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Grade 6 Science Content Connectors



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Sixth Grade Science Standards

Science and Engineering Process Standards (SEPS)		Content Connectors
SEPS.1 Posing questions (for science) and defining problems (for engineering)	A practice of science is posing and refining questions that lead to descriptions and explanations of how the natural and designed world(s) work and these questions can be scientifically tested. Engineering questions clarify problems to determine criteria for possible solutions and identify constraints to solve problems about the designed world.	Posing questions (for science) and defining problems (for engineering) A practice of science is posing and refining questions that lead to descriptions and explanations of how the natural and designed world(s) work and these questions can be scientifically tested. Engineering questions clarify problems to determine criteria for possible solutions and identify constraints to solve problems about the designed world.



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SEPS.2 Developing and using models and tools

A practice of both science and engineering is to use and construct conceptual models that illustrate ideas and explanations. Models are used to develop questions, predictions and explanations; analyze and identify flaws in systems; build and revise scientific explanations and proposed engineered systems; and communicate ideas. Measurements and observations are used to revise and improve models and designs. Models include, but are not limited to: diagrams, drawings, physical replicas, mathematical representations, analogies, and other technological models.

Another practice of both science and engineering is to identify and correctly use tools to construct, obtain, and evaluate questions and problems. Utilize appropriate tools while identifying their limitations. Tools include, but are not limited to: pencil and paper, models, ruler, a protractor, a calculator, laboratory equipment, safety gear, a spreadsheet, experiment data collection software, and other technological tools.

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SEPS.3 Constructing and performing investigations	<p>Scientists and engineers are constructing and performing investigations in the field or laboratory, working collaboratively as well as individually. Researching analogous problems in order to gain insight into possible solutions allows them to make conjectures about the form and meaning of the solution. A plan to a solution pathway is developed prior to constructing and performing investigations. Constructing investigations systematically encompasses identified variables and parameters generating quality data. While performing, scientists and engineers monitor and record progress. After performing, they evaluate to make changes to modify and repeat the investigation if necessary.</p>	<p>Constructing and performing investigations. Scientists and engineers are constructing and performing investigations in the field or laboratory, working collaboratively as well as individually. Researching analogous problems in order to gain insight into possible solutions allows them to make conjectures about the form and meaning of the solution. A plan to a solution pathway is developed prior to constructing and performing investigations. Constructing investigations systematically encompasses identified variables and parameters generating quality data. While performing, scientists and engineers monitor and record progress. After performing, they evaluate to make changes to modify and repeat the investigation if necessary.</p>
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SEPS.4 Analyzing and interpreting data

Investigations produce data that must be analyzed in order to derive meaning. Because data patterns and trends are not always obvious, scientists and engineers use a range of tools to identify the significant features in the data. They identify sources of error in the investigations and calculate the degree of certainty in the results. Advances in science and engineering makes analysis of proposed solutions more efficient and effective. They analyze their results by continually asking themselves questions; possible questions may be, but are not limited to: “Does this make sense?” “Could my results be duplicated?” and/or “Does the design solve the problem with the given constraints?”

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<p>SEPS.5 Using mathematics and computational thinking</p>	<p>In both science and engineering, mathematics and computation are fundamental tools for representing physical variables and their relationships. They are used for a range of tasks such as constructing simulations; solving equations exactly or approximately; and recognizing, expressing, and applying quantitative relationships. Mathematical and computational approaches enable scientists and engineers to predict the behavior of systems and test the validity of such predictions. Scientists and engineers understand how mathematical ideas interconnect and build on one another to produce a coherent whole.</p>	<p>Using mathematics and computational thinking. In both science and engineering, mathematics and computation are fundamental tools for representing physical variables and their relationships. They are used for a range of tasks such as constructing simulations; solving equations exactly or approximately; and recognizing, expressing, and applying quantitative relationships. Mathematical and computational approaches enable scientists and engineers to predict the behavior of systems and test the validity of such predictions. Scientists and engineers understand how mathematical ideas interconnect and build on one another to produce a coherent whole.</p>
<p>SEPS.6 Constructing explanations (for science) and designing solutions (for engineering)</p>	<p>Scientists and engineers use their results from the investigation in constructing descriptions and explanations, citing the interpretation of data, connecting the investigation to how the natural and designed world(s) work. They construct or design logical coherent explanations or solutions of phenomena that incorporate their understanding of science and/or engineering or a model that represents it, and are consistent with the available evidence.</p>	<p>Constructing explanations (for science) and designing solutions (for engineering) Scientists and engineers use their results from the investigation in constructing descriptions and explanations, citing the interpretation of data, connecting the investigation to how the natural and designed world(s) work. They construct or design logical coherent explanations or solutions of phenomena that incorporate their understanding of science and/or engineering or a model that represents it, and are consistent with the available evidence.</p>



