INTRODUCTION

Chemistry is the study of the structure of matter and the changes or transformations that take place within those structures. Learning about the properties and behaviors of substances and systems of substances gives us knowledge about how things go together and how they can be taken apart and gives us the opportunity to use and develop models that explain phenomena too small to see directly. Learning about changes in substances can lead to the development of new materials and new ways to produce energy and resources such as clean drinking water.

The Mixtures and Solutions Module has five investigations that engage students with the phenomena of matter and its interactions in our everyday life—mixtures, solutions, solubility, concentration, and chemical reactions. The driving question is what is matter and what happens when samples of matter interact? Students come to know that matter is made of particles too small to be seen and develop the understanding that matter is conserved when it changes state—from solid to liquid to gas—when it dissolves in another substance, and when it is part of a chemical reaction. Students have experiences with mixtures, solutions of different concentrations, and reactions forming new substances. They also engage in engineering experiences with separation of materials. Students gain experiences that will contribute to the understanding of crosscutting concepts of patterns; cause and effect; scale, proportion, and quantity; systems and system models; and energy and matter.
### Module Summary

Students engage with three distinct phenomena: simple mixtures, suspensions, and solutions. Students make mixtures of water and solid materials and separate the mixtures with screens and filters. They find that water and salt make a particular kind of mixture, a solution, which cannot be separated with a filter but only through evaporation. They begin to develop a model of dissolving. Students are challenged with a problem: how to separate a mixture of three dry solid materials. The investigation concludes with students going outdoors to see what natural materials make solutions with water.

### Guiding and Focus Questions for Phenomena

**What happens when two or more samples of materials are combined?**

**How can a mixture be separated?**

**Where does the solid material go when a solution is made?**

**How can you separate a mixture of dry materials?**

**Are there materials outdoors that will dissolve in water?**

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**Science requires the development of scientific models for coherent, conventional explanations of important phenomena.** Students experience a variety of ways to represent models that have explanatory power for different phenomena, including the phenomena of dissolving and melting.

Students make multisensory observations of sealed black boxes in an effort to determine what is inside. They develop models and try to reach consensus with other students who investigated the same boxes. Students construct physical models of black boxes in an effort to explain the behaviors of the original black boxes. Students observe a “drought-stopper” device and develop conceptual modules for how they think it works. Students investigate melting and freezing in terms of models and conservation of mass and explain the difference between the processes of melting and dissolving.

**What is the best way to explain a phenomenon for which you have incomplete information?**

**How can we use models to explain the difference between the phenomena of melting and dissolving?**

**What is the process to develop a model of the black box?**

**How might a drought-stopper system work?**

**What is the difference between dissolving and melting?**
### Content Related to Disciplinary Core Ideas

- A mixture is two or more materials intermingled.
- An aqueous solution is a mixture in which a substance dissolves in water to make a clear liquid.
- Mixtures can be separated into their constituents by using screens, filters, and evaporation.
- The mass of a mixture is equal to the mass of its constituents.
- Possible solutions to a problem are limited by available materials and resources (constraints).
- The success of a designed solution is determined by considering the desired features of a solution (criteria).

### Reading/Technology

**Science Resources Book**
- “Mixtures”
- “Taking Mixtures Apart”
- “Science Practices”
- “Engineering Practices”
- “Extracts”
- “The Story of Salt” (optional)

**Video**
- *Elements, Compounds, and Mixtures*
- *Trip to the Suburbs: 200 Species, 1000 Years*
- *The Story of Salt*

**Online Activities**
- “Tutorial: Mixtures”
- “Tutorial: Solutions”
- “Separating Mixtures”
- “Virtual Investigation: Separating Mixtures”

### Assessment

- **Embedded Assessment**
  - Science notebook entry
  - Response sheet
  - Performance assessment

- **Benchmark Assessment**
  - Survey
  - Investigation 1 I-Check

- **NGSS Performance Expectations**
  - 5-PS1-1
  - 5-PS1-2
  - 3–5-ETS1-1
  - 3–5-ETS1-2
  - 3–5-ETS1-3

### Science Requires the Development of Scientific Models

- Models are explanations of objects, events, or systems that cannot be observed directly.
- Models are representations used for communicating and testing.
- Developing a model is an iterative process, which may involve observing, constructing, analyzing, evaluating, and revising.
- Dissolving is an interaction between two (or more) substances: a solute which dissolves, and a solvent, which does the dissolving and into which the solute disappears.
- Melting is a change in a single substance from solid to liquid caused by heat (energy transfer).
- The amount of matter is conserved when it changes form.

**Science Resources Book**
- “Beachcombing Science”
- “Celsius and Fahrenheit” (optional)
- “Solid to Liquid”
- “Liquid and Gas Changes”

**Video**
- *Changes in Properties of Matter*

**Online Activities**
- “Black Box”
- “Tutorial: Models”

### Embedded Assessment

- Science notebook entry
- Response sheet
- Performance assessment

### Benchmark Assessment

- Investigation 2 I-Check

### NGSS Performance Expectations

- 5-PS1-1
- 5-PS1-2
- 3–5-ETS1-1
- 3–5-ETS1-2
- 3–5-ETS1-3
## Overview

### Module Summary

**Inv. 3: Concentration**

Concentration is an important phenomenon impacting many of the natural and designed systems in students’ lives from chemicals in water to carbon dioxide or other gases in the air. Students investigate the ratio of solute to solvent (concentration) in solutions. They observe and compare soft-drink solutions that differ in the amount of powder (water held constant) and in the amount of water (powder held constant) in order to develop the concept of concentration. They make salt solutions of different concentrations and compare them, using a balance. Students determine the relative concentrations of three mystery solutions made from the same solid material by comparing the mass of equal volumes of the solutions. Finally, students layer salt solutions to determine their relative concentrations, based on density.

