familial status, genetic information, mental or physical disabilities, or in educational opportunities. Every effort has been made to uphold both the letter and spirit of Affirmative Action mandates as applied to the content, the texts and the instruction inherent in this course.

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The Science curriculum was developed by the Oradell School District and aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS).



# Oradell Public School District

## Suggested Pacing Guide for Science

### Grade 2

Unit	Approximate Months	Unit	Skills
1	Sept-Dec	<a href="#">Physical Science</a>	Structure and Properties of Matter
2	Jan-Mar	<a href="#">Earth &amp; Space</a>	Science Earth's Systems Processes that Shape the Earth
3	Apr-Jun	<a href="#">Life Science</a>	Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
<a href="#">Appendix A</a>			K-2 Engineering Design Standards

# Grade 2 Science Curriculum

## Unit 1: Physical Science: Structure and Properties of Matter

### Unit Overview

*(Excerpt from New Jersey Model Curriculum- Grade 2, Units 2 & 3, “What it Looks Like in the Classroom”)*

In this unit of study, students investigate cause-and-effect relationships between matter and energy as they analyze and classify materials that undergo change. Throughout the unit, students will construct explanations and engage in argument from evidence as they investigate the ways in which matter can change and determine whether or not a change is reversible.

Students are engaged in the engineering design process in order to understand that different properties are suited to different purposes. Students use this understanding as they construct evidence-based accounts of how an object made of small pieces can be disassembled and made into new objects. In order to do this, they need multiple opportunities to take apart and reassemble objects that are made of small pieces. For example, using blocks, building bricks, and other small objects such as Legos, small groups of students can build an object, and then a second group of students can take the object apart and build another object using those same small blocks or bricks. As students construct and deconstruct objects, then reconstruct the pieces into new objects, they should document the process in their science journals, explaining how they went about reconstructing the pieces into a new object.

After students have worked through and documented this process, ask them, “Are the changes you made to each of the original objects reversible? Can we disassemble the new objects and use the pieces to reconstruct the original object? After class discussion, ask students, “Are all changes reversible?” This should lead to opportunities for students to observe changes caused by heating or cooling. With close supervision and guidance by teachers, students can investigate such changes as heating or cooling butter, chocolate chips, or pieces of crayon, freezing water, and melting ice. They can observe an egg before and after cooking or a small piece of paper or cardboard before and after burning. As they attempt to reverse changes, they will also notice that all events have causes that generate patterns of change that can be observed and predicted. Through these types of experiences, students will recognize that some changes caused by heating or cooling can be reversed and some cannot, and they can use evidence from their investigations to support their thinking.



**Big Idea/Common Thread:**

- Materials can be identified and classified by their observable properties.

**Enduring Understanding:**

- Matter exists as different substances that have observable different properties.
- Different properties are suited to different purposes.
- Objects can be built up from smaller parts.
- Heating and cooling of substances cause changes that are sometimes reversible and sometimes not.

**Essential Questions:**

- How are materials similar and different from one another?
- How do properties of materials relate to their use?
- How can objects change and are these changes reversible?

**Assessments**

Possible Ongoing Formative Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teacher Observation</li> <li>● Student Participation</li> <li>● Wrap It Up! questions</li> <li>● Various levels of questioning</li> <li>● Teacher observation</li> <li>● Class discussions/Partner Talk</li> <li>● Science Notebook activities</li> <li>● Performance Expectation Activities: <i>Investigate; Think Like a Scientist; Think Like an Engineer, STEAM Projects</i></li> <li>● Teacher Rubrics for Performance Expectations Activities</li> </ul>
Summative Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Physical Science Unit Assessment</li> </ul>
Alternative Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Modified Physical Science Unit Assessment (Less answer choices, word bank, highlighted vocabulary, etc.)</li> </ul>

## Standards (NJSLs) Addressed in this Unit

### Disciplinary Core Ideas

#### PS1.A Structure and Properties of Matter

- Different kinds of matter exist and many of them can be either solid or liquid, depending on temperature. Matter can be described and classified by its observable properties. (2-PS1-1)
- Different properties are suited to different purposes. (2- PS1-2),(2-PS1-3)
- A great variety of objects can be built up from a small set of pieces. (2-PS1-3)

#### PS1.B: Chemical Reactions

- Heating or cooling a substance may cause changes that can be observed. Sometimes these changes are reversible, and sometimes they are not. (2-PS1-4)

### Crosscutting Concepts

#### Patterns

- Patterns in the natural world can be observed, used to describe phenomena, and used as evidence.(2-PS1-1)

#### Cause and Effect

- Events have causes that generate observable patterns. (2-PS1-4)
- Simple tests can be designed to gather evidence to support or refute student ideas about causes. (2-PS1-2)

#### Energy and Matter

- Objects may break into smaller pieces and be put together into larger pieces, or change shapes. (2-PS1-3)

### Science and Engineering Practices

#### Planning and Carrying Out Investigations

Planning and carrying out investigations to answer questions or test solutions to problems in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to simple investigations, based on fair tests, which provide data to support explanations or design solutions.

- Plan and conduct an investigation collaboratively to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence to answer a question. (2-PS1-1)

#### Analyzing and Interpreting Data

Analyzing data in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to collecting, recording, and sharing observations.

Analyze data from tests of an object or tool to determine if it works as intended. (2-PS1-2)



### **Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions**

Constructing explanations and designing solutions in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to the use of evidence and ideas in constructing evidence-based accounts of natural phenomena and designing solutions.

- Make observations (firsthand or from media) to construct an evidence-based account for natural phenomena. (2-PS1-3)

### **Engaging in Argument from Evidence**

Engaging in argument from evidence in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to comparing ideas and representations about the natural and designed world(s).

- Construct an argument with evidence to support a claim. (2- PS1-4)

## **Connections to Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science**

### **Influence of Engineering, Technology, and Science on Society and the Natural World**

- Every human-made product is designed by applying some knowledge of the natural world and is built using materials derived from the natural world. (2-PS1-2)

## **Connections to Nature of Science**

### **Science Models, Laws, Mechanisms, and Theories Explain Natural Phenomena**

- Scientists search for cause and effect relationships to explain natural events. (2-PS1-4)

## **Computer Science and Design Thinking**

8.1.2.CS.1: Select and operate computing devices that perform a variety of tasks accurately and quickly based on user needs and preferences.

8.1.2.DA.2: Store, copy, search, retrieve, modify, and delete data using a computing device.

## **Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills**

### **CAREER AWARENESS, EXPLORATION, PREPARATION, AND TRAINING**

9.2.5.CAP.1 Evaluate personal likes and dislikes and identify careers that might be suited to personal likes.

9.2.5.CAP.2 Identify how you might like to earn an income.

9.2.5.CAP.3 Identify qualifications needed to pursue traditional and non-traditional careers and occupations.

### **LIFE LITERACY AND KEY SKILLS**

9.4.2.CI.1 Demonstrate openness to new ideas and perspectives (e.g., 1.1.2.CR1a, 2.1.2.EH.1, 6.1.2.CivicsCM.2).

9.4.2.CI.2 Demonstrate originality and inventiveness in work (e.g., 1.3A.2CR1a).

- 9.4.2.CT.1 Gather information about an issue, such as climate change, and collaboratively brainstorm ways to solve the problem (e.g., K-2-ETS1-1, 6.3.2.GeoGI.2).
- 9.4.2.CT.2 Identify possible approaches and resources to execute a plan (e.g., 1.2.2.CR1b, 8.2.2.ED.3).
- 9.4.2.CT.3 Use a variety of types of thinking to solve problems (e.g., inductive, deductive).

### **PRACTICES**

- CLKSP1 Act as a responsible and contributing community member and employee.
- CLKSP4 Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- CLKSP5 Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- CLKSP6 Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.

### **Interdisciplinary Connections:**

#### **English Language Arts**

##### Reading - Informational Text

- RI.2.1 Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
- RI.2.3 Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.
- RI.2.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 2 topic or subject area.
- RI.2.10 Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at grade level text complexity proficiently with scaffolding as needed.

##### Writing

- W.2.7 Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., read a number of books on a single topic to produce a report; record science observations).
- W.2.8 Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

##### Speaking and Listening

- SL.2.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 2 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
- SL.2.5. Use multimedia; add drawings or other visual displays to stories or recounts of experiences when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.

#### **Mathematics**

##### Mathematical Practices

- MP.2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- MP.4 Model with mathematics.
- MP.5 Use appropriate tools strategically.

##### Measurement and Data

- 2.MD.D.1 Draw a picture graph and a bar graph (with single-unit scale) to represent a data set with up to four categories. Solve simple put-together, take-apart, and compare problems.

## Social-Emotional Competencies

- **Self-Awareness**: ability to recognize one's emotions and know one's strengths and limitations
  - Connections:
    - Regular check-ins to share feelings (Oral, Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down, Emojis, etc.)
    - Cool down spot in classroom
    - Reflecting on one's learning (Oral, Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down, Pictures, etc.)
    - Providing positive comments on other students' STEAM activities
- **Self-Management**: ability to regulate and control one's emotions and behaviors, particularly in stressful situations
  - Connections:
    - Counting down from 20 to 1, or 10 to 1 like a NASA countdown
    - Playing soft nature sounds - breathing, stretching
    - Draw a nature picture ie animals in different habitats
- **Social Awareness**: ability to take the perspective of others, demonstrate empathy, acknowledge and appreciate similarities and differences, and understand how one's actions influence and are influenced by others
  - Connections:
    - Play a matching game with a partner such as: baby/adult animal or bird matching (Teacher will need to make this)
    - Animal charades games (One partner acts out animals and the other guesses what the animal is)
- **Relationship Skills**: refers to one's ability to demonstrate prosocial skills and behaviors in order to develop meaningful relationships and resolve interpersonal conflicts
  - Connections:
    - Class discussions
    - Incentives for individual students and small groups

- **Responsible Decision-Making**: refers to the ability to use multiple pieces of information to make ethical and responsible decisions
  - Connections:
    - Class rules and routines
    - Class discussions
    - Following directions

## UNIT OBJECTIVES

### Students will be able to ...

- Plan and conduct an investigation to describe and classify different kinds of materials by their observable properties. (2-PS1-1)

[Clarification Statement: Observations could include color, texture, hardness, and flexibility. Patterns could include the similar properties that different materials share.]

### Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Different kinds of matter exist and many of them can be either solid or liquid, depending on temperature.
- Matter can be described and classified by its observable properties

### Science and Engineering Practices

- Plan and conduct an investigation collaboratively to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence to answer a question.

### Crosscutting Concepts

- Patterns in the natural and human designed world can be observed.

## 2-PS1-1

Concepts	Students Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Different kinds of matter exist               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Matter can be either solid or liquid, depending on temperature</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Matter can be described and classified by its observable properties.</li> <li>● Patterns in the natural and human-designed world can be observed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plan and conduct an investigation to describe and classify different kinds of material by their observable properties.</li> </ul> <p>Observations could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● color</li> <li>● texture</li> <li>● hardness</li> <li>● flexibility</li> </ul> <p>Patterns could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● similar properties</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plan and conduct an investigation collaboratively to answer a question with evidence.</li> <li>● Observe patterns in the world.</li> </ul>

**Students will be able to ...**

- Analyze data obtained from testing different materials to determine which materials have the properties that are best suited for an intended purpose. (2-PS1-2) \*

\* See Appendix A, K-2 Engineering Design

[Clarification Statement: Examples of properties could include, strength, flexibility, hardness, texture, and absorbency.]

[Assessment Boundary: Assessment of quantitative measurements is limited to length.]

**Disciplinary Core Ideas**

- Different properties are suited to different purposes

**Science and Engineering Practices**

- Analyze data from tests of an object or tool to determine if it works as intended

**Crosscutting Concepts**

- Simple tests can be designed to gather evidence to support or refute student ideas about causes.

**2-PS1-2**

Concepts	Students Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Different properties are suited to different purposes</li> <li>● It is useful to compare and test designs when developing solutions to problems</li> <li>● Simple tests can be designed to gather evidence to support a claim</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Determine which materials have the properties that are best suited for an intended purpose</li> </ul> <p>Examples of Properties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Strength</li> <li>○ Flexibility</li> <li>○ Hardness</li> <li>○ Texture</li> <li>○ Absorbency</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Analyze data from tests to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Determine if an object or tool works as intended</li> <li>○ Compare the strengths and weaknesses of each object</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Design simple tests to gather evidence to support or refute student ideas about causes</li> </ul>

**Students will be able to ...**

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- Make observations to construct an evidence-based account of how an object made of a small set of pieces can be disassembled and made into a new object. (2-PS1-3)

[Clarification Statement: Examples of pieces could include blocks, building bricks, or other assorted small objects.]

#### Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Different properties are suited to different purposes.
- A great variety of objects can be built up from a small set of pieces.

#### Science and Engineering Practices

- Make observations to construct an evidence-based account for natural phenomena.

#### Crosscutting Concepts

- Objects may break into smaller pieces and be put together into larger pieces, or change shapes.

### 2-PS1-3

Concepts	Students Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Different properties are suited to different purposes.</li> <li>● Many objects can be built up from a small set of pieces.</li> <li>● Objects may break into smaller pieces and be put together into larger pieces or change shapes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Make an object from a small set of pieces, disassemble the object, and make a new object. Observe the changes made.</li> <li>● Make observations to construct evidence.</li> <li>● Break objects into smaller pieces and put them together to create larger pieces or to change shapes.</li> </ul>

#### Students will be able to ...

- Construct an argument with evidence that some changes caused by heating or cooling can be reversed and some cannot. (2-PS1-4)

[Clarification Statement: Examples of reversible changes could include materials such as water and butter at different temperatures. Examples of irreversible changes could include cooking an egg, freezing a plant leaf, and heating paper.]

#### Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Heating or cooling a substance may cause changes that can be observed.

- Sometimes these changes are reversible, and sometimes they are not.
- Science and Engineering Practices
- Construct an argument with evidence to support a claim.
- Crosscutting Concepts
- Events have causes that generate observable patterns.

## 2-PS1-4

Concepts	Students Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Heating or cooling a substance may cause changes that can be observed.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sometimes these changes are reversible, and sometimes they are not.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Cause-and-effect relationships generate observable patterns.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Understand that heating or cooling may cause changes.</li> <li>● Understand that some changes can be reversed, and some cannot.</li> </ul> <p>Examples of reversible changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ water</li> <li>○ butter</li> </ul> <p>Examples of irreversible changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cooking an egg</li> <li>○ Freezing a plant leaf</li> <li>○ Heating paper</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Construct an argument with evidence to support a claim.</li> <li>● Observe patterns due to cause-and-effect relationships.</li> </ul>

## SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

- **The Properties of Materials and their Everyday Uses:** This wonderful set of lessons engage students in testing materials to understand their properties and discuss appropriate uses for the materials based on those properties. For example, one activity has the students examining the materials that a number of balls are made out of (plastic, rubber, aluminum, etc.) and describing the properties of the materials (light, stretchy, rigid). Next, the students test balls made of those materials for bouncing height and record their data. The students discuss which materials are best for bouncing and why. <http://ngss.nsta.org/Resource.aspx?ResourceID=426>

[http://www.primaryresources.co.uk/science/pdfs/rsc\\_tc\\_nc1.pdf](http://www.primaryresources.co.uk/science/pdfs/rsc_tc_nc1.pdf)

- **Matter song a music video by untamed Science:** This is an engaging music video that defines and gives examples of matter. The video is fun, colorful and explores many different



kinds of matter as part of the music video sequence. Young students will love the song and the interactive dance sequences.

(Matter Song)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1bMMGvTS\\_o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1bMMGvTS_o)

- Physical Science For Children About Properties: This BrainPop Jr Video shows the students about the different types of matter and how to classify them based on their properties.  
<https://jr.brainpop.com/science/matter/solidsliquidsandgases/>
- [Properties and Purpose](#): This will help students activate prior knowledge about materials and they way we interact or categorize them. Some materials have properties best suited for certain purposes. In this lesson, we will learn about stretchiness, absorbency and strength. Comparing different materials involves doing experiments.
- **Clean Up Crew**: Students will experiment with different “clean up” items to make predictions and observations on how each item works. For example, students will use different napkins, tissues, paper towels, and a sponge to see how well it soaks up a specific amount of water. Students will discuss their results after the experiment.
- **Sink or Float**: Students will take classroom objects and perform a “sink or float” experiment. Students will make predictions on which objects they think will sink or float. One at a time, the objects will be placed in a tub of water. After making a chart to document which objects floated or sank, the class will discuss why they think they got those results. What happens if we push the floating objects to the bottom? Will they stay? [Science for Kids: Sink or Float \(with Free Printable\) - Buggy and Buddy](#). Additionally, there is a BrainPop Jr video about sink or float: <https://jr.brainpop.com/science/forces/sinkorfloat/>.
- **Building Blocks**: Students will build structures with constructive materials (such as Legos, Duplos, unifix cubes, tangrams, magnetic tiles, etc.) Students will then take apart the developed structure and rebuild another object. The goal of this activity is for students to make observations, in order to determine how a small set of pieces can be assembled, disassembled, and made into a new object.
- **Balloon and Baking Soda Experiment**: Students will participate in a hands-on activity to watch the property of matter change. The mixing of baking soda and vinegar creates a change that is clear to see when the balloon begins to inflate.  
[Balloon Science Experiment](#)

- **Melting and Freezing:** This video will explore what happens to different substances as they change from a solid to a liquid or a liquid to solid.  
<https://jr.brainpop.com/science/matter/physicalandchemicalchanges/>
- **Magic School Bus Lesson “Ready Set Dough”:** This is a lesson plan that accompanies the reading or watching of The Magic School Bus Bakes a Cake, or Ready Set Dough. The lesson is a short activity with guided questions that accompany making pretzel dough. In the book and video, which are not included in the resource, The Magic School Bus shrinks down to molecule size to observe and discuss chemical and physical changes while baking. The resource contains a link to purchase the book. The video can be found through you tube.  
<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plans/teaching-content/magic-school-bus-baked-cake/>
- **Ooblek:** Students will make their own “Ooblek” by mixing different ingredients. They will learn about how mixing different ingredients can change the states of matter. [How to Make Oobleck: 8 Steps \(with Pictures\) - wikiHow](#)  
Slow Mo Guys Video: [Non-Newtonian Fluid in Slow Motion - The Slow Mo Guys](#)
- **Matter and Heat/ Irreversible Changes:** This lab activity explores four materials, crayon, pasta, matches, and lemonade, after they have heat added to them. The students collect and analyze information about whether or not the materials change state and if the change is reversible or irreversible. The lesson materials provide detailed steps and include lab books, or a lab book template, with which to collect data.  
<https://betterlesson.com/lesson/639234/matter-and-heat-irreversible-changes>

### Unit Specific Vocabulary

**absorb:** to soak up a liquid

**atoms:** smallest building blocks of matter

**float:** rest or move on or near the surface of a liquid without sinking

**gas:** matter that has no shape, has particles that are not connected to each other, and takes up whatever space is available

**length:** the measurement of something from end to end

**liquid:** matter that does not have a definite shape but takes up a definite amount of space

**mass:** the amount of matter in an object

**matter:** anything that takes up space and has mass

**properties:** characteristics that can be observed or measured

**sink:** to drop below the surface of a liquid

**solid:** matter that has a definite shape and takes up a definite amount of space

**texture:** the way an object feels

**volume:** amount of space an object occupies

**weight:** how heavy something is

## Instructional Materials and Learning Activities

### *Core Instructional Materials:*

- *National Geographic* Exploring Science
- *National Geographic* My NG connect Exploring Science Digital Resources
- *National Geographic* Exploring Science through Literacy Teacher's Guide
- *Hand2Mind* Exploring Science Hands on Kit

### *Digital Resources:*

- [Access the Next Generation Science Standards by Topic](#)
- [2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards Science Kindergarten through Grade 5](#) pages 36-48
- [Classroom Resources - NGSS Hub](#)
- [Space Systems: Patterns and Cycles](#) - lesson ideas
- <https://www.nextgenscience.org/>
- <https://jr.brainpop.com/search/?keyword=Matter> - videos and follow up activities
- [SciShow Kids - YouTube](#) - ShiShow Kids YouTube (4 min video clips and experiment ideas)
- <https://www.generationgenius.com/>

### *Supplemental Materials:*

- Science Tech Book

### *Leveled Readers:*

- In the Art Class - Level F
- In the Kitchen - Level G
- Cookie Time - Level G
- Decorating a Vase - Level D
- Fun Food - Level D
- At the Market - Level H

## Suggested Modifications

These strategies can be adapted to scaffold for students needing more support or extending the learning for higher level students. Differentiation is accomplished through content, process, product, and learning environment.

