



SCIENCE

Middle School Indiana

Quick Start Guide

Discovery Education *Science Techbook* is an all-new, digital-first curriculum solution consisting of 16 modular units for grades 6 through 8, which support both integrated and domain-specific pathways. Built on a dynamic daily learning platform, *Science Techbook* offers world-class teaching and learning resources, collaboration and creation tools, and on-demand professional learning, as well as optional hands-on kits for the classroom.

1 Log In to Discovery Education

Go to **DiscoveryEducation.com** and click the login button at the top of the screen. Enter your credentials to start exploring a variety of tools and resources to engage students and track progress, along with additional content to enhance core *Science Techbook* curriculum.



2 Select Science Techbook

Once inside the learning platform, locate **Curriculum Packs**. Click on the *Science Techbook* tile.

Choose **Middle School Science** from the Course drop-down menu at the top of the screen. If you also have grades K-5 provisioned, you can move between grade-level courses.

Select the unit you wish to review from the tiles in the Overview tab. You can click on Table of Contents to see a list of units broken down by Lessons and Activities with their respective resources and timing.



Middle School Science Course View



3 Modular Units

Each modular unit is structured around a **storyline model** with lessons that guide students incrementally through a series of investigations to help them make sense of anchor and investigative phenomena phenomena, culminating with a project and performance-based assessment.

In order to start with the end in mind, teachers will have access to assessments and teacher planning resources in the Unit Assessments and Resources tab.

The Unit Storyline, Unit Outline, and Unit Structure show the pacing flow of each unit from Anchor Phenomenon to Unit Project. Unit Planners summarize what students will discover in each lesson, questions they may ask, assessment opportunities, and pacing.



Unit Overview



Unit Assessments and Resources

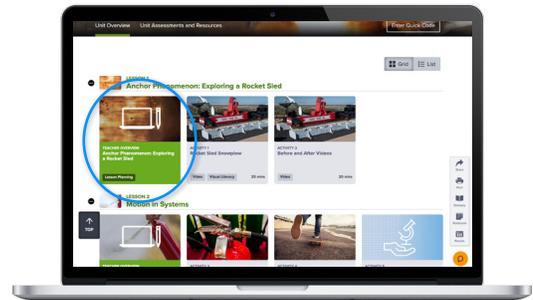


Unit Storyline

4 Anchor Phenomenon

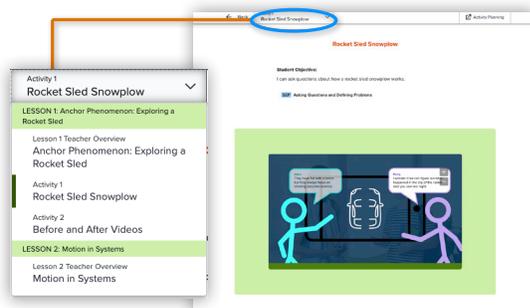
Each lesson provides a **Teacher Overview** with planning materials that cover objectives, performance expectations, three-dimensional standards, connections to the anchor phenomenon, as well as supports for English Language Learners.

Select the first lesson by clicking on the Teacher Overview or Activity tile. Once inside the lesson, you can navigate through the unit from the drop-down menu at the top of the page.



Unit Overview

Lessons launch with a student-centered narrative introducing an exciting, **real-world anchor phenomenon** to hook students and inspire them to ask questions and construct a tentative explanation or model that will drive their investigations throughout the unit.



Activity 1 Student Narrative



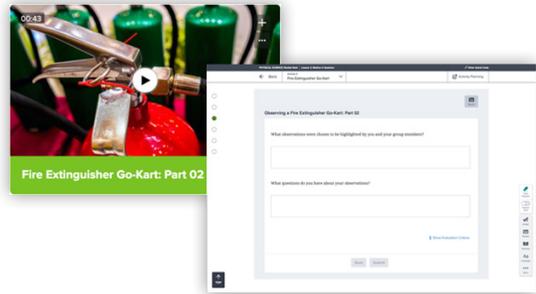
Activity 1 Observing A Collision

Activities That Inspire Three-Dimensional Learning

In each lesson, students will explore investigative phenomena that tie back directly to the unit’s anchor phenomenon with activities that engage them in three-dimensional learning—observing, questioning, modeling, and evaluating—like scientists.

5 Student-Driven Questions

Through recording observations and questions, collecting evidence, interpreting data, constructing explanations, creating and refining models, Science and Engineering Practices (SEPs), Crosscutting Concepts (CCCs), and Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCIs) are strategically integrated. Performance Expectations (PEs) are highlighted at the beginning of each activity.