**Inv. 4: Reaching Saturation**

Students investigate the solubility of solutes in water to discover that there is a difference between the amount of every solute that will dissolve in a measure of water—the phenomenon of saturation. Students make a saturated solution by adding salt to water until no more salt will dissolve. They also make a saturated Epsom salts solution. Using a balance, they compare the solubility of the two solid materials by comparing the mass of the salt and Epsom salts dissolved in the saturated solutions. Students use the property of solubility to identify an unknown material. They analyze local water samples, using separation techniques and design a way to remove salt from ocean water.

**Inv. 5: Fizz Quiz**

Students make more complex mixtures of water with multiple solutes and observe transformations of reactants to new products—the phenomenon of chemical reaction. Students make three solutions with water, calcium chloride, baking soda, and citric acid. They systematically mix pairs of those solutions and observe changes that occur. The changes (formation of a gas and a white precipitate) are identified as evidence of a chemical reaction. Students repeat the reactions in sealed zip bags to observe the volume of gas produced.

### Guiding and Focus Questions for Phenomena

**How can solutions made with the same substances be distinguished one from another?**

- Are all solutions made with soft-drink powder and water the same?
- How can you determine which salt solution is more concentrated?
- How can you determine the relative concentrations of three mystery solutions?
- What is the relationship between salt-solution concentration and density?

**How can the property of solubility be used to identify a substance?**

- Is there a limit to the amount of salt that will dissolve in 50 mL of water?
- Does it always take the same amount of solid materials to saturate 50 mL of water?
- What is the identity of the mystery substance?
- What is in our water samples?
- What is a design to remove salt from ocean water?

**What observations serve as evidence that a chemical reaction has occurred?**

- What is the effect of mixing two substances with water?
- How can we identify the products from the baking soda and calcium chloride reaction?
- What happens when you mix substances with water in a bag?
### Content Related to Disciplinary Core Ideas

- Concentration is the amount of dissolved solid material per unit volume of water.
- Solutions with a lot of solid dissolved in a volume of water are concentrated; solutions with little solid dissolved in a volume of water are dilute.
- When equal volumes of two salt solutions are weighed, the heavier one is more concentrated.
- Density is mass per unit volume.
- More concentrated salt solutions are denser.
- Solutions form layers based on density.

- A substance is a single, pure material.
- Solutions are composed of a solvent (liquid) and a solute (solid), which is dissolved in the solvent.
- Solubility is the property that indicates how readily a solute dissolves in a solvent.
- A solution is saturated when as much solid material as possible has dissolved in the liquid.
- Solubility varies from substance to substance.
- Substances form predictable, identifiable crystals.
- Engineers plan designs, select materials, construct products, evaluate results, and improve ideas.

- Some mixtures result in a chemical reaction.
- During reactions, starting substances (reactants) change into new substances (products).
- A gas or precipitate is evidence of a reaction.
- Some products of reactions are soluble and can be identified by crystal structure after evaporation.
- Calcium carbonate reacts with acid.

### Reading/Technology

**Science Resources Book**
- "Solutions Up Close"
- "Concentrated Solutions"
- "The Air"
- "Famous Scientists"
- "Carbon Dioxide Concentration in the Air"
- "The Frog Story"

**Video**
- Why Are Oceans Salty?

**Online Activities**
- "Tutorial: Conservation of Mass"
- "Tutorial: Concentration"
- "Virtual Investigation: Saltwater Concentration"
- "Tutorial: Density"

### Assessment

**Embedded Assessment**
- Science notebook entries
- Response sheet
- Performance assessment

**Benchmark Assessment**
- Investigation 3 I-Check

**NGSS Performance Expectations**
- 5-PS1-1
- 5-PS1-2

**Mixtures and Solutions Module—FOSS Next Generation**
INVESTIGATION 4 – Reaching Saturation

11. Review vocabulary:
- Identify key terms related to the process of reaching saturation.
- Discuss the significance of these terms in the context of the investigation.

12. Have a sense-making discussion:
- Engage students in a discussion about the terms and concepts they just reviewed.
- Encourage students to share their understanding and any questions they may have.

13. Answer the focus question:
- Ask students to write down their responses to the focus question.
- Collect the responses to assess students' understanding.

14. Separate the Epsom salts from the water:
- Provide each group with an Epsom salts solution and a container for separation.
- Have students separate the Epsom salts from the water using a funnel.

15. Evaporate Epsom salts solution:
- Instruct students to evaporate the solution in a warm area.
- Monitor the evaporation process and have students record observations.

16. Clean up:
- Guide students in proper cleaning procedures.
- Emphasize the importance of maintaining a clean and safe environment.

WRAP-UP/WARM-UP

17. Assign program: response sheet:
- Use the provided response sheet for students to document their findings.
- Encourage students to reflect on their observations and record their conclusions.

18. Share notebook entries:
- Have students share their notebook entries with a partner or in a small group.
- Discuss the similarities and differences in students' observations.

FOSS COMPONENTS
Teacher Toolkit for Each Module

The FOSS Next Generation Program has three modules for grade 5—Mixtures and Solutions, Living Systems, and Earth and Sun.

Each module comes with a Teacher Toolkit for that module. The Teacher Toolkit is the most important part of the FOSS Program. It is here that all the wisdom and experience contributed by hundreds of educators has been assembled. Everything we know about the content of the module, how to teach the subject, and the resources that will assist the effort are presented here. Each toolkit has three parts.

Investigations Guide. This spiral-bound document contains these chapters:
- Overview
- Framework and NGSS
- Materials
- Technology
- Investigations (five in this module)
- Assessment
**Mixtures and Solutions Module—FOSS Next Generation**

**FOSS Components**

*FOSS Science Resources book.* One copy of the student book of readings is included in the *Teacher Toolkit.*

*Teacher Resources.* These chapters can be downloaded from FOSSweb and are also in the bound *Teacher Resources* book.