[NGSS Appendix D - "All Standards, All Students": Making the Next Generation Science Standards Accessible to All Students](#)

### Special Education Students

- Give each student an object that they can observe. Have students tell what senses they can use to describe the object. As students use each sense, have them choose one word related to that sense and use it in a descriptive sentence. For example, when using their sense of sight, they may say, *The object is blue; the object is bright.* Display two classroom objects (make sure one of them is a liquid). Invite students to come forward and identify each object as either a solid or a liquid by completing this sentence frame: *This (name of object) is a (solid or liquid).*
- Preview content vocabulary
- Hands-on materials
- Extended time for assignments
- Prompting
- Reassurance and time to formulate ideas
- Visual clues (pictures with vocabulary terms)
- Preferential seating
- Flexible seating
- Repeated directions
- Step-by-step directions
- Check for understanding
- Ask pointed questions
- Instructional aides in the classroom setting
- Use of FM system to improve attention and support auditory information
- Behavior chart to increase focus and work completion
- Sensory breaks,
- Chromebook carts and extensions (Google Classroom explorations, PebbleGo, Epic, Newsela, AtoZ Kids).
- Text-to-speech Chrome extension.
- Graphic organizers (venn diagrams, properties table)

### Students at Risk

- Give each student an object that they can observe. Have students tell what senses they can use to describe the object. As students use each sense, have them choose one word related to that sense and use it in a descriptive sentence. For example, when using their sense of sight, they may say, *The object is blue; the object is bright.*
- Preview vocabulary
- Use of picture dictionaries
- Use of word banks
- Color coding important vocabulary

- Directions given in smaller chunks
- Use of FM system to improve attention and support auditory information
- Sensory breaks with timers
- Graphic organizers (charts and tables for investigations) and outlines provided
- Study guides provided

### English Language Learners

- Display two classroom objects (make sure one of them is a liquid). Invite students to come forward and identify each object as either a solid or a liquid by completing this sentence frame: *This (name of object) is a (solid or liquid)*. Then encourage students to use simple words to describe each object's properties. Project the lesson on the whiteboard. Invite volunteers to come forward and use the whiteboard tools to circle an object in the photo and use a simple sentence to describe it. Tell students to use the terms *matter*, *solid*, and/or *liquid* in their sentences. Have students choose one object from the classroom. Challenge them to write a short paragraph that describes the properties of the object. Tell students to make sure that they identify the object as a solid or a liquid.
- Preview content vocabulary
- Visual clues (pictures)
- Repeated directions
- Check for understanding
- Ask pointed questions
- Peer models
- English language supports for parents of non English speaking students: *Teacher created Mini-book of physical science-specific vocabulary with pictures and translations into student's native language*
- iPad translations
- Push-in support from English Language Teacher
- Lower-level readers on maps and geography (RazKids)
- PebbleGo (text-to-speech and videos)
- Use of different types of maps

### Gifted and Talented

- Organize students in pairs. Have each partner write a descriptive lost-and-found advertisement for an item that is visible in the classroom. (Explain to students that they should focus mainly on the item's color and shape without naming it.) Then have partners exchange ads and see whether they can use the description to locate the item that is being described.
- Higher ordering questioning
- Leveled Readers
- Compare and Contrast properties of matter

### Students with 504 Plans

- Project the lesson on the whiteboard. Give each student an object that they can observe. Invite students to come forward and identify each object by completing this sentence frame: *This (name of object) is a (solid or liquid)*. Have students tell what senses they can use to describe the object. As students use each sense, have them choose one word related to that sense and use it in a

descriptive sentence. For example, when using their sense of sight, they may say, *The object is blue; the object is bright.*

- Extended time for assignments
- Prompting
- Visual cues (pictures, anchor charts)
- Preferential seating
- Flexible seating
- Repeated directions
- Check for understanding
- Ask pointed questions
- Instructional aide in classroom setting
- Use of FM system to improve attention and support auditory information
- Sensory breaks with timers
- Modified assessments (fewer answer choices, word bank)

# Grade 2 Science Curriculum

## Unit 2: Earth Systems: Processes That Shape the Earth

### Unit Overview

*(Excerpt from New Jersey Model Curriculum- Grade 2, Science Units 4 & 5, "What it looks like in the classroom")*

Students look for patterns as they identify where water is found on Earth and explore the shapes and kinds of land and bodies of water found in an area. Students also develop models to identify and represent the shapes and kinds of land and bodies of water in an area.

To begin this unit's progression of learning, students identify where water is found on Earth and whether it is solid or liquid. Using texts, maps, globes, and other resources (including appropriate online resources), students will observe that water is found in liquid form in oceans, rivers, lakes, and ponds. They also discover that water exists as a solid in the Earth's snowcaps and glaciers.

After students identify where water is found on the Earth, they take a closer look at bodies of water and landforms that can be found in the natural world. Using firsthand observations and media resources, students should look for patterns among the types of landforms and bodies of water. For example, students should notice that mountains are much taller and more rugged than hills, lakes are an enclosed body of water surrounded by land, and streams flow across land and generally end at a larger body of water, such as a lake or the ocean.

Students should also have opportunities to use maps to determine where landforms and bodies of water are located. As students become more familiar with the types and shapes of landforms and bodies of water, they develop models to represent the landforms and bodies of water found in an area. For example, students can draw/create a map of the area of the state in which they live, showing various landforms (e.g., hills, coastlines, and islands) and bodies of water (e.g., rivers, lakes, ponds, and the ocean). Teachers should keep in mind that assessment does not include quantitative scaling of models (an accurate proportional relationship with the real world).

In this unit of study, students learn that a situation that people want to change or create can be approached as a problem to be solved through engineering. Before beginning to design a solution, it is important to clearly understand the problem, and asking questions, making observations and gathering information are helpful in thinking about and clarifying problems. Students learn that designs can be conveyed through sketches, drawings, or physical models, and that these representations are useful in communicating ideas for a problem's solutions to other people. As outlined in the narrative above, students will develop simple sketches or drawings showing how humans have helped minimize the effects of a chosen Earth event.

Students use evidence from several sources to develop an understanding that Earth events can occur quickly or slowly. Because some events happen too quickly to observe, and others too slowly, we often rely on models and simulations to help us understand how changes to the surface of the Earth are caused by a number of different Earth events.

For example:

- Volcanic eruptions are Earth events that happen very quickly. As volcanic eruptions occur, ash and lava are quickly emitted from the volcano. The flow of lava from the volcano causes immediate changes to the landscape as it flows and cools.
- Flooding can happen quickly during events such as hurricanes and tsunamis. Flooding can cause rapid changes to the surface of the Earth.
- Rainfall is an event that recurs often over long periods of time and will gradually lead to the weathering and erosion of rocks and soil.

In order to gather information to use as evidence, students need to make observations. They can easily look for evidence of changes caused by rain, flooding, or drought. However, actually observing Earth events as they happen is often not possible; therefore, students will need opportunities to observe different types of Earth events using models, simulations, video, and other media and online sources. At this grade level, quantitative measurements of timescales are not important. Students do need to see the kinds of changes that Earth events cause, and whether the changes are rapid or slow.

Engaging in engineering design helps students understand that a situation that people want to change or create can be approached as a problem to be solved through engineering. Asking questions, making observations, and gathering information are helpful in clearly understanding the problem. Designs can be conveyed through sketches, drawings, or physical models. These representations are useful in communicating ideas for a problem's solutions to other people.

In this unit of study, students need the opportunity to engage in the engineering design process in order to generate and compare multiple solutions designed to slow or prevent wind or water from changing the shape of the land. Students are not expected to come up with original solutions, although original solutions are always welcome. The emphasis is on asking questions, making observations, and gathering information in order to compare multiple solutions designed to slow or prevent wind or water from changing the land.

This process should include the following steps:

- As a class, with teacher guidance, students brainstorm a list of natural Earth events, such as volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis, or floods. The class selects one Earth event to research in order to gather more information.



