OpenSciEd K-5 Science Pilot

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, 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. The field test units are revised based on the feedback and data collected. The revised or **complete** units are submitted to an external review panel and made freely and openly available to the public upon earning a quality rating.

K-5 Unit Release Timeline

Pilot units for grades K-5 will be released for field testing on a rolling basis. The first two units for each grade level will be released during the 2023-2024 school year, with the first unit being released in the fall of 2023 and the second unit scheduled to release in spring of 2024. Similarly, units three and four will be released in the fall of 2024 and spring of 2025, respectively. The table on the following page outlines the rolling field test schedule as well as standards which will be covered in each unit. The Department will provide implementation guidance, including suggested placement for field test units within current scope and sequence guidance, to participating pilot schools.

Grade	Unit	Unit Focus	Alignment to the LSSS	Field Test Window
K	K.1	Warming Effect of Sunlight on Earth - Engineering	K-PS3-1 K-PS3-2	Fall 2023
	K.2	Weather Forecasting	K-ESS2-1 K-ESS3-2	Spring 2024
	K.3	Boxcar Challenge	K-PS2-1 K-PS2-2	Fall 2024
	K.4	Ever-Changing Environment	K-LS1-1 K-ESS2-2 K-ESS3-1 K-ESS3-3	Spring 2025

Grade	Unit	Unit Focus	Alignment to the LSSS	Field Test Window
1	1.1	Reading Under Cover	1-PS4-2 1-PS4-3	Fall 2023
	1.2	Feel the Music	1-PS4-1 1-PS4-4	Spring 2024
	1.3	Sky Patterns	1-ESS1-1 1-ESS1-2	Fall 2024
	1.4	Quest for Survival	1-LS1-1 1-LS1-2 1-LS3-1	Spring 2025

Grade	Unit	Unit Focus	Alignment to the LSSS	Field Test Window
2	2.1	Disappearing Dunes	2-ESS1-1 2-ESS2-1 2-ESS2-2	Fall 2023
	2.2	Engineering Toys	2-PS1-1 2-PS1-2 2-PS1-3 2-PS1-4	Spring 2024
	2.3	You Live Where, Polar Bear?	2-LS4-1 2-ESS2-3	Fall 2024
	2.4	Puzzling Plants	2-LS2-1 2-LS2-2	Spring 2025

Grade	Unit	Unit Focus	Alignment to the LSSS	Field Test Window
3	3.1	Forces & Interactions	3-PS2-1 3-PS2-2 3-PS2-3 3-PS2-4	Fall 2023
	3.2	Weather	3-ESS2-1 3-ESS2-2 3-ESS3-1	Spring 2024
	3.3	Trait Variations	3-LS1-1 3-LS3-1 3-LS3-2 3-LS4-1 3-LS4-2	Fall 2024
	3.4	Ecosystems & Change	3-LS2-1 3-LS4-3 3-LS4-4	Spring 2025

Grade	Unit	Unit Focus	Alignment to the LSSS	Field Test Window
4	4.1	Collisions	4-PS3-1 4-PS3-3	Fall 2023
	4.2	Energy Transfer	4-PS3-2 4-PS3-4 4-PS4-3* 4-ESS3-1	Spring 2024
	4.3	Earth Processes	4-PS4-1 4-ESS1-1 4-ESS2-1 4-ESS2-2 4-ESS3-2	Fall 2024
	4.4	Structure & Function	4-LS1-1 4-LS1-2 4-PS4-2	Spring 2025

Grade	Unit	Unit Focus	Alignment to the LSSS	Field Test Window
5	5.1	Ecosystems	5-PS1-1 5-PS3-1 5-LS1-1 5-LS2-1	Fall 2023
	5.1	Matter Properties	5-PS1-2 5-PS1-3 5-PS1-4	Spring 2024
	5.3	Earth Systems	5-ESS2-1 5-ESS2-2 5-ESS3-1	Fall 2024
	5.4	Space	5-ESS1-1 5-ESS1-2 5-PS2-1	Spring 2025