- FOSS Program Goals
- Planning Guide—Grade 5
- Science and Engineering Practices—Grade 5
- Crosscutting Concepts—Grade 5
- Sense-Making Discussions for Three-Dimensional Learning—Grade 5
- Access and Equity
- Science Notebooks in Grades 3–5
- Science-Centered Language Development
- FOSS and Common Core ELA—Grade 5
- FOSS and Common Core Math—Grade 5
- Taking FOSS Outdoors
- Science Notebook Masters
- Teacher Masters
- Assessment Masters

**Equipment for Each Module or Grade Level**

The FOSS Program provides the materials needed for the investigations, in sturdy, front-opening drawer-and-sleeve cabinets. Inside, you will find high-quality materials packaged for a class of 32 students. Consumable materials are supplied for three uses before you need to resupply. Teachers may be asked to supply small quantities of common classroom materials.

Delta Education can assist you with materials management strategies for schools, districts, and regional consortia.

**Liquid Layers**

Use the straws to record the colors of the salt solutions you tried to layer. When you succeed in layering all four solutions, put them in order in the table below, from most concentrated to least concentrated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Least concentrated</th>
<th>Most concentrated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Which solution is most dense? Which is least dense? Why do you think so?

**WARNING** — This set contains chemicals that may be harmful if ingested. Read章节 an purchasing consents carefully. Not to be used by children except under adult supervision.
You can see that matter is conserved during the reaction. The number of carbon particles, hydrogen particles, and oxygen particles is the same on both sides of the arrow. In other words, the matter in the reactants is exactly the same as the matter in the products.

The natural gas reaction is a fast reaction. The change from reactants to products occurs in a flash. The products are both gases, CO₂ and water vapor, so the reaction is "clean." The only concern is the waste product CO₂, which enters the air.

**Fireworks**

Another fast reaction is a stunning fireworks display. This kind of reaction is called an explosion. To qualify as an explosion, the reaction must happen very fast and must produce light, heat, and sound energy, plus a lot of gas. Because the gases expand so rapidly, explosions come with a loud kaboom. The people who design fireworks know what substances to put into each charge to produce different colors. The green color is the product of one substance, the red color is from another substance, and so on. The result is a thrilling experience for your eyes and ears.

**Air Bags**

The automotive air bag was invented in 1952 as a safety device for people. Twenty years later, air bags started to appear in American cars as an extra. Today, all cars sold in the United States have air bags in front, one for the driver and one for the passenger. Many cars have additional air bags in the ceiling and doors.

An air bag is a fabric bag that inflates like a big balloon the moment a car crashes into something. The bag has to inflate fully in a few thousandths of a second! How is that possible?

It’s a chemical reaction. When a car smacks into a solid object, sensors in a triggering device start the action. A pulse of electricity flows to the igniter, and a wire gets hot. The hot wire starts a very fast reaction, which produces a large volume of gas, usually nitrogen. The expanding gas bursts open the steering wheel or dashboard, and the bag pops out. It has to be fully inflated before the driver’s or passenger’s head and chest reach the steering wheel or dashboard. That’s fast inflation!
Technology

The FOSS website opens new horizons for educators, students, and families, in the classroom or at home. Each module has digital resources for students and families—interactive simulations, virtual investigations, and online activities. For teachers, FOSSweb provides online teacher Investigations Guides; grade-level planning guides (with connections to ELA and math); materials management strategies; science teaching and professional development tools; contact information for the FOSS Program developers; and technical support. In addition, FOSSweb provides digital access to PDF versions of the Teacher Resources component of the Teacher Toolkit, digital-only instructional resources that supplement the print and kit materials, and access to FOSSmap, the online assessment and reporting system for grades 3–8.

With an educator account, you can customize your homepage, set up easy access to the digital components of the modules you teach, and create class pages for your students with access to tutorials and online assessments.

Ongoing Professional Learning

The Lawrence Hall of Science and Delta Education strive to develop long-term partnerships with districts and teachers through thoughtful planning, effective implementation, and ongoing teacher support. FOSS has a strong network of consultants who have rich and experienced backgrounds in diverse educational settings using FOSS.

NOTE

To access all the teacher resources and to set up customized pages for using FOSS, log in to FOSSweb through an educator account. See the Technology chapter in this guide for more specifics.

NOTE

Look for professional development opportunities and online teaching resources on www.FOSSweb.com.
FOSS INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN

FOSS is designed around active investigation that provides engagement with science concepts and science and engineering practices. Surrounding and supporting those firsthand investigations are a wide range of experiences that help build student understanding of core science concepts and deepen scientific habits of mind.

The Elements of the FOSS Instructional Design

Using Formative Assessment
Integrating Science Notebooks
Taking FOSS Outdoors
Engaging in Science–Centered Language Development
Accessing Technology
Reading FOSS Science Resources Books
Each FOSS investigation follows a similar design to provide multiple exposures to science concepts. The design includes these pedagogies.

- Active investigation in collaborative groups: firsthand experiences with phenomena in the natural and designed worlds
- Recording in science notebooks to answer a focus question dealing with the scientific phenomenon under investigation
- Reading informational text in FOSS Science Resources books
- Online activities to acquire data or information or to elaborate and extend the investigation
- Outdoor experiences to collect data from the local environment or to apply knowledge
- Assessment to monitor progress and inform student learning

In practice, these components are seamlessly integrated into a curriculum designed to maximize every student’s opportunity to learn.

A learning cycle employs an instructional model based on a constructivist perspective that calls on students to be actively involved in their own learning. The model systematically describes both teacher and learner behaviors in a coherent approach to science instruction.

A popular model describes a sequence of five phases of intellectual involvement known as the 5Es: engage, explore, explain, elaborate, and evaluate. The body of foundational knowledge that informs contemporary learning-cycle thinking has been incorporated seamlessly and invisibly into the FOSS curriculum design.