- As a class or in small groups, with guidance, students conduct research on the selected Earth event using books and other reliable sources. They gather information about the problems that are caused by the selected event, and gather information on the ways in which humans have minimized the effects of the chosen earth event. For example,
  - Different designs of dikes or dams to hold back water,
  - Different designs of windbreaks to hold back wind, or
  - Different designs for using plants (shrubs, grass, and/or trees) to hold back the land.
- Next, students look for examples in their community of ways that humans have minimized the effect of natural Earth events. This can be accomplished through a nature walk or short hike around the schoolyard, during a field trip, or students can make observations around their own neighborhoods. If available, students can carry digital cameras (or other technology that allows them to take pictures) in order to document any examples they find.
- Groups select one solution they have found through research and develop a simple sketch, drawing, or physical model to illustrate how it minimizes the effects of the selected Earth event.
- Groups should prepare a presentation using their sketches, drawings, or models, and present them to the class.

### **Big Idea/Common Thread:**

- Wind and water can change the shape of the land. Solutions can be designed to slow or prevent such change. Models can be used to represent the shapes/kinds of land and bodies of water on Earth.

### **Enduring Understanding:**

- Some events on Earth occur very quickly; others can occur very slowly.
- Wind and water change the shape of the land.
- Maps show where things are located. One can map the shapes and kinds of land and water in any area.
- Water is found in many types of places and in different forms on Earth.

### **Essential Questions:**

- How does land change and what are some things that cause it to change, i.e. climate change?
- What are the different kinds of land and bodies of water?

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## Assessments

Possible Ongoing Formative Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Teacher Observation</li><li>● Student Participation</li><li>● Wrap It Up! questions</li><li>● Various levels of questioning</li><li>● Teacher observation</li><li>● Class discussions/Partner Talk</li><li>● Science Notebook activities</li><li>● Performance Expectation Activities: <i>Investigate; Think Like a Scientist; Think Like an Engineer, STEAM Projects</i></li><li>● Teacher Rubrics for Performance Expectations Activities</li></ul>
Summative Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Earth Science Unit Assessment</li></ul>
Alternative Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Modified Earth Science Unit Assessment (Less answer choices, word bank, highlighted vocabulary, etc.)</li></ul>

## Standards (NJSLs) Addressed in this Unit

Disciplinary Core Ideas
<p><b><u>ESS1.C: The History of Planet Earth</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Some events happen very quickly; others occur very slowly, over a time period much longer than one can observe. (2-ESS1-1)</li></ul>
<p><b><u>ESS2.A: Earth Materials and Systems</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Wind and water can change the shape of the land. (2-ESS2-1)</li></ul>
<p><b><u>ESS2.B: Plate Tectonics and Large-Scale System Interactions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Maps show where things are located. One can map the shapes and kinds of land and water in any area. (2-ESS2-2)</li></ul>
<p><b><u>ESS2.C: The Roles of Water in Earth's Surface Processes</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Water is found in the ocean, rivers, lakes, and ponds. Water exists as solid ice and in liquid form. (2-ESS2-3)</li></ul>
<p><b><u>ETS1.C: Optimizing the Design Solution</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Because there is always more than one possible solution to a problem, it is useful to compare and test designs. (secondary to 2-ESS2-1)</li></ul>

## Crosscutting Concepts

### Patterns

- Patterns in the natural world can be observed. (2-ESS2-2),(2-ESS2-3)

### Stability and Change

- Things may change slowly or rapidly. (2-ESS1-1),(2-ESS2-1)

## Science and Engineering Practices

### Developing and Using Models

Modeling in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to include using and developing models (i.e., diagram, drawing, physical replica, diorama, dramatization, or storyboard) that represent concrete events or design solutions.

- Develop a model to represent patterns in the natural world. (2-ESS2-2)

### Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions

Constructing explanations and designing solutions in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to the use of evidence and ideas in constructing evidence-based accounts of natural phenomena and designing solutions.

- Make observations from several sources to construct an evidence-based account for natural phenomena. (2-ESS1-1)
- Compare multiple solutions to a problem. (2-ESS2-1)

### Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information

Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information in K–2 builds on prior experiences and uses observations and texts to communicate new information.

- Obtain information using various texts, text features (e.g., headings, tables of contents, glossaries, electronic menus, icons), and other media that will be useful in answering a scientific question. (2-ESS2-3)

## Connections to Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science

### **Influence of Engineering, Technology, and Science on Society and the Natural World**

- Developing and using technology has impacts on the natural world. (2-ESS2-1)

## Connections to Nature of Science

### **Science Addresses Questions About the Natural and Material World**

- Scientists study the natural and material world. (2-ESS2-1)

### Computer Science and Design Thinking

8.1.2.CS.1: Select and operate computing devices that perform a variety of tasks accurately and quickly based on user needs and preferences.

8.1.2.DA.2: Store, copy, search, retrieve, modify, and delete data using a computing device.

### Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills

#### PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY

9.1.2.RM.1 Describe how valuable items might be damaged or lost and ways to protect them.

#### CAREER AWARENESS, EXPLORATION, PREPARATION, AND TRAINING

9.2.5.CAP.1 Evaluate personal likes and dislikes and identify careers that might be suited to personal likes.

9.2.5.CAP.2 Identify how you might like to earn an income.

9.2.5.CAP.3 Identify qualifications needed to pursue traditional and non-traditional careers and occupations.

#### LIFE LITERACY AND KEY SKILLS

9.4.2.CI.1 Demonstrate openness to new ideas and perspectives (e.g., 1.1.2.CR1a, 2.1.2.EH.1, 6.1.2.CivicsCM.2).

9.4.2.CI.2 Demonstrate originality and inventiveness in work (e.g., 1.3A.2CR1a).

9.4.2.CT.1 Gather information about an issue, such as climate change, and collaboratively brainstorm ways to solve the problem (e.g., K-2-ETS1-1, 6.3.2.GeoGI.2).

9.4.2.CT.2 Identify possible approaches and resources to execute a plan (e.g., 1.2.2.CR1b, 8.2.2.ED.3).

9.4.2.CT.3 Use a variety of types of thinking to solve problems (e.g., inductive, deductive).

9.4.2.DC.7 Describe actions peers can take to positively impact climate change (e.g., 6.3.2.CivicsPD.1).

9.4.2.IML.3: Use a variety of sources including multimedia sources to find information about topics such as climate change, with guidance and support from adults (e.g., 6.3.2.GeoGI.2, 6.1.2.HistorySE.3, W.2.6, 1-LSI-2).

#### PRACTICES

CLKSP1 Act as a responsible and contributing community member and employee.

CLKSP4 Demonstrate creativity and innovation.

CLKSP5 Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

CLKSP6 Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.

### Interdisciplinary Connections:

#### English Language Arts

### Reading - Informational

- RI.2.1 Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
- RI.2.3 Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.
- RI.2.9 Compare and contrast the most important points presented by two texts on the same topic.

### Writing

- W.2.7 Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., read a number of books on a single topic to produce a report; record science observations).
- W.2.8 Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

### Speaking and Listening

- SL.2.2 Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.
- SL.2.5 Use multimedia; add drawings or other visual displays to stories or recounts of experiences when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.

## **Mathematics**

### Mathematical Practices

- MP.2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- MP.4 Model with mathematics.
- MP.5 Use appropriate tools strategically.

### Number and Operations in Base Ten

- 2.NBT.A Understand place value.

### Measurement and Data

- 2.MD.D.10 Draw a picture graph and a bar graph (with single-unit scale) to represent a data set with up to four categories. Solve simple put-together, take-apart, and compare problems using information presented in a bar graph.

## **Social-Emotional Competencies**

- **Self-Awareness**: ability to recognize one's emotions and know one's strengths and limitations
  - Connections:
    - Regular check-ins to share feelings (Oral, Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down, Emojis, etc.)
    - Cool down spot in classroom
    - Reflecting on one's learning (Oral, Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down, Pictures, etc.)

- Providing positive comments on other students' STEAM activities
- **Self-Management**: ability to regulate and control one's emotions and behaviors, particularly in stressful situations
  - Connections:
    - Counting down from 20 to 1, or 10 to 1 like a NASA countdown
    - Playing soft nature sounds - breathing, stretching
    - Draw a nature picture ie animals in different habitats
- **Social Awareness**: ability to take the perspective of others, demonstrate empathy, acknowledge and appreciate similarities and differences, and understand how one's actions influence and are influenced by others
  - Connections:
    - Play a matching game with a partner such as: baby/adult animal or bird matching (Teacher will need to make this)
    - Animal charades games (One partner acts out animals and the other guesses what the animal is)
- **Relationship Skills**: refers to one's ability to demonstrate prosocial skills and behaviors in order to develop meaningful relationships and resolve interpersonal conflicts
  - Connections:
    - Class discussions
    - Incentives for individual students and small groups
- **Responsible Decision-Making**: refers to the ability to use multiple pieces of information to make ethical and responsible decisions
  - Connections:
    - Class rules and routines
    - Class discussions
    - Following directions

## UNIT OBJECTIVES

### Students will be able to ...

- Obtain information to identify where water is found on Earth and that it can be solid or liquid. (2-ESS2-3)

### Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Understand that water is found in the ocean, rivers, lakes, and ponds.

- Understand that water exists as solid ice and in liquid form.

#### Science and Engineering Practices

- Obtain information using various texts, text features (e.g., headings, tables of contents, glossaries, electronic menus, icons), and other media that will be useful in answering a scientific question.

#### Crosscutting Concepts

- Recognize that patterns in the natural world can be observed.

### 2-ESS2-3

Concepts	Students Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Water is found in the ocean, rivers, lakes, and ponds.</li> <li>● Water exists as solid ice and in liquid form.</li> <li>● Patterns in the natural world can be observed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Recognize water as found in ocean, rivers, lakes, and ponds.</li> <li>● Recognize that water exists as a solid (ice) and in liquid form.</li> <li>● Obtain information from multiple sources to answer where water is found on Earth.</li> <li>● Observe patterns of natural landforms. Examples:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mountains are taller than hills</li> <li>○ Lakes are surrounded by land</li> <li>○ Streams flow into larger bodies of water</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

#### Students will be able to ...

- Develop a model to represent the shapes and kinds of land and bodies of water in an area. (2-ESS2-2)
- Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change (e.g., climate change) to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool. (K-2-ETS1-1)

#### Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Understand that maps show where things are located. (One can map the shapes and kinds of land and water in any area.)

