

Louisiana Believes

Louisiana Guide to Piloting OpenSciEd: Grade 6

This document provides guidance to assist sixth-grade teachers with the field-testing of OpenSciEd units. This guidance document is considered a “living” document, as we believe that teachers and other educators will find ways to improve the document as they use it. Please send feedback to classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov so that we may use your input when updating this guide.

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Table of Contents

Overview of OpenSciEd	3
Sample Scope and Sequence	4
Alignment with EAGLE 2.0	5
Distance Learning Support	6

Overview of OpenSciEd

OpenSciEd is an effort among science educators, curriculum developers, teachers and philanthropic foundations to improve the supply of and demand for high-quality K-12 science instructional materials by producing open-sourced, freely available instructional materials designed for college and career-ready science standards. OpenSciEd works with classroom educators, experienced science curriculum developers, individual school districts, education non-profits, and the science education community to create and pilot robust, research-based, open-source science instructional materials.

Field Testing and Release of Units

Ten partner states volunteered to join this effort including: California, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Mexico, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Rhode Island and Washington. After the initial development of the OpenSciEd units, the unit prototypes or **field test units** undergo rigorous external review and robust field-testing in participating classrooms across partner states. Seven Louisiana districts are involved in field-testing the units. The field test units are revised based on the feedback and data collected. The revised or **complete** units are submitted to NextGenScience Peer Review Panel before being made freely and openly available to the public upon earning a quality rating. The entire middle school program (18 units total) is now available to download for free online.

Unit Design & Sample Scope and Sequence

The units in the OpenSciEd Sample Scope and Sequence include bundles of performance expectations that are built around an anchor phenomenon. The scope and sequence integrates the OpenSciEd curriculum and the [Grade 8 Louisiana Sample Scope and Sequence](#).

The OpenSciEd units may include performance expectations from previous or future grade levels. These units are intentionally designed to provide students the opportunity to incrementally make sense of phenomena to build understanding and abilities over time through a coherent storyline. Modification to the sequence or content of lessons within these units could undermine the design, and therefore is not recommended and should be approached with caution and careful consideration.

Contact

For questions or requests for additional information on the OpenSciEd initiative and/or materials, contact info@opensci.ed.org.

Sample Scope and Sequence

	Unit 1 Light and Matter OpenSciEd 6.1	Unit 2 Contact Forces OpenSciEd 8.1	Unit 3 Sound Waves OpenSciEd 8.2	Unit 4 Forces at a Distance OpenSciEd 8.3	Unit 5 Earth in Space OpenSciEd 8.4	Unit 6 Cells and Systems OpenSciEd 6.6	Unit 7 Disruptions in Ecosystems
Unit Question	Why do we sometimes see different things when looking at the same object?	Why do things sometimes get damaged when they hit each other?	How can a sound make something move?	How can a magnet move another object without touching it?	Why do we see patterns in the sky, and what else is out there that we can't see?	How do living things heal?	Alternative Unit: Disruptions in ecosystems can drastically impact the way they function.
Standards	6-PS4-2*	6-PS2-1 6-PS2-2 6-PS3-1	6-PS4-1 6-PS4-2*	6-PS2-3 6-PS2-5 6-PS3-2	6-ESS1-1 6-ESS1-2 6-ESS1-3 6-PS2-4 6-PS4-2* 8-LS4-3	6-LS1-1 6-LS1-2 7-LS1-3*	6-LS2-1 6-LS2-2 6-LS2-3 6-ESS3-4 7-PS1-5* 7-ESS2-4* 8-ESS2-1*
Unit Resources	Complete Unit	Complete Unit	Complete Unit	Complete Unit	Complete Unit	Complete Unit	Complete Unit Chapters 1-4 only
Additional Resources	Distance Learning (complete unit) Optional Pacing	Distance Learning (field test version) Optional Pacing	Distance Learning Optional Pacing	Distance Learning Optional Pacing	Distance Learning (field test version)	Distance Learning (field test version)	

6-PS1-1 is not addressed by the Grade 6 OpenSciEd units. The performance expectation can be addressed by incorporating the [Grade 6 Louisiana Sample Scope and Sequence](#) units as needed. The performance expectation is partially addressed using the identified phenomenon and is addressed in multiple units.
OpenSciEd Units (Orange); Louisiana Sample Scope and Sequence or Alternative Unit (Green)

Alignment to LDOE Eagle Assessment Items for Scope and Sequence Version A

EAGLE is a bank of assessment items created by Louisiana educators to support formative assessment in the classroom and appear on the [K-12 Science Planning Page](#). These items may be used in conjunction with guidance from the high-quality curriculum as opportunities for students to demonstrate what they have learned.

Unit	EAGLE Discrete Items	EAGLE Item Sets and Practice Test Items
Light and Matter OpenSciEd 6.1	Spectral Signature (6-MS-PS4-2) Telescopes (6-MS-PS4-2)	Items Coming Soon
Contact Forces OpenSciEd 8.1	Satellite (6-MS-PS2-1) Shin Guard Design (6-MS-PS2-1) Soccer Ball (6-MS-PS2-2) Juan’s Skateboard (6-MS-PS2-2) Sports Balls (6-MS-PS3-1)	Bowling (6-MS-PS3-1, 6-MS-PS2-2)
Sound Waves OpenSciEd 8.2	Trials (6-MS-PS4-1) Reverberation (6-MS-PS4-1)	Ocean Waves (6-MS-PS4-1)
Forces at a Distance OpenSciEd 8.3	Electric Motor (6-MS-PS2-3) Gr6 Moons (6-MS-PS2-4) Popcorn (6-MS-PS2-5)	Marbles (6-MS-PS3-1, 6-MS-PS3-2) Changes in the Earth's Magnetic Field (6-MS-PS2-3, 6-MS-PS2-5)
Earth in Space OpenSciEd 8.4	Moons (6-MS-ESS1-1) Midnight_Sun (6-MS-ESS1-1) Spitzer (6-MS-ESS1-2)	Dwarf Planets (6-MS-ESS1-3) Asteroids in the Solar System (6-MS-ESS1-2, 6-MS-ESS1-3)

Unit	EAGLE Discrete Items	EAGLE Item Sets and Practice Test Items
Cells and Systems OpenSciEd 6.6	Gr6 Minerals (6-MS-LS1-1) Models (6-MS-PS1-1) Slugs and Chloroplast (6-MS-LS1-2) Plant Cells (6-MS-LS1-2)	Organelles (6-MS-LS1-1, 6-MS-LS1-2)
Disruptions in Ecosystems	Gr6 Red Snapper (6-MS-ESS3-4) Cherry Tree (6-MS-LS2-2) Wolves and Moose (6-MS-LS2-2) Microplastics (6-MS-LS2-2)	Deer (6-MS-LS2-1) Anasazi and the Great Drought (6-MS-LS2-1, 6-MS-LS2-2)

Distance Learning Support

To support school systems, schools, and teachers in ensuring continuous learning in science, the Department will release guidance for implementing OpenSciEd in a hybrid or distance learning setting for every available OpenSciEd Unit.

Distance learning plans for each unit will contain the following:

- Links to OpenSciEd remote learning resources
- Unit guidance
- Detailed lesson-by-lesson guidance, including activities and slides for virtual classes
- Printable lesson documents to send home with students

The resources available now are linked below:

- [OpenSciEd Distance Learning](#) – This document contains links to distance learning support for each unit
- OpenSciEd Distance Learning Support Webinar [Slide Deck](#) and [Video](#)
- [Release Schedule for Science Distance Learning](#)