K-8 STEM Resource Criteria

Consider the essential criteria and indicators of quality when proposing a new resource for inclusion within the Quality STEM Implementation Guide for Louisiana K-12 Schools.

Key Element	Essential Criteria	Indicators of Quality
Overall Design	*Materials are up-to-date and available to any educator through digital access.*	Materials created on or after 2012 are available for review online or in digital format and contain units or modules to be used over an extended period. Both teacher- and student-facing materials are available.
Features of Quality STEM	*All students have access to quality STEM learning experiences.*	Materials are free from exclusionary practices, such as grade or class prerequisites, that are unnecessary for use or language that excludes groups of students.
	STEM instruction is a continuous spectrum of experiences across multiple disciplines from K-12.	Materials are part of a larger progression that spans more than one grade level or across more than one grade band.
	Student-centered investigation and design drive learning outcomes for students.	Activities provide opportunities for students to lead investigation and design in which they take ownership of the learning.
	Career-connected STEM experiences expose students to future opportunities, partnerships with industry, and possibilities in STEM extending beyond the classroom.	Connections to careers in STEM that are age-appropriate and help to extend student thinking and perceptions about STEM careers throughout the resources.
	Disciplinary practices in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics are leveraged appropriately, driving engineering design and innovative technology integration.	Evidence of students engaging in science, engineering, and mathematical practices which serve as the tools to achieve engineering design and technology integration. *Computer Science Exploratory courses must align to the K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science.*
Professional Learning	*Teacher capacity is developed through intentional training and additional support to ensure accurate resource implementation.*	Teacher training and other opportunities for professional development are provided by qualified personnel and include best practices for teaching and learning.