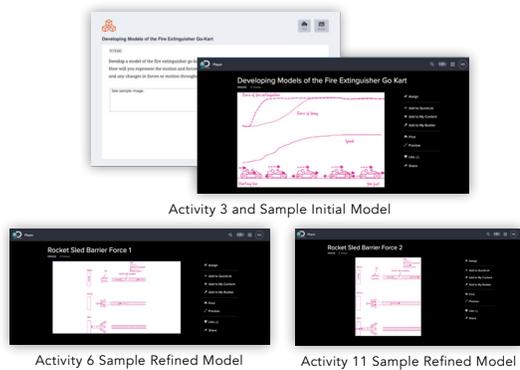


Students Record Observations

6 Evidence, Models, Explanation

Using a **claim, evidence, reasoning** framework for responses, students construct explanations to support their claims related to the phenomena, allowing them to analyze complex text and authentic data and evaluate information to support a claim.

Students create initial models which reveal their prior knowledge. As they continue to investigate in subsequent activities, they gather additional evidence to **refine their models** and explanations, demonstrating a progression of learning through the unit.



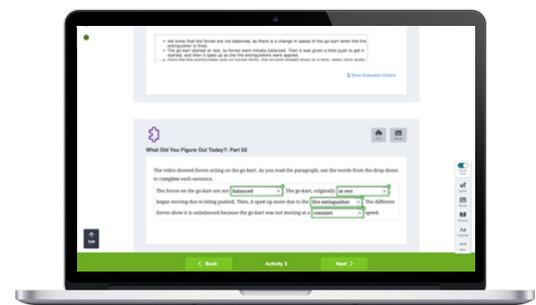
Activity 3 and Sample Initial Model

Activity 6 Sample Refined Model

Activity 11 Sample Refined Model

7 Formative Assessments

Technology-Enhanced Items (TEIs) in the lessons throughout the unit provide **immediate feedback** to both teachers and students.

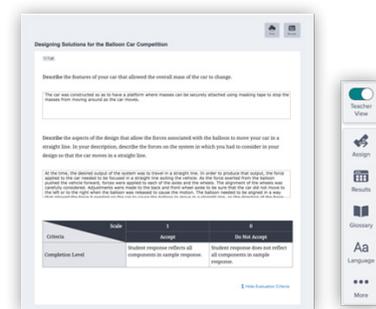


Activity 3 Formative Assessment

8 Unit Project

The final lesson in each unit contains the Unit Project. Culminating **Unit Projects** encourage students to design and generate solutions to real-world problems, conduct additional research, and reflect on their learning.

To see sample responses, toggle on the teacher view. Click on "View Evaluation Criteria" to view scoring rubrics.



Sample Scoring Rubric

9 Performance-Based Assessments

Find digital **Performance-Based Assessments** (PBAs) in the Unit Assessment and Resources tab on the unit's main page. PBAs cover multiple Performance Expectations (PEs) and offer students opportunities to demonstrate evidence of learning for each of the performance indicators included in the unit.



Performance-Based Assessment

10 Go Beyond the Lesson

Click on the Beyond the Lesson Resources tile at the end of each unit to access additional curated instructional content. Grouped by lesson, these video segments, activities, explorations, reading passages, and STEM projects may be used for **remediation, extension, or differentiation** according to the diverse needs and interests of your students.



Beyond the Lesson Resources

11 Activity Planning

Toggle on Teacher View and click on the Activity Planning link in the upper right-hand corner of the lesson screen to access planning support for any activity.

Here teachers can find activity objectives, standards, and **planning tools** along with **graphic organizers** and **scaffolds** for approaching learners. See suggested questions and sample responses as well as strategies for transitioning to the next lesson.

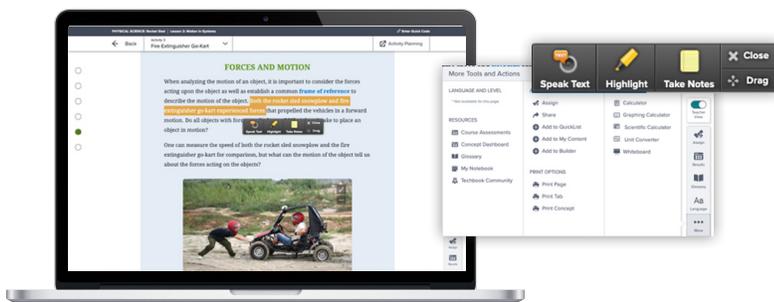
Highlight and annotate in this space to save planning notes for future reference.



Activity 2 Activity Planning

12 Literacy & Differentiation

Students strengthen literacy skills through reading passages and authentic opportunities for explanatory and argumentative writing. The core interactive text features **multiple differentiation options** in the right-hand toolbar, including text at two Lexile levels, authentically translated Spanish, and an interactive glossary. When text is highlighted, students can activate a read-aloud feature, highlight text, and take notes.



To explore professional learning resources, ready-to-use lessons, instructional strategies covering topics such as SEL, ELL, and STEM, and inspiration from educators in the Discovery Education Network (DEN), visit the **Educator Supports** channel within the platform.