



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: March 24, 2021
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: Principals, Assistant Superintendents of Curriculum and Instruction, Elementary and Secondary Science Teachers, Supervisors and Instructional Coaches
From: Lisa J. Gleason, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Academics and Performance

NJDOE Announces Instructional Supports to Accelerate Learning in Science

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) recognizes that student learning and instructional time in science classes have been disrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Below is a list of instructional supports that can be used by teachers and families in a variety of learning environments to support science instruction.

Instructional Materials

- [Digital Resources for K-12 Science Educators](#) identify instructional materials that can be used for in-person, remote, or hybrid learning environments. The science materials are organized by grade, grade bands, and science domains.
- [OpenSciEd Middle School Units](#) are phenomenon-based instructional materials that help students develop their ability to solve problems, ask and answer questions, and argue from evidence.
- [K-12 Phenomenal GRC lessons](#) use a three-dimensional learning approach that integrates science and engineering practices, disciplinary core ideas, and crosscutting concepts to explain the cause for how and why phenomena occur.

Online Guide

- [Teaching K-12 Science and Engineering During a Crisis](#) (2020) describes four guiding principles that provide a lens for setting priorities and adjusting curriculum and instruction this year and beyond.

Monthly Webinar Series

The NJDOE is pleased to announce a free monthly webinar series that will provide further support to schools and districts interested in using these resources. Webinars will begin at 3 p.m. and last one hour.

Advanced registration is required. Each webinar below will focus on instructional supports to accelerate learning in science:

- [Adapting Science Curricula](#) (April 13)
- [Leveraging High-Quality Science Resources](#) (May 11)
- [Instructional Models that Support Accelerated Learning in Science](#) (June 8)

Contact Information

For questions regarding these supports, please contact Michael Heinz, Science Coordinator at michael.heinz@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
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NJDOE Staff

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group