Engagement with real-world phenomena is at the heart of FOSS. In every part of every investigation, the investigative phenomenon is referenced implicitly in the focus question that guides instruction and frames the intellectual work. The focus question is a prominent part of each lesson and is called out for the teacher and student. The investigation Background for the Teacher section is organized by focus question—the teacher has the opportunity to read and reflect on the phenomenon in each part in preparing for the lesson. Students record the focus question in their science notebooks, and after exploring the phenomenon thoroughly, explain their thinking in words and drawings.

In science, a phenomenon is a natural occurrence, circumstance, or structure that is perceptible by the senses—an observable reality. Scientific phenomena are not necessarily phenomenal (although they may be)—most of the time they are pretty mundane and well within the everyday experience. What FOSS does to enact an effective engagement with the NGSS is thoughtful selection of scientific phenomena for students to investigate.
Active Investigation

Active investigation is a master pedagogy. Embedded within active learning are a number of pedagogical elements and practices that keep active investigation vigorous and productive. The enterprise of active investigation includes

- **context**: sharing prior knowledge, questioning, and planning;
- **activity**: doing and observing;
- **data management**: recording, organizing, and processing;
- **analysis**: discussing and writing explanations.

**Context: sharing, questioning, and planning.** Active investigation requires focus. The context of an inquiry can be established with a focus question about a phenomenon or challenge from you or, in some cases, from students. (How much salt will dissolve in a given volume of water?) At other times, students are asked to plan a method for investigation. This might start with a teacher demonstration or presentation. Then you challenge students to plan an investigation, such as how to separate a dry mixture. In either case, the field available for thought and interaction is limited. This clarification of context and purpose results in a more productive investigation.

**Activity: doing and observing.** In the practice of science, scientists put things together and take things apart, observe systems and interactions, and conduct experiments. This is the core of science—active, firsthand experience with objects, organisms, materials, and systems in the natural world. In FOSS, students engage in the same processes. Students often conduct investigations in collaborative groups of four, with each student taking a role to contribute to the effort.

The active investigations in FOSS are cohesive, and build on each other to lead students to a comprehensive understanding of concepts. Through investigations and readings, students gather meaningful data.

**Data management: recording, organizing, and processing.** Data accrue from observation, both direct (through the senses) and indirect (mediated by instrumentation). Data are the raw material from which scientific knowledge and meaning are synthesized. During and after work with materials, students record data in their science notebooks. Data recording is the first of several kinds of student writing.

Students then organize data so they will be easier to think about. Tables allow efficient comparison. Organizing data in a sequence (time) or series (size) can reveal patterns. Students process some data into graphs, providing visual display of numerical data. They also organize data and process them in the science notebook.
Analysis: discussing and writing explanations. The most important part of an active investigation is extracting its meaning. This constructive process involves logic, discourse, and prior knowledge. Students share their explanations for phenomena, using evidence generated during the investigation to support their ideas. They conclude the active investigation by writing a summary of their learning as well as questions raised during the activity in their science notebooks.

Science Notebooks

Research and best practice have led FOSS to place more emphasis on the student science notebook. Keeping a notebook helps students organize their observations and data, process their data, and maintain a record of their learning for future reference. The process of writing about their science experiences and communicating their thinking is a powerful learning device for students. The science-notebook entries stand as credible and useful expressions of learning. The artifacts in the notebooks form one of the core exhibitions of the assessment system.

You will find the duplication masters for grades 1–5 presented in notebook format. They are reduced in size (two copies to a standard sheet) for placement (glue or tape) into a bound composition book. Full-sized masters for grades 3–5 that can be filled in electronically and are suitable for display are available on FOSSweb. Student work is entered partly in spaces provided on the notebook sheets and partly on adjacent blank sheets in the composition book. Look to the chapter in Teacher Resources called Science Notebooks in Grades 3–5 for more details on how to use notebooks with FOSS.
Reading in FOSS Science Resources

The FOSS Science Resources books are primarily devoted to expository articles and biographical sketches. FOSS suggests that the reading be completed during language-arts time to connect to the Common Core State Standards for ELA. When language-arts skills and methods are embedded in content material that relates to the authentic experience students have had during the FOSS active learning sessions, students are interested, and they get more meaning from the text material.

Recommended strategies to engage students in reading, writing, speaking, and listening around the articles in the FOSS Science Resources books are included in the flow of Guiding the Investigation. In addition, a library of resources is described in the Science-Centered Language Development chapter in Teacher Resources.

The chapter FOSS and the Common Core ELA in Teacher Resources shows how FOSS provides opportunities to develop and exercise the Common Core ELA practices through science. A detailed table identifies these opportunities in the three FOSS modules for the fifth grade.

Engaging in Online Activities through FOSSweb

The simulations and online activities on FOSSweb are designed to support students’ learning at specific times during instruction. Digital resources include streaming videos that can be viewed by the class or small groups. Resources may also include virtual investigations and tutorials that students can use to review the active investigations and to support students who need more time with the concepts or who have been absent and missed the active investigations.

The Technology chapter provides details about the online activities for students and the tools and resources for teachers to support and enrich instruction. There are many ways for students to engage with the digital resources—in class as individuals, in small groups, or as a whole class, and at home with family and friends.

NOTE
To get the most current information, download the latest Technology chapter on FOSSweb.
Assessing Progress

The FOSS assessment system includes both formative and summative assessments. Formative assessment monitors learning during the process of instruction. It measures progress, provides information about learning, and is predominantly diagnostic. Summative assessment looks at the learning after instruction is completed, and it measures achievement.