#### Science and Engineering Practices

- Develop a model to represent patterns in the natural world.

#### Crosscutting Concepts

- Recognize that patterns in the natural world can be observed.

### 2-ESS2-2



Concepts	Students Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maps show where things are located.</li> <li>• Patterns in the natural world can be observed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map the shapes/kinds of land and water in an area.</li> <li>• Develop a model (map) to represent patterns of landforms and bodies of water in an area.</li> <li>• Observe patterns of natural landforms and bodies of water.</li> </ul>

### Students will be able to ...

- Use information from several sources to provide evidence that Earth events can occur quickly or slowly. (2-ESS1-1)
- Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change (e.g., climate change) to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool. (K-2-ETS1-1)

[Clarification Statement: Examples of events and timescales could include volcanic explosions and earthquakes, which happen quickly and erosion of rocks, which occurs slowly.]

[Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include quantitative measurements of timescales.]

### Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Understand that some events happen very quickly
- Understand that some events occur very slowly, over a time period much longer than one can observe.

### Science and Engineering Practices

- Make observations from several sources to construct an evidence-based account for natural phenomena.

### Crosscutting Concepts

- Recognize that things may change slowly or rapidly.

### 2-ESS1-1

Concepts	Students Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some Earth events happen very quickly</li> <li>• Some Earth events occur very slowly (over a time period much longer than one can observe)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand that Earth events can occur quickly or slowly. Examples of these natural events include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Volcanic explosions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Events may change slowly or rapidly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Earthquakes</li> <li>○ Erosion of rocks</li> <li>● Make observations from several sources to explain a natural event (see examples above).</li> </ul>
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**Students will be able to ...**

- Compare multiple solutions designed to slow or prevent wind or water from changing the shape of the land. (2-ESS2-1)
- Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change (e.g., climate change) to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool. (K-2-ETS1-1) \*

\* See Appendix A, K-2 Engineering Design

**Disciplinary Core Ideas**

- Understand that wind and water can change the shape of the land.

**Science and Engineering Practices**

- Compare multiple solutions to a problem.

**Crosscutting Concepts**

- Recognize that things may change slowly or rapidly.

**2-ESS2-1**

Concepts	Students Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Wind and water can change the shape of the land.</li> <li>● There is always more than one possible solution to a problem</li> <li>● It is useful to compare and test designs. K-2 Engineering Design includes:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Defining the problem</li> <li>○ Asking questions</li> <li>○ Making observations</li> <li>○ Gathering information</li> <li>○ Designing through sketches/drawings/models</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Things may change slowly or rapidly.</li> <li>● The shape and stability of natural and designed structures are related to their function/s. (K-2. Engineering Design)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Recognize how wind and water can change the shape of the land.</li> <li>● Compare designed solutions that slow or prevent wind or water from changing the shape of the land. Examples of solutions could include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dikes or dams</li> <li>● Windbreaks</li> <li>● Shrubs, grass, and/or trees to hold back the land.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Develop a simple sketch, drawing, or physical model to show how the structure can slow or prevent changing the shape of the land.</li> <li>● Describe how the shape and stability of structures are related to their function.(K-2. Engineering Design)</li> </ul>

## SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

- **Save the Village!** In a metal/ tin tray, students will set up a town on one side and plan for water to take up the space on the other side. Just like in the real world, we must think of a way to keep the houses protected from the environment. How can we save the village? Students will have access to items such as clay, sand and pebbles to try to engineer a solution. They will plan a design and then begin to save their village by using their resources. The final step would be to add water and see how their design worked. Students will make reflections on their design and think about what worked well and what they could have done differently to make it better.
- **3D Map:** Students will take their knowledge on landforms and create their own topographical map. This map should include the different landforms and show their patterns. For example, their mountains should be taller than their hills, streams will flow into another body of water, or an island would be shown in an ocean/ sea. Students can use different building resources such as legos, blocks, clay, or paper to engineer and label their topographical map.  
<https://www.generationgenius.com/videolessons/maps-of-landforms-video-for-kids/>
- How Can Wind Change the Shape of the Land? [Weathering and Erosion](#)
- **Materials:** Science notebooks, Pencils Station 1, Sugar cubes, Plastic tray, Plastic bag (Ziploc) Station 2, Watering can, Potting soil or sand, Clear basin Station 3 • Coarse sand paper, Limestone, calcite, or other soft stone.
- [Finding Erosion At Our School](#) In this lesson, students walk around the school grounds, neighborhood, or another area of their community to locate evidence of erosion. Various problems caused by erosion are discussed and a solution is developed for one of the problems. This lesson is one in a series on erosion by Jeri Faber. A follow-up lesson is available where students compare their erosion design solutions.
- [Quick or Slow? I've Got to Know!](#) The children will use several sources to find evidence that natural events, such as earthquakes, volcanoes, or erosion happen quickly or slowly. First they will use their learned knowledge to make a claim and then they will search for evidence to back up their claim by looking in different books. They will use text features, such as table of contents and indexes to help them locate information. To end the lesson, we discuss their claims as a whole group.

- <https://www.generationgenius.com/?share=BC063> These 10 lessons provide activities for students to learn about water and landforms on Earth.
- [BrainPOP Weathering Video](#)- Where do soil and sand come from? In this BrainPOP movie, Tim and Moby introduce you to the fundamentals of weathering. Discover how rocks break down into soil and how slow, natural forces can actually change the shape of Earth's surface. You'll learn the four causes of mechanical weathering, as well as the difference between mechanical and chemical weathering. You can also find out about some of the cool natural phenomena that chemical weathering can cause — like caves!  
<https://www.brainpop.com/science/weather/weathering/>
- [Where Do Mountains Come From?](#) A short video on how mountains are formed, then [make your own mountain](#) after watching this clip!  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fd\\_XqYE2BWY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fd_XqYE2BWY)

### Unit Specific Vocabulary

**cliff:** high, steep rock wall

**compass:** tool that shows direction

**compass rose:** shows the directions on a map

**dam:** a barrier to block the flow of water

**dike:** a long wall built to prevent flooding from the sea

**earthquakes:** a sudden shaking of the ground caused by land moving

**erosion:** the movement of rocks or soil caused by wind, water, or ice

**flood:** water covers land that was dry before

**glacier:** area of thick ice that stays frozen all year

**globe:** a model of the Earth

**island:** area of land with water all around it

**lake:** body of water with land all around it

**landslide:** soil and rocks move from higher ground to lower ground

**lava:** melted rock that flows from a volcano

**levee:** a wall that keeps water away from dry land

**map key:** explains what the symbols on a map mean

**ocean:** salty water that covers much of Earth's surface

**river:** water that flows across land

**sand dune:** a hill of sand made by the wind

**sandbar:** a sandy place in a river

**seismograph:** a tool that measures earthquakes

**soil:** top layer of land where plants grow

**valleys:** low places that lie between mountains or hills

**volcano:** an opening on Earth from which lava flows

**weathering:** breaking of rocks into smaller pieces

**windbreak:** a row of trees or shrubs used to block the wind

## Instructional Materials and Learning Activities

### Core Instructional Materials:

- *National Geographic Exploring Science 2*
- *National Geographic My NG connect Exploring Science 2 Digital Resources*
- *National Geographic Exploring Science through Literacy Teacher's Guide and Leveled Readers*
- *Hand2Mind Exploring Science Hands on Kit*

### Digital Resources:

- [Access the Next Generation Science Standards by Topic Classroom Resources - NGSS Hub](#) - lesson ideas
- [Next Generation Science Standards](#) - lesson ideas
- [SciShow Kids - YouTube](#) - SciShow Kids YouTube (4 min video clips and experiment ideas)
- <https://www.generationgenius.com/>

### Supplemental Activities:

- Science Tech Book

### Leveled Readers:

- Hawaii's Volcanoes - Level G
- The Island That Formed in One Day - Leveled F
- Volcanoes in Mexico - Leveled E
- Land and Water in Hawaii - Level I
- Land and Water in Iceland - Level H
- Land and Water in Mexico - Level F

## Suggested Modifications

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These strategies can be adapted to scaffold for students needing more support or extending the learning for higher level students. Differentiation is accomplished through content, process, product, and learning environment.