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<p>SEPS.7 Engaging in argument from evidence</p>	<p>Scientists and engineers use reasoning and argument based on evidence to identify the best explanation for a natural phenomenon or the best solution to a design problem. Scientists and engineers use argumentation, the process by which evidence-based conclusions and solutions are reached, to listen to, compare, and evaluate competing ideas and methods based on merits. Scientists and engineers engage in argumentation when investigating a phenomenon, testing a design solution, resolving questions about measurements, building data models, and using evidence to evaluate claims.</p>	<p>Engaging in argument from evidence Scientists and engineers use reasoning and argument based on evidence to identify the best explanation for a natural phenomenon or the best solution to a design problem. Scientists and engineers use argumentation, the process by which evidence-based conclusions and solutions are reached, to listen to, compare, and evaluate competing ideas and methods based on merits. Scientists and engineers engage in argumentation when investigating a phenomenon, testing a design solution, resolving questions about measurements, building data models, and using evidence to evaluate claims.</p>
<p>SEPS.8 Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information</p>	<p>Scientists and engineers need to be communicating clearly and articulating the ideas and methods they generate. Critiquing and communicating ideas individually and in groups is a critical professional activity. Communicating information and ideas can be done in multiple ways: using tables, diagrams, graphs, models, and equations, as well as, orally, in writing, and through extended discussions. Scientists and engineers employ multiple sources to obtain information that is used to evaluate the merit and validity of claims, methods, and designs.</p>	<p>Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information Scientists and engineers need to be communicating clearly and articulating the ideas and methods they generate. Critiquing and communicating ideas individually and in groups is a critical professional activity. Communicating information and ideas can be done in multiple ways: using tables, diagrams, graphs, models, and equations, as well as, orally, in writing, and through extended discussions. Scientists and engineers employ multiple sources to obtain information that is used to evaluate the merit and validity of claims, methods, and designs.</p>



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Physical Science (PS)	Content Connector
<p>6.PS.1 Distinguish between the terms position, distance, and displacement, as well as, the terms speed and velocity.</p>	<p>6.PS.1.a.1 Distinguish between the terms position, distance, and displacement, as well as, the terms speed and velocity.</p>
<p>6.PS.2 Describe the motion of an object graphically showing the relationship between time and position.</p>	<p>6.PS.2.a.1 Describe the motion of an object graphically showing the relationship between time and position.</p>
<p>6.PS.3 Describe how potential and kinetic energy can be transferred from one form to another.</p>	<p>6.PS.3.a.1 Describe how potential and kinetic energy can be transferred from one form to another.</p>
<p>6.PS.4 Investigate the properties of light, sound, and other energy waves and how they are reflected, absorbed, and transmitted through materials and space.</p>	<p>6.PS.4.a.1 Investigate the properties of light, sound, and other energy waves and how they are reflected, absorbed, and transmitted through materials and space.</p>

Earth and Space Science (ESS)	Content Connector
<p>6.ESS.1 Describe the role of gravity and inertia in maintaining the regular and predictable motion of celestial bodies.</p>	<p>6.ESS.1.a.1 Describe the role of gravity and inertia in maintaining the regular and predictable motion of celestial bodies.</p>



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<p>6.ESS.2 Design models to describe how Earth's rotation, revolution, tilt, and interaction with the sun and moon cause seasons, tides, changes in daylight hours, eclipses, and phases of the moon.</p>	<p>6.ESS.2.a.1 Demonstrate how Earth's rotation, revolution, tilt, and interaction with the sun and moon cause seasons, tides, changes in daylight hours, eclipses, and phases of the moon.</p>
<p>6.ESS.3 Compare and contrast the Earth, its moon, and other planets in the solar system, including comets and asteroids. (Comparisons should be made in regard to size, surface features, atmospheric characteristics, and the ability to support life.)</p>	<p>6.ESS.3.a.1 Compare and contrast the Earth, its moon, and other planets in the solar system, including comets and asteroids. (Comparisons should be made in regard to size, surface features, atmospheric characteristics, and the ability to support life.)</p>

Life Science (LS)	Content Connector
<p>6.LS.1 Investigate and describe how homeostasis is maintained as living things seek out their basic needs of food, water, shelter, space, and air.</p>	<p>6.LS.1.a.1 Investigate and describe how homeostasis is maintained as living things seek out their basic needs of food, water, shelter, space, and air.</p>
<p>6.LS.2 Describe the role of photosynthesis in the flow of energy in food chains, energy pyramids, and food webs. Create diagrams to show how the energy in animals' food used for bodily processes was once energy from the sun.</p>	<p>6.LS.2.a.1 Describe the role of photosynthesis in the flow of energy in food chains, energy pyramids, and food webs.</p>



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<p>6.LS.3 Describe specific relationships (predator/prey, consumer/producer, parasite/host) and symbiotic relationships between organisms. Construct an explanation that predicts why patterns of interactions develop between organisms in an ecosystem.</p>	<p>6.LS.3.a.1 Describe specific relationships (predator/prey, consumer/producer, parasite/host) and symbiotic relationships between organisms.</p>
<p>6.LS.4 Investigate and use data to explain how changes in biotic and abiotic components in a given habitat can be beneficial or detrimental to native plants and animals.</p>	<p>6.LS.4.a.1 Investigate how changes in biotic and abiotic components in a given habitat can be beneficial or detrimental to native and animals.</p>
<p>6.LS.5 Research invasive species and discuss their impact on ecosystems.</p>	

Engineering (E)	Content Connector
<p>6-8.E.1 Identify the criteria and constraints of a design to ensure a successful solution, taking into account relevant scientific principles and potential impacts on people and the natural environment that may limit possible solutions.</p>	<p>6-8.E.1.a.1 Identify the criteria and constraints of a design to ensure a successful solution, taking into account relevant scientific principles and potential impacts on people and the natural environment that may limit possible solutions.</p>
<p>6-8.E.2 Evaluate competing design solutions using a systematic process to identify how well they meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.</p>	



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<p>6-8.E.3 Analyze data from investigations to determine similarities and differences among several design solutions to identify the best characteristics of each that can be combined into a new solution to better meet the criteria for success.</p>	
<p>6-8.E.4 Develop a prototype to generate data for repeated investigations and modify a proposed object, tool, or process such that an optimal design can be achieved.</p>	