Formative assessment in FOSS, called embedded assessment, is an integral part of instruction, and occurs on a daily basis. You observe action during class in a performance assessment or review notebooks after class. Performance assessments look at students’ engagement in science and engineering practices or their recognition of crosscutting concepts, and are indicated with the second assessment icon. Embedded assessment provides continuous monitoring of students’ learning and helps you make decisions about whether to review, extend, or move on to the next idea to be covered.

Benchmark assessments include the Survey, I-Checks, Posttest, and interim assessments. The Survey is given before instruction begins. It provides information about students’ prior knowledge. I-Checks are actually hybrid tools: they can provide summative information about students’ achievement, but more importantly, they can be used formatively as well to provide diagnostic information. Reviewing specific items on an I-Check with the class provides additional opportunities for students to clarify their thinking. The Posttest is a summative assessment given after instruction is complete.

Interim assessments give students practice with items specifically designed to measure three-dimensional learning described by NGSS performance expectations. Interim assessment tasks generally begin with a scenario, and ask students to apply practices and crosscutting concepts as well as disciplinary core ideas to respond to the item. Interim assessment tasks can be administered during a module, at the end of the module, or as an end-of-year grade-level assessment.

All benchmark items are carefully designed to be valid, reliable, and accessible to all students. They focus on assessment for learning, and when accompanied by thoughtful self-assessment activities and feedback, contribute to the development of a growth mindset.
Taking FOSS Outdoors

FOSS throws open the classroom door and proclaims the entire school campus to be the science classroom. The true value of science knowledge is its usefulness in the real world and not just in the classroom. Taking regular excursions into the immediate outdoor environment has many benefits. First of all, it provides opportunities for students to apply things they learned in the classroom to novel situations. When students are able to transfer knowledge of scientific principles to natural systems, they experience a sense of accomplishment.

In addition to transfer and application, students can learn things outdoors that they are not able to learn indoors. The most important object of inquiry outdoors is the outdoors itself. To today’s youth, the outdoors is something to pass through as quickly as possible to get to the next human-managed place. For many, engagement with the outdoors and natural systems must be intentional, at least at first. With repeated visits to familiar outdoor learning environments, students may first develop comfort in the outdoors, and then a desire to embrace and understand natural systems.

The last part of most investigations is an outdoor experience. Venturing out will require courage the first time or two you mount an outdoor expedition. It will confuse students as they struggle to find the right behavior that is a compromise between classroom rigor and diligence and the freedom of recreation. With persistence, you will reap rewards. You will be pleased to see students’ comportment develop into proper field-study habits, and you might be amazed by the transformation of students with behavior issues in the classroom who become your insightful observers and leaders in the schoolyard environment.

Teaching outdoors is the same as teaching indoors—except for the space. You need to manage the same four core elements of classroom teaching: time, space, materials, and students. Because of the different space, new management procedures are required. Students can get farther away. Materials have to be transported. The space has to be defined and honored. Time has to be budgeted for getting to, moving around in, and returning from the outdoor study site. All these and more issues and solutions are discussed in the Taking FOSS Outdoors chapter in Teacher Resources.
Science-Centered Language Development and Common Core State Standards for ELA

The FOSS active investigations, science notebooks, FOSS Science Resources articles, and formative assessments provide rich contexts in which students develop and exercise thinking and communication. These elements are essential for effective instruction in both science and language arts—students experience the natural world in real and authentic ways and use language to inquire, process information, and communicate their thinking about scientific phenomena. FOSS refers to this development of language process and skills within the context of science as science-centered language development.

In the Science-Centered Language Development chapter in Teacher Resources, we explore the intersection of science and language and the implications for effective science teaching and language development. Language plays two crucial roles in science learning: (1) it facilitates the communication of conceptual and procedural knowledge, questions, and propositions, and (2) it mediates thinking—a process necessary for understanding. For students, language development is intimately involved in their learning about the natural world. Science provides a real and engaging context for developing literacy and language-arts skills identified in contemporary standards for English language arts.

The most effective integration depends on the type of investigation, the experience of students, the language skills and needs of students, and the language objectives that you deem important at the time. The Science-Centered Language Development chapter is a library of resources and strategies for you to use. The chapter describes how literacy strategies are integrated purposefully into the FOSS investigations, gives suggestions for additional literacy strategies that both enhance students’ learning in science and develop or exercise English-language literacy skills, and develops science vocabulary with scaffolding strategies for supporting all learners. We identify effective practices in language-arts instruction that support science learning and examine how learning science content and engaging in science and engineering practices support language development.

Specific methods to make connections to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts are included in the flow of Guiding the Investigation. These recommended methods are linked to the CCSS ELA through ELA Connection notes. In addition, the FOSS and the Common Core ELA chapter in Teacher Resources summarizes all of the connections to each standard at the given grade level.
DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION FOR ACCESS AND EQUITY

Learning from Experience

The roots of FOSS extend back to the mid-1970s and the Science Activities for the Visually Impaired and Science Enrichment for Learners with Physical Handicaps projects (SAVI/SELPH Program). As this special-education science program expanded into fully integrated (mainstreamed) settings in the 1980s, hands-on science proved to be a powerful medium for bringing all students together. The subject matter is universally interesting, and the joy and satisfaction of discovery are shared by everyone. Active science by itself provides part of the solution to full inclusion and provides many opportunities at the same time for differentiated instruction.

Many years later, FOSS began a collaboration with educators and researchers at the Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST), where principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) had been developed and applied. FOSS continues to learn from our colleagues about ways to use new media and technologies to improve instruction. Here are the UDL guiding principles.

Principle 1. Provide multiple means of representation. Give learners various ways to acquire information and demonstrate knowledge.