[NGSS Appendix D - "All Standards, All Students": Making the Next Generation Science Standards Accessible to All Students](#)

### Special Education Students

- Help students make a word web using the key words from this lesson. Students might use the word *volcano* as the center of the word web and the words *magma*, *lava*, and *gases and ash* in circles around the center. Read aloud sentences from the text that describe each word, and have students fill in descriptors about that word. For example, for the word *magma*, students might write *melted rock, inside Earth, and erupts through a volcano*.
- Preview content vocabulary
- Hands-on materials
- Extended time for assignments
- Prompting
- Reassurance and time to formulate ideas
- Visual clues (pictures with vocabulary terms)
- Preferential seating
- Flexible seating
- Repeated directions
- Step-by-step directions
- Check for understanding
- Ask pointed questions
- Instructional aides in the classroom setting
- Use of FM system to improve attention and support auditory information
- Behavior chart to increase focus and work completion
- Sensory breaks,
- Chromebook carts and extensions (Google Classroom explorations, PebbleGo, Epic, Newsela, AtoZ Kids).
- Text-to-speech Chrome extension.
- Graphic organizers

### Students at Risk

- Give each student an object that they can observe. Have students tell what senses they can use to describe the object. As students use each sense, have them choose one word related to that sense and use it in a descriptive sentence. For example, when using their sense of sight, they may say, *The object is blue; the object is bright*. Help students complete sentence stems that explain how wind changes land. Provide these stems: *Wind can carry rock pieces away when ... Weathering happens when ... Sediment is...*
- Preview vocabulary
- Use of picture dictionaries
- Use of word banks

- Color coding important vocabulary
- Directions given in smaller chunks
- Use of FM system to improve attention and support auditory information
- Sensory breaks with timers
- Graphic organizers (charts and tables for investigations) and outlines provided
- Study guides provided

### English Language Learners

- Ask yes/no questions, such as: Is the process of breaking apart rocks called weathering? (Yes.) Is sediment wind? (No.) Does wind carry sediment? (Yes.) Provide sentence frames, such as: *The process of (weathering) breaks apart rock. (Wind) carries away small pieces of rock. Tiny pieces of rock are called (sediment).* Help students complete sentence stems that explain how wind changes land. Provide these stems: *Wind can carry rock pieces away when ... Weathering happens when ...Sediment is...*
- Preview content vocabulary
- Visual clues (pictures)
- Repeated directions
- Check for understanding
- Ask pointed questions
- Peer models
- English language supports for parents of non English speaking students: *Teacher created Mini-book of earth science-specific vocabulary with pictures and translations into student's native language*
- iPad translations
- Push-in support from English Language Teacher
- Lower-level readers on volcanoes and earthquakes, and weathering (RazKids)
- PebbleGo (text-to-speech and videos)
- Use of different types of maps

### Gifted and Talented

- Have students make a sequence of drawings with captions showing the process of a volcano erupting and the results of that eruption. Have students share their drawings with classmates and describe the sequence shown.
- Create a map of their own nation, Write an essay on favorite continent, higher order thinking and questioning about information within the text. Higher comprehension folder of activities to correlate with map and geography concepts.
- Higher ordering questioning
- Leveled Readers
- Compare and contrast processes that shape the Earth

### Students with 504 Plans

- Help students complete sentence stems that explain how wind changes land. Provide these stems: *Wind can carry rock pieces away when ... Weathering happens when ...Sediment is...* Provide sentence frames, such as: *The process of (weathering) breaks apart rock. (Wind) carries away*

*small pieces of rock. Tiny pieces of rock are called (sediment).*

- Extended time for assignments
- Prompting
- Visual cues (pictures, anchor charts)
- Preferential seating
- Flexible seating
- Repeated directions
- Check for understanding
- Ask pointed questions
- Instructional aide in classroom setting
- Use of FM system to improve attention and support auditory information
- Sensory breaks with timers
- Modified assessments (fewer answer choices, word bank)

## Grade 2 Science Curriculum

### Unit 3: Life Science: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems

#### Unit Overview

*(Excerpt from New Jersey Model Curriculum- Grade 2, Science Unit 1, “What it looks like in the classroom”)*

In this unit of study, students explore and compare the diversity of life in different habitats. They develop an understanding of what plants need to grow and how plants depend on animals for seed dispersal and pollination. Students learn about cause-and-effect relationships and how an organism’s structures are related to the function that each structure performs. Developing and using models plays an important role in students’ understanding of structure/function relationships.

Students observe a variety of plants and animals from a variety of habitats in order to compare the diversity of life. Using firsthand observations and media resources, students explore and collect data about different habitats that exist in the world and how plants and animals have structures that help them survive in their habitats. Students need many opportunities to observe many different kinds of living things, whether they live on land, in water, or both. As students learn about the diversity of life, they begin to look for patterns and order in the natural world. As scientists, students will begin to notice patterns in the structures that enable organisms to support their existence in specific habitats. For example, webbed feet enable survival in wetlands; gills enable survival in rivers, lakes, and oceans; and blubber enables survival in polar regions.

Students also focus on commonalities among plants—what plants need in order to grow. Students need opportunities to observe that plants depend on water and light to grow. As they begin to understand that changes in the amount of water and light can affect the growth of plants, they begin to understand that all cause-and-effect relationships generate observable patterns. For example, some plants require very little water to survive, most plants will not grow without sunlight, and most plants need an adequate amount of water to thrive. Students might also observe patterns such as the effects of too much or too little water on a plant and too much or too little light on a plant. In order for students to develop these understandings, they



should plan and conduct investigations and collect data, which should be used as evidence to support the idea that all events have causes that generate observable patterns.

Students also investigate the roles that animals play in plant reproduction. Students learn that many types of plants depend on animals for pollination and/or for the dispersal of seeds. As students begin to explore the interdependent relationships among plants and animals, they learn that the shape and stability of the structures of organisms are related to their function. For example,

- As bees collect nectar, portions of their body are designed to collect and then carry pollen from plant to plant.
- Some seeds are designed to stick to animal fur so that animals can carry them from place to place.
- Animals eat fruits containing seeds, which are then dispersed through animals' body waste.

Second graders will need multiple opportunities to develop an understanding of the important relationship between structure and function, because they are expected to use engineering design to plan and develop simple models that mimic the function of an animal in dispersing seeds or pollinating plants. Students can use sketches, drawings or physical models to illustrate how the shape of the model helps it function as needed, and they should use evidence to support their design choices. Some common examples of models could include the following:

- Using Velcro "seeds" and furry material to model how seeds with hooks adhere to animal fur.
- Using pipe cleaners to gather and distribute "pollen" in a way similar to bees pollinate flowers.

In this unit of study, students learn that designs can be conveyed through sketches, drawings, or physical models, and that these representations are useful in communicating ideas for a problem's solutions to other people. As described in the narrative above, students develop representations that mimic the function of an animal in dispersing seeds or pollinating plants in order to illustrate how the shape of an object helps it function as needed to solve a given problem.

With the 2020 updates of the NJSL for Science to include climate change, in addition to the previous excerpt from the NJ Model Curriculum, students will engage in conversations regarding the impact climate change has on our community. After learning about the various roles about plants, animals, and the environment, Students will brainstorm ways to make a positive impact.

### **Big Idea/Common Thread:**

- Plants need water and sunlight to grow. Plants depend on animals for seed dispersal and pollination. Different habitats offer a diversity of life.

### **Enduring Understanding:**

- Plants depend on water and light to grow.
- Plants also depend on animals for pollination or to move their seeds around.
- Different organisms live in different places.

### **Essential Questions:**

- How does the diversity of plants and animals compare among different habitats?
- What do plants need to live, grow, and reproduce?
- What is the difference between weather and climate?
- What are ways we can help make a positive impact on our environment?
- Why is it important to make a positive impact in our environment?
- How does climate change affect animal habitats?

## Assessments

Possible Ongoing Formative Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher Observation</li> <li>• Student Participation</li> <li>• Wrap It Up! questions</li> <li>• Various levels of questioning</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Class discussions/Partner Talk</li> <li>• Science Notebook activities</li> <li>• Performance Expectation Activities: <i>Investigate; Think Like a Scientist; Think Like an Engineer, STEAM Projects</i></li> <li>• Teacher Rubrics for Performance Expectations Activities</li> </ul>
Summative Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life Science Unit Assessment</li> </ul>
Alternative Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modified Life Science Unit Assessment (Less answer choices, word bank, highlighted vocabulary, etc.)</li> </ul>

## Standards (NJSLs) Addressed in this Unit

Disciplinary Core Ideas
<p><b>LS2.A: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plants depend on water and light to grow. (2-LS2-1)</li> <li>• Plants depend on animals for pollination or to move their seeds around. (2-LS2-2)</li> </ul>
<p><b>LS4.D: Biodiversity and Humans</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are many different kinds of living things in any area, and they exist in different places on land and in water. (2-LS4-1)</li> </ul>
<p><b>ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designs can be conveyed through sketches, drawings, or physical models. These</li> </ul>

representations are useful in communicating ideas for a problem's solutions to other people. (secondary to 2-LS2-2)

## Crosscutting Concepts

### Cause and Effect

- Events have causes that generate observable patterns. (2-LS2-1)

### Structure and Function

- The shape and stability of structures of natural and designed objects are related to their function(s). (2-LS2-2)

## Science and Engineering Practices

### Developing and Using Models

Modeling in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to include using and developing models (i.e., diagram, drawing, physical replica, diorama, dramatization, or storyboard) that represent concrete events or design solutions.

- Develop a simple model based on evidence to represent a proposed object or tool. (2-LS2-2)

### Planning and Carrying Out Investigations

Planning and carrying out investigations to answer questions or test solutions to problems in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to simple investigations, based on fair tests, which provide data to support explanations or design solutions.

- Plan and conduct an investigation collaboratively to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence to answer a question. (2-LS2-1)
- Make observations (firsthand or from media) to collect data which can be used to make comparisons. (2-LS4-1)

## Connections to Nature of Science

### Scientific Knowledge is Based on Empirical Evidence

- Scientists look for patterns and order when making observations about the world. (2-LS4-1)

## Computer Science and Design Thinking

8.1.2.CS.1: Select and operate computing devices that perform a variety of tasks accurately and quickly based on user needs and preferences.

8.1.2.DA.2: Store, copy, search, retrieve, modify, and delete data using a computing device.

8.1.2.AP.4: Break down a task into a sequence of steps.

## Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills

### CAREER AWARENESS, EXPLORATION, PREPARATION, AND TRAINING

9.2.5.CAP.1 Evaluate personal likes and dislikes and identify careers that might be suited to personal likes.

9.2.5.CAP.2 Identify how you might like to earn an income.

9.2.5.CAP.3 Identify qualifications needed to pursue traditional and non-traditional careers and occupations.

9.2.5.CAP.8: Identify risks that individuals and households face.

9.2.5.CAP.9: Justify reasons to have insurance.

### LIFE LITERACY AND KEY SKILLS

9.4.2.CI.1 Demonstrate openness to new ideas and perspectives (e.g., 1.1.2.CR1a, 2.1.2.EH.1, 6.1.2.CivicsCM.2).

