

For Immediate Release

STEMscopes NGSS Digital STEM Curriculum Adds New Tools and Resources, Thanks to Suggestions from K–12 Teachers

HOUSTON – May 4, 2016 – Fueled by teacher input, [Accelerate Learning™](#) has enhanced its award-winning [STEMscopes™ NGSS](#) (Next Generation Science Standards) product with several new resources designed to deepen student engagement. STEMscopes NGSS is a comprehensive online K–12 curriculum written by teachers, that helps students master the NGSS through scientific investigations, engineering challenges, content connection videos, claim-evidence-reasoning assessments, and more.

Among the new additions is *Science Today*, a collection of resources from the Associated Press that provides current news and discoveries, aligned to the NGSS. Through these STEM-focused articles, videos, and photos, students can explore science concepts in the real world and then deepen their understanding with STEMscopes follow-up activities.

The new *Linking Literacy* and *Math Moments* tools allow teachers to easily integrate science into other content areas. The *Linking Literacy* tools enhance students' literacy skills through embedded STEMscopias and other texts. The Common Core-aligned *Math Moments* seamlessly incorporate math into hands-on science investigations, engineering challenges, and project-based learning tasks.

Teachers can implement the new *EXPLAIN: Communicate* to foster scientific argumentation and peer-to-peer communication skills using debate, dialogue, and oral presentation. In the assessment arena, teachers can use the new Performance Expectation Assessment Tasks, or *PEATs*, to evaluate a student's mastery of multiple concepts. These PEATs add to an already extensive assessment offering in STEMscopes that includes claim-evidence-reasoning, rubric-based projects, short-answer response, and multiple-choice formats.

The new *Supports* component expands the curriculum's pedagogical model from IDEA (Illuminate, Do, Expand, Assess) to IDEAS enabling teachers to support struggling learners at a greater depth than was previously possible. The Support tools include *Guided Practice*, *Independent Practice*, and *Concept Attainment Quiz* resources.

“Teacher input is as vital to us today as it was when expert teachers worked alongside Rice University professors and Accelerate Learning to build STEMscopes,” said Vernon Johnson, president and CEO of Accelerate Learning. “That’s why we offer teachers a feedback tool within STEMscopes — so they can suggest resources and updates that will make their lives easier while enhancing students’ learning. Their suggestions have



The leader in PreK - 12 STEM education.



helped make STEMscopes the most comprehensive, engaging, NGSS-aligned curriculum on the market today.”

For more information, visit <http://acceleratelearning.com>.

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