FOSS for All Students

The FOSS Program has been designed to maximize the science learning opportunities for all students, including those who have traditionally not had access to or have not benefited from equitable science experiences—students with special needs, ethnically diverse learners, English learners, students living in poverty, girls, and advanced and gifted learners. FOSS is rooted in a 30-year tradition of multisensory science education and informed by recent research on UDL and culturally and linguistically responsive teaching and learning. Procedures found effective with students with special needs and students who are learning English are incorporated into the materials and strategies used with all students during the initial instruction phase. In addition, the Access and Equity chapter in Teacher Resources (or
go to FOSSweb to download this chapter) provides strategies and suggestions for enhancing the science and engineering experiences for each of the specific groups noted above.

Throughout the FOSS investigations, students experience multiple ways of interacting with phenomena and expressing their understanding through a variety of modalities. Each student has multiple opportunities to demonstrate his or her strengths and needs, thoughts, and aspirations.

The challenge is then to provide appropriate follow-up experiences or enhancements appropriate for each student. For some students, this might mean more time with the active investigations or online activities. For other students, it might mean more experience and/or scaffolds for developing models, building explanations, or engaging in argument from evidence.

For some students, it might mean making vocabulary and language structures more explicit through new concrete experiences or through reading to students. It may help them identify and understand relationships and connections through graphic organizers.

For other students, it might be designing individual projects or small-group investigations. It might be more opportunities for experiencing science outside the classroom in more natural, outdoor environments or defining problems and designing solutions in their communities.

Assessment and Extensions

The next-step strategies suggested during the self-assessment sessions following I-Checks provide opportunities for differentiated instruction. These strategies can also be used to provide targeted and strategic instruction for students who need additional specific support. For more on next-step strategies, see the Assessment chapter.

There are additional approaches and strategies for ensuring access and equity by providing appropriate differentiated instruction. The FOSS Program provides tools and strategies so that you know what students are thinking throughout the module. Based on that knowledge and what you know about your students’ cultural and linguistic background, as well as their individual strengths and needs, read through the extension activities for additional ways to enhance the learning experience for your students. Interdisciplinary extensions in the arts, social studies, math, and language arts, as well as more advanced projects are listed at the end of each investigation. Use these ideas to meet the individual needs and interests of your students. In addition, online activities including tutorials and virtual investigations are effective tools to provide differentiated levels of instruction.
English Learners

The FOSS Program provides a rich laboratory for language development for English learners. A variety of techniques are provided to make science concepts clear and concrete, including modeling, visuals, and active investigations in small groups. Instruction is guided and scaffolded through carefully designed lesson plans, and students are supported throughout.

Science vocabulary and language structures are introduced in authentic contexts while students engage in hands-on learning and collaborative discussion. Strategies for helping all students read, write, speak, and listen are described in the Science-Centered Language Development chapter. A specific section on English learners provides suggestions for both integrating English language development (ELD) approaches during the investigation and for developing designated (targeted and strategic) ELD-focused lessons that support science learning.
FOSS INVESTIGATION ORGANIZATION

Modules are subdivided into investigations (five in this module). Investigations are further subdivided into three to five parts. Each investigation has a general guiding question for the phenomenon students investigate, and each part of each investigation is driven by a focus question. The focus question, usually presented as the part begins, signals the challenge to be met, mystery to be solved, or principle to be uncovered. The focus question guides students’ actions and thinking and makes the learning goal of each part explicit for teachers. Each part concludes with students recording an answer to the focus question in their notebooks.

The investigation is summarized for the teacher in the At-a-Glance chart at the beginning of each investigation.

Investigation-specific scientific background information for the teacher is presented in each investigation chapter organized by the focus questions.

The Teaching Children about section makes direct connections to the NGSS foundation boxes for the grade level—Disciplinary Core Ideas, Science and Engineering Practices, and Crosscutting Concepts. This information is later presented in color-coded sidebar notes to identify specific places in the flow of the investigation where connections to the three dimensions of science learning appear. The Teaching Children about section ends with information about teaching and learning and a conceptual-flow graphic of the content.

The Materials and Getting Ready sections provide scheduling information and detail exactly how to prepare the materials and resources for conducting the investigation.

Teaching notes and ELA Connections appear in blue boxes in the sidebars. These notes comprise a second voice in the curriculum—an educative element. The first (traditional) voice is the message you deliver to students. The second (educative) voice, shared as a teaching note, is designed to help you understand the science content and pedagogical rationale at work behind the instructional scene. ELA Connection boxes provide connections to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts.
The **Getting Ready** and **Guiding the Investigation** sections have several features that are flagged in the sidebars. These include several icons to remind you when a particular pedagogical method is suggested, as well as concise bits of information in several categories.

The **safety** icon alerts you to potential safety issues related to chemicals, allergic reactions, and the use of safety goggles.

The small-group **discussion** icon asks you to pause while students discuss data or construct explanations in their groups.

The **new-word** icon alerts you to a new vocabulary word or phrase that should be introduced thoughtfully.

The **vocabulary** icon indicates where students should review recently introduced vocabulary.

The **recording** icon points out where students should make a science-notebook entry.

The **reading** icon signals when the class should read a specific article in the *FOSS Science Resources* book.

The **technology** icon signals when the class should use a digital resource on FOSSweb.
The **assessment** icons appear when there is an opportunity to assess student progress by using embedded or benchmark assessments. Some are performance assessments—observations of science and engineering practices, indicated by a second icon which includes a beaker and ruler.

The **outdoor** icon signals when to move the science learning experience into the schoolyard.

The **engineering** icon indicates opportunities for an experience incorporating engineering practices.

The **math** icon indicates an opportunity to engage in numerical data analysis and mathematics practice.

The **crosscutting concepts** icon indicates an opportunity to expand on the concept by going to *Teacher Resources*, Crosscutting Concepts chapter. This chapter provides details on how to engage students with that concept in the context of the investigation.

The **El. note** provides a specific strategy to use to assist English learners in developing science concepts.