9.4.2.CI.2 Demonstrate originality and inventiveness in work (e.g., 1.3A.2CR1a).

9.4.2.CT.1 Gather information about an issue, such as climate change, and collaboratively brainstorm ways to solve the problem (e.g., K-2-ETS1-1, 6.3.2.GeoGI.2).

9.4.2.CT.2 Identify possible approaches and resources to execute a plan (e.g., 1.2.2.CR1b, 8.2.2.ED.3).

9.4.2.CT.3 Use a variety of types of thinking to solve problems (e.g., inductive, deductive).

9.4.2.DC.7 Describe actions peers can take to positively impact climate change (e.g., 6.3.2.CivicsPD.1).

9.4.2.IML.3: Use a variety of sources including multimedia sources to find information about topics such as climate change, with guidance and support from adults (e.g., 6.3.2.GeoGI.2, 6.1.2.HistorySE.3, W.2.6, 1-LSI-2).

### PRACTICES

CLKSP1 Act as a responsible and contributing community member and employee.

CLKSP4 Demonstrate creativity and innovation.

CLKSP5 Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

CLKSP6 Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.

### Interdisciplinary Connections:

#### English Language Arts

##### Reading - Informational Text

- RI.2.1 Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
- RI.2.3 Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.
- RI.2.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 2 topic or subject area.
- RI.2.10 Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at grade level text complexity proficiently with scaffolding as needed.

### Writing

- W.2.7 Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., read a number of books on a single topic to produce a report; record science observations).
- W.2.8 Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

### Speaking and Listening

- SL.2.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 2 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
- SL.2.5 Use multimedia; add drawings or other visual displays to stories or recounts of experiences when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.

### **Mathematics**

#### Mathematical Practices

- MP.2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- MP.4 Model with mathematics.
- MP.5 Use appropriate tools strategically.

#### Measurement and Data

- 2.MD.D.10 Draw a picture graph and a bar graph (with single-unit scale) to represent a data set with up to four categories. Solve simple put-together, take-apart, and compare problems.

### **Social-Emotional Competencies**

- **Self-Awareness**: ability to recognize one's emotions and know one's strengths and limitations
  - Connections:
    - Regular check-ins to share feelings (Oral, Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down, Emojis, etc.)
    - Cool down spot in classroom
    - Reflecting on one's learning (Oral, Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down, Pictures, etc.)
    - Providing positive comments on other students' STEAM activities
- **Self-Management**: ability to regulate and control one's emotions and behaviors, particularly in stressful situations
  - Connections:
    - Counting down from 20 to 1, or 10 to 1 like a NASA countdown
    - Playing soft nature sounds - breathing, stretching

- Draw a nature picture ie animals in different habitats
- **Social Awareness**: ability to take the perspective of others, demonstrate empathy, acknowledge and appreciate similarities and differences, and understand how one's actions influence and are influenced by others
  - Connections:
    - Play a matching game with a partner such as: baby/adult animal or bird matching (Teacher will need to make this)
    - Animal charades games (One partner acts out animals and the other guesses what the animal is)
- **Relationship Skills**: refers to one's ability to demonstrate prosocial skills and behaviors in order to develop meaningful relationships and resolve interpersonal conflicts
  - Connections:
    - Class discussions
    - Incentives for individual students and small groups
- **Responsible Decision-Making**: refers to the ability to use multiple pieces of information to make ethical and responsible decisions
  - Connections:
    - Class rules and routines
    - Class discussions
    - Following directions

## UNIT OBJECTIVES

### Students will be able to ...

- Plan and conduct an investigation to determine if plants need sunlight and water to grow. (2-LS2-1)  
[Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to testing one variable at a time.]
- K-2-ETS1-1: Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change (**e.g., climate change**)\*\* to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool.

#### Disciplinary Ideas

- Understand that plants depend on water and light to grow.

#### Science and Engineering Practices

- Plan and conduct an investigation collaboratively to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence to answer a question.

Crosscutting Concepts

- Recognize that events have causes that generate observable patterns.

\*\* Updated with 2020 NJSL language

**2-LS2-1**

Concepts	Students Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plants depend on water and light to grow.</li> <li>● Events have causes that generate observable patterns.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conduct an investigation to determine whether plants need sunlight and water to grow. <i>(Note: test one variable at a time.)</i></li> <li>● Plan and conduct an investigation collaboratively to collect data.</li> <li>● Observe patterns in events generated by cause-and-effect relationships.</li> </ul>

**Students will be able to ...**

- Develop a simple model that mimics the function of an animal in dispersing seeds or pollinating plants (2-LS2-2)
- Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change (**e.g., climate change**) to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool. (K-5 NJSL-S)

Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Understand that plants depend on animals for pollination or to move their seeds around.
- Understand that designs can be conveyed through sketches, drawings, or physical models.

Science and Engineering Practices

- Develop a simple model based on evidence to represent a proposed object.
- Plan and conduct an investigation collaboratively to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence to answer a question.

Crosscutting Concepts

- The shape and stability of structures of natural and designed objects are related to their function(s).

**2-LS2-2**

Concepts	Students Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plants depend on animals for pollination or to move their seeds around.</li> <li>Designs can be conveyed through sketches, drawings, or physical models to communicate solution ideas.</li> <li>The shape and stability of structures of natural and designed objects are related to their function.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the function of an animal in dispersing seeds or pollinating plants.</li> <li>Develop a simple sketch, drawing, or physical model to illustrate how the shape of an object helps it function as needed to solve a given problem.</li> <li>Develop a simple model based on evidence to represent a proposed object or tool.</li> <li>Describe how the shape and stability of structures are related to their function.</li> </ul>

### Students will be able to ...

- Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats. (2-LS4-1)
- Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change (**e.g., climate change**) to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool. (K-5 NJSLS-S)

[Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the diversity of living things in each of a variety of different habitats.]

[Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include specific animal and plant names in specific habitats.]

#### Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Understand that there are many different kinds of living things in any area, and they exist in different places on land and in water.

#### Science and Engineering Practices

- Make observations (firsthand or from media) to collect data which can be used to make comparisons.

#### Crosscutting Concepts

- Events have causes that generate observable patterns.

### 2-LS4-1

Concepts	Students Can...



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are many different kinds of living things in any area, and they exist in different places on land and in water.</li> <li>• People look for patterns and order when making observations about the world.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.</li> <li>• Make observations to make comparisons.</li> <li>• Look for patterns and order when making observations about the world.</li> </ul>
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**SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES**

- **Who Needs What?** Students design an experiment to test whether or not plants need light and water in order to grow. Students plant sunflower seeds in plastic cups, and measure growth of plants exposed to the different conditions  
[https://www.teachengineering.org/lessons/view/duk\\_sunflower\\_mary\\_less](https://www.teachengineering.org/lessons/view/duk_sunflower_mary_less)
- **Do Plants Need Sunlight?** Students cover leaves with dark paper to see if sunlight is necessary.  
<http://www.reachoutmichigan.org/funexperiments/agesubject/lessons/sunlight.html>  
[Plants Need Water And Light | Science Video For Kids | Grades K-2](#)

[Pollination and Seed Dispersal | Science Video For Kids | Grades K-2](#)

- **The Bug Chicks-Mission: Pollination (Episode 5)**: The Bug Chicks' five minute video provides a fun, animated way of learning about the fascinating world of pollination and insects. In this video, the students observe interesting museums and habitats to look at lesser known insect pollinators. The student challenge at the end leads students into their environment to look for other pollinators and encourages them to bring their observations back to the classroom to discuss.  
[https://pollinatorlive.pwnet.org/teacher/bug\\_chicks.php?movie\\_file=BugChicks5.flv](https://pollinatorlive.pwnet.org/teacher/bug_chicks.php?movie_file=BugChicks5.flv)
- [Pollination and Seed Dispersal | Science Video For Kids | Grades K-2](#)
- **Modeling Seed Germination:** Give each group a small clear plastic bag, a little sugar, a short length of string and a piece of plastic plant. Ask them to put the sugar, string and plant in the bag so it represents a seed. Remind them how a seed starts to grow – first the root comes out, using the sugar for energy. Ask them to pull part of the string out of the bag. Remind them that the stem and leaves grow next, and ask them to pull part of the plastic plant out of the bag. Now the bag resembles a seedling
- **Seed Dispersal Techniques:** Explain that some seeds have ways of getting away from the plant that made them, to have more room to grow. Give the students various types of seeds and point out their adaptations:
  - a. Tulip poplar tree – has a hook that sticks to deer and gets carried away before falling off. Also, it floats. Optional: give bowls of water and let them see it float.

- b. Maple tree – spins like a helicopter. Spinning slows it down so the wind can catch it and carry it away. Let students drop them to see spinning.
  - c. Dandelion – fluffy part helps it float down slowly and get caught by wind.
  - d. Pine cone – floats, so can be carried downstream if it falls in a stream.
  - e. Strawberry or other sweet fruit or berry – gets eaten because many animals like sweet foods, and seeds have a hard coat that keeps them from getting digested, so they come out the back end in a different location.
- **Puppet show:** Perform the “Seed Dispersal” puppet show from *Hands-On Nature* by Jenepher Lingelbach. Simple puppets can be made by taping pictures to craft sticks.
  - **Nature Walk:** Take the class outdoors to look for seeds and discuss their dispersal adaptations.
  - **Modeling Pollination:** Hide around a dozen small bowls in a large indoor or outdoor area containing flour and colored pony beads (one color per bowl.) Give each student a half piece of pipe cleaner (their “pollinator”) and let them bend them in a way that will help them collect as much “pollen” (flour) as possible. Let them hunt for the bowl and collect flour on their pipe cleaner and pony beads in a small bag. The students who collect the most flour and beads get to be entertained by the rest of the class doing a waggle dance for them, like bees telling hive mates about the location of nearby flowers.
  - **Paper Helicopters (Whirlybirds):** [make paper helicopters](#), and compare their flight to maple seeds.
  - **Over in the Ocean:** Do the “Over in the Ocean” activity from *More Picture-Perfect Science Lessons*
  - **Cumulative Ecosystem or Habitat Project:**  
Students chose an ecosystem that is familiar to them. They think about the characteristics of this ecosystem. Then, students will create an animal that would be able to live in this ecosystem. Each child will create their ecosystem in a box or shoe box and then create their animal that would live in this ecosystem.  
    - habitat:** the home of an animal or a plant (basic)
    - ecosystems:** all of the living things in a given area, interacting with each other, and also with their environments This version includes predators (challenge)[Create Your Own Animal | Teaching Ideas](#)
  - [Climate Change Challenge](#) - In this lesson students will brainstorm to figure out ways they can make a difference. Thank you to Angela McDonough for sharing this resource with OPS teachers.