To help with pacing, you will see icons for **breakpoints**. Some breakpoints are essential, and others are optional.
ESTABLISHING A CLASSROOM CULTURE

Working in Collaborative Groups

Collaboration is important in science. Scientists usually collaborate on research enterprises. Groups of researchers often contribute to the collection of data, the analysis of findings, and the preparation of the results for publication.

Collaboration is expected in the science classroom, too. Some tasks call for everyone to have the same experience, either taking turns or doing the same things simultaneously. At other times, group members may have different experiences that they later bring together.

Research has shown that students learn better and are more successful when they collaborate. Working together promotes student interest, participation, learning, language development, and self-confidence. FOSS investigations use collaborative groups extensively. Here are a few general guidelines for collaborative learning that have proven successful over the years.

For most activities in upper-elementary grades, collaborative groups of four in which students take turns assuming specific responsibilities work best. Groups can be identified completely randomly (first four names drawn from a hat constitute group 1), or you can assemble groups to ensure diversity and inclusion. Thoughtfully constituted groups tend to work better.

Groups can be maintained for extended periods of time, or they can be reconfigured frequently. Six to nine weeks seems about optimum, so students might stay together throughout an entire module.

Functional roles within groups can be determined by the members themselves, or they can be assigned in one of several ways. Each member in a collaborative group can be assigned a number or a color. Then you need only announce which color or number will perform a certain task for the group at a certain time. Compass points can also be used: the person seated on the east side of the table will be the Reporter for this investigation.

The functional roles used in the investigations follow. If you already use other names for functional roles in your class, use them in place of those in the investigations.

The **Getter** is responsible for materials. One person from each group gets equipment from the materials station, and later returns the equipment.
One person is the **Starter** for each task. This person supervises setting up the equipment and makes sure that everyone gets a turn and that everyone has an opportunity to contribute ideas to the investigation.

The **Recorder** makes sure that everyone has recorded information in his or her science notebook and, as appropriate, records the group data and ideas.

The **Reporter** reports group data to the class or transcribes it to the board or class chart, and shares the main points of the group discussion during class discussion.

Getting started with collaborative groups requires patience, but the rewards are great. Once collaborative groups are in place, you will be able to engage students in more meaningful conversations about science content. You are free to “cruise” the groups, to observe and listen to students as they work, and to interact with individuals and small groups as needed.

### Norms for Sense-Making Discussions

Setting up norms for discussion and holding yourself and your students accountable is the first step toward creating a culture of productive talk in the classroom that supports engagement in the science and engineering practices. Students need to feel free to express their ideas, and to provide and receive criticism from others as they work toward understanding of the disciplinary core ideas of science and methods of engineering.

Establish norms at the beginning of the school year. It is recommended that this be done together as a class activity. However, presenting a poster of norms to students and asking them to discuss why each one is important can also be effective. Before each sense-making discussion, review the norms. Review what it will look like, sound like, and feel like when everyone is following the agreements. You might have students work on one or two at a time as they are developing their oral discourse skills. After discussion, save a few minutes for reflection on how well the group or the class adhered to the norms and what they can do better next time. More strategies for supporting academic discourse can be found in the Sense-Making Discussions for Three-Dimensional Learning and Science-Centered Language Development chapters in **Teacher Resources** (also available as downloadable PDFs on FOSSweb).
Managing Materials

The Materials section lists the items in the equipment kit and any teacher supplied materials. It also describes things to do to prepare a new kit and how to check and prepare the kit for your classroom. Individual photos of each piece of FOSS equipment are available for printing from FOSSweb, and can help students and you identify each item.

The FOSS Program designers suggest using a central materials distribution system. You organize all the materials for an investigation at a single location called the materials station. As the investigation progresses, one member of each group gets materials as they are needed, and another returns the materials when the investigation is complete. You place the equipment and resources at the station, and students do the rest. Students can also be involved in cleaning and organizing the materials at the end of a session.

When Students Are Absent

When a student is absent for a session, give him or her a chance to spend some time with the materials at a center. Another student might act as a peer tutor. Allow the student to bring home a FOSS Science Resources book to read with a family member. Each article has a few review items that the student can respond to verbally or in writing.

Students who have been absent from certain investigations can access online activities through FOSSweb. Some of the activities may require students to record data and answer concluding questions in their science notebooks.
Collaborative Teaching and Learning

Collaborative learning requires a collective as well as individual growth mindset. A growth mindset is when people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work (see the research of Carol Dweck and her book *Mindset: The Psychology of Success*). As students work together to make sense of phenomena and develop their inquiry and discourse skills, it's important to recognize and value their efforts to try new approaches and their willingness to make their thinking visible. Remind students that everyone in the classroom, including you the teacher, will be learning new ideas and ways to think about the world. Where there is productive struggle, there is learning. Here are a few ways to help students develop a growth mindset for science and engineering.

• **Praise effort, not right answers.** When students are successful at a task, provide positive feedback about their level of engagement and effort in the practices, e.g., the efforts they put into careful observations, how well they organized and interpreted their data, the relevancy of their questions, how well they connected or applied new concepts, and their use of precise vocabulary, etc. Also, try to provide feedback that encourages students to continue to improve their learning and exploring, e.g., is there another way to approach this question? Have you thought about _____? What evidence is there to support _____?

• **Foster and validate divergent thinking.** During sense-making discussions, continually emphasize how important it is to share emerging ideas and to be open to the ideas of others in order to build understanding. Model for students how you refine and revise your thinking based on new information. Make it clear to students that the point is not for them to show they have the right answer, but rather to help each other arrive at new understandings. Point out positive examples of students expressing and revising their ideas.