- [Recycle City- Scavenger Hunt](#)- Use this resource as a whole class discussion via smartboard, partnerships, or individually for students to explore recycle city and find ways items can be recycled or reused.
- [Effects Of Acid Rain](#) Students will learn about acid rain and the effect it has on plants as students will water plants with regular water and a lemon juice-water solution, to see the effect.
- [How Heat Can Harm Plants and Melt Ice](#): We need the energy from the sun to survive, but too much of a good thing can be bad. A car parked in the sun on a hot day is a great model of the greenhouse effect. In this experiment, we are going to wilt a plant and melt some chocolate in a parked car.

### Unit Specific Vocabulary

**biologist:** a scientist that studies living things

**climate:** long term weather pattern

**Climate change:** the long-term changes in global temperatures and other characteristics of the atmosphere.

**depend:** to need something in order to live

**Earth's resources:** Earth's natural resources include air, water, soil, minerals, plants, and animals

**ecosystems:** all of the living things in a given area, interacting with each other, and also with their environments

**germination:** the sprouting of a new plant from a seed

**habitat:** the home of an animal or a plant

**interdependent:** people, animals, plants, or things that depend on each other

**plants:** a living thing that uses sunlight to create its own food.

**pollinate:** to move pollen from one flower to another.

**recycle:** convert waste into reusable material

**seedling:** a young plant

**seeds:** the small parts produced by plants from which new plants grow.

**soil:** the top layer of the Earth which plants grow in

**weather:** weather is what the sky and the air outside are like, such as cold and cloudy

## Instructional Materials and Learning Activities

### Core Instructional Materials:

- *National Geographic Exploring Science 2*
- *National Geographic My NG connect Exploring Science 2 Digital Resources*
- *National Geographic Exploring Science through Literacy Teacher's Guide and Leveled Readers*
- *Hand2Mind Exploring Science Hands on Kit*

### Digital Resources:

- [Access the Next Generation Science Standards by Topic](#) - The NGSS Standards, by topic
- [Classroom Resources - NGSS Hub](#) - lesson ideas
- [Next Generation Science Standards](#) - lesson ideas
- [SciShow Kids - YouTube](#) - ShiShow Kids YouTube (4 min video clips and experiment ideas)
- [EPIC!](#) - books and videos
- <https://www.generationgenius.com/>

### Supplemental Materials:

- STEAM Integration: [UNIT 4](#) - Build Our Community - Water Resources
- Science Tech Book

### Leveled Readers:

- Eat or Be Eaten - Level J
- Watch Out! - Level H
- What Are They Good For? - Level F
- At Home in the Desert - Level L
- At Home in the Ocean - Level K
- At Home in the Prairie - Level I

## Suggested Modifications

*These strategies can be adapted to scaffold for students needing more support or extending the learning for higher level students. Differentiation is accomplished through content, process, product, and learning environment.*

[NGSS Appendix D - "All Standards, All Students": Making the Next Generation Science Standards Accessible to All Students](#)

## Special Education Students

- If students are having difficulty understanding the process of pollination, help them break it down into steps. You may choose to use a numbered list or a graphic organizer. Encourage students to help you complete the list or diagram.
- Preview content vocabulary
- Hands-on materials
- Extended time for assignments
- Prompting
- Reassurance and time to formulate ideas
- Visual clues (pictures with vocabulary terms)
- Preferential seating
- Flexible seating
- Repeated directions
- Step-by-step directions
- Check for understanding
- Ask pointed questions
- Instructional aides in the classroom setting
- Use of FM system to improve attention and support auditory information
- Behavior chart to increase focus and work completion
- Sensory breaks,
- Chromebook carts and extensions (Google Classroom explorations, PebbleGo, Epic, Newsela, AtoZ Kids).
- Text-to-speech Chrome extension.
- Graphic organizers (venn diagrams, properties table)

### Students at Risk

- Give each student an object that they can observe. Have students tell what senses they can use to describe the object. As students use each sense, have them choose one word related to that sense and use it in a descriptive sentence. For example, when using their sense of sight, they may say, *The object is blue; the object is bright.*
- Have students complete the following sentence frame to help them demonstrate their understanding of the difference between *pollen*, *pollinate*, and *pollinators*. *The bee is a (pollinator) that will help (pollinate) the flower by moving (pollen) from one plant to another.*
- Preview vocabulary
- Use of picture dictionaries
- Use of word banks
- Color coding important vocabulary
- Directions given in smaller chunks
- Use of FM system to improve attention and support auditory information
- Sensory breaks with timers
- Graphic organizers (charts and tables for investigations) and outlines provided
- Study guides provided

### English Language Learners

- Students may be confused about the difference between *pollen*, *pollinate*, and *pollinators*. Help illustrate these concepts for students by drawing or showing photos of the following: a flower with

visible pollen inside, a bee, and a bee on or inside a flower. Project these images on to the whiteboard and invite volunteers to label them with the terms above. Have students complete the following sentence frame to help them demonstrate their understanding of the difference between *pollen*, *pollinate*, and *pollinators*. *The bee is a (pollinator) that will help (pollinate) the flower by moving (pollen) from one plant to another.* Read with students the *Problem* paragraph on page 52. Then challenge students to write a summary of the paragraph using their own words. Encourage them to include the terms *pollen*, *pollinate*, and *pollinator* in their summaries.

- Preview content vocabulary
- Visual clues (pictures)
- Repeated directions
- Check for understanding
- Ask pointed questions
- Peer models
- English language supports for parents of non English speaking students: *Teacher created Mini-book of physical science-specific vocabulary with pictures and translations into student's native language*
- iPad translations
- Push-in support from English Language Teacher
- Lower-level readers on maps and geography (RazKids)
- PebbleGo (text-to-speech and videos)

### Gifted and Talented

- Explain to students that not only do animals help move pollen, they also help move seeds. Challenge students to describe ways in which animals might carry seeds from one place to another.
- Higher ordering questioning
- Leveled Readers
- Compare and Contrast ecosystems

### Students with 504 Plans

- If students are having difficulty understanding the process of pollination, help them break it down into steps. You may choose to use a numbered list or a graphic organizer. Encourage students to help you complete the list or diagram. Help illustrate these concepts for students by drawing or showing photos of the following: a flower with visible pollen inside, a bee, and a bee on or inside a flower. Project these images on to the whiteboard and invite volunteers to label them with the terms above.
- Extended time for assignments
- Prompting
- Visual cues (pictures, anchor charts)
- Preferential seating
- Flexible seating
- Repeated directions
- Check for understanding
- Ask pointed questions
- Instructional aide in classroom setting
- Use of FM system to improve attention and support auditory information

- Sensory breaks with timers
- Modified assessments (fewer answer choices, word bank)

# Appendix A

## K-2 Engineering Design Standards

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

**K-2-ETS1-1.** Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change (e.g., **climate change**)\*\* to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool.

**K-2-ETS1-2.** Develop a simple sketch, drawing, or physical model to illustrate how the shape of an object helps it function as needed to solve a given problem.

**K-2-ETS1-3.** Analyze data from tests of two objects designed to solve the same problem to compare the strengths and weaknesses of how each performs.

### **Disciplinary Core Ideas**

#### **ETS1.A: Defining and Delimiting Engineering Problems**

- A situation that people want to change or create can be approached as a problem to be solved through engineering. (K-2- ETS1-1)
- Asking questions, making observations, and gathering information are helpful in thinking about problems. (K-2-ETS1-1)
- Before beginning to design a solution, it is important to clearly understand the problem. (K-2-ETS1-1)

#### **ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions**

- Designs can be conveyed through sketches, drawings, or physical models. These representations are useful in communicating ideas for a problem's solutions to other people. (K-2-ETS1-2)

#### **ETS1.C: Optimizing the Design Solution**

- Because there is always more than one possible solution to a problem, it is useful to compare and test designs. (K-2-ETS1-3)

### **Science and Engineering Practices**

#### **Asking Questions and Defining Problems**

Asking questions and defining problems in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to simple descriptive questions.

- Ask questions based on observations to find more information about the natural and/or designed world. (K-2- ETS1-1)



\*\* Updated with 2020 NJSLS language

- Define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool. (K-2- ETS1-1)

### **Developing and Using Models**

Modeling in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to include using and developing models (i.e., diagram, drawing, physical replica, diorama, dramatization, or storyboard) that represent concrete events or design solutions.

- Develop a simple model based on evidence to represent a proposed object or tool. (K-2-ETS1-2)

### **Analyzing and Interpreting Data**

Analyzing data in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to collecting, recording, and sharing observations.

- Analyze data from tests of
- an object or tool to determine if it works as intended. (K-2-ETS1-3)

### **Crosscutting Concepts**

#### **Structure and Function**

- The shape and stability of structures of natural and designed objects are related to their function(s). (K-2- ETS1-2)