Establishing a classroom culture that supports three-dimensional teaching and learning centers on collaboration. Collaborative groupings, materials management, and norms are structures you can put into place to foster collaboration. These structures along with the expectations that students will be negotiating meaning together as a community of learners, creates a learning environment where students are compelled to work, think, and communicate like scientists and engineers to help one another learn.
MIXTURES AND SOLUTIONS — Overview

SAFETY IN THE CLASSROOM AND OUTDOORS

Following the procedures described in each investigation will make for a very safe experience in the classroom. You should also review your district safety guidelines and make sure that everything you do is consistent with those guidelines. Two posters are included in the kit: FOSS Science Safety for classroom use and FOSS Outdoor Safety for outdoor activities.

Look for the safety icon in the Getting Ready and Guiding the Investigation sections that will alert you to safety considerations throughout the module.

Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for materials used in the FOSS Program can be found on FOSSweb. If you have questions regarding any SDS, call Delta Education at 1-800-258-1302 (Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. ET).

Science Safety in the Classroom

General classroom safety rules to share with students are listed here.

1. Listen carefully to your teacher’s instructions. Follow all directions. Ask questions if you don’t know what to do.
2. Tell your teacher if you have any allergies.
3. Never put any materials in your mouth. Do not taste anything unless your teacher tells you to do so.
4. Never smell any unknown material. If your teacher tells you to smell something, wave your hand over the material to bring the smell toward your nose.
5. Do not touch your face, mouth, ears, eyes, or nose while working with chemicals, plants, or animals.
6. Always protect your eyes. Wear safety goggles when necessary. Tell your teacher if you wear contact lenses.
7. Always wash your hands with soap and warm water after handling chemicals, plants, or animals.
8. Never mix any chemicals unless your teacher tells you to do so.
9. Report all spills, accidents, and injuries to your teacher.
10. Treat animals with respect, caution, and consideration.
11. Clean up your work space after each investigation.
12. Act responsibly during all science activities.

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9. Report all spills, accidents, and injuries to your teacher.
10. Treat animals with respect, caution, and consideration.
11. Clean up your work space after each investigation.
12. Act responsibly during all science activities.

Outdoor Safety

Listen carefully to your teacher’s instructions. Follow all directions. Ask questions if you don’t know what to do.

1. Listen carefully to your teacher’s instructions. Follow all directions. Ask questions if you don’t know what to do.
2. Tell your teacher if you have any allergies. Let your teacher know if you have never been stung by a bee.
3. Never put any material in your mouth.
4. Dress appropriately for the weather and the outdoor experience.
5. Stay within the designated study area and with your partner or group. When you hear the “freeze” signal, stop and listen to your teacher.
6. Never look directly at the Sun or at the sunlight being reflected off a shiny object.
7. Know if there are any skin-irritating plants in your schoolyard, and do not touch them. Most plants in the schoolyard are harmless.
8. Respect all living things. When looking under a stone or log, lift the side away from you so that any living thing can escape.
9. If a stinging insect is near you, stay calm and slowly walk away from it. Tell your teacher right away if you are stung or bitten.
10. Never release any living things into the environment unless you collected them there.
11. Always wash your hands with soap and warm water after handling plants, animals, and soil.
12. Return to the classroom with all of the materials you brought outside.
SCHEDULING THE MODULE

Below is a suggested teaching schedule for the module. The investigations are numbered and should be taught in order, as the concepts build upon each other from investigation to investigation. We suggest that a minimum of ten weeks be devoted to this module. Take your time, and explore the subject thoroughly.

Active-investigation (A) sessions include hands-on work with materials and tools, active thinking about experiences, small-group discussion, writing in science notebooks, and learning new vocabulary in context.

Reading (R) sessions involve reading FOSS Science Resources articles. Reading can be completed during language-arts time to make connections to Common Core State Standards for ELA (CCSS ELA).

During Wrap-Up/Warm-Up (W) sessions, students share notebook entries and engage in connections to CCSS ELA. These sessions can also be completed during language-arts time.

I-Checks are short summative assessments at the end of each investigation. Students have a short notebook review session the day before and a self-assessment of selected items the following day. (See the Assessment chapter for the next-step strategies for self-assessment.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>Day 3</th>
<th>Day 4</th>
<th>Day 5</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>START Inv. 1 Part 1</td>
<td>START Inv. 1 Part 2</td>
<td>A/W</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R/W</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>A/R/W</td>
<td>START Inv. 1 Part 4</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R/Review</td>
<td>I-Check 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>START Inv. 2 Part 1</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A/W</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>START Inv. 2 Part 3</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>I-Check 2</td>
<td>Self-assess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>START Inv. 3 Part 1</td>
<td>R/W</td>
<td>START Inv. 3 Part 2</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R/W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>R/W</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R/Review</td>
<td>I-Check 3</td>
<td>Self-assess</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
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<td>R/W</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
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<td>A/R</td>
<td>A/R</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Self-assess</td>
<td>START Inv. 5 Part 1</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R/W</td>
</tr>
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<td>A</td>
<td>R/W</td>
<td>A/R</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Posttest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOSS CONTACTS

General FOSS Program information
www.FOSSweb.com
www.DeltaEducation.com/FOSS

Developers at the Lawrence Hall of Science
foss@berkeley.edu

Customer Service at Delta Education
www.DeltaEducation.com/contact.aspx
Phone: 1-800-258-1302, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET

FOSSmap (online component of FOSS assessment system)
http://FOSSmap.com/

FOSSweb account questions/access codes/help logging in
techsupport.science@schoolspecialty.com
Phone: 1-800-258-1302, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET

School Specialty online support
loginhelp@schoolspecialty.com
Phone: 1-800-513-2465, 8:30 a.m. –6:00 p.m. ET

FOSSweb tech support
support@fossweb.com

Professional development
www.FOSSweb.com/Professional-Development

Safety issues
www.DeltaEducation.com/SDS
Phone: 1-800-258-1302, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET
For chemical emergencies, contact Chemtrec 24 hours per day.
Phone: 1-800-424-9300

Sales and replacement parts
www.DeltaEducation.com/FOSS/buy
Phone: 1-800-338-5270, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET