

# Oklahoma OpenSciEd Elementary Field Test

## Opportunities and Expectations

### Introduction

Teachers from your district who value ingenuity and innovation are invited to participate in a field test for elementary school science instruction materials. This field test is part of a collaborative development process led by OpenSciEd, in which a group of state education agencies, school districts, classroom educators, and science curriculum developers is creating research-based, open-source science instructional materials that align to A Framework for K-12 Science Education (the Framework) and are consistent with Oklahoma Academic Standards for Science. Contributing to this effort will provide teachers with access to high-quality instructional resources and dynamic professional learning that gives all students in your district a chance to experience equitable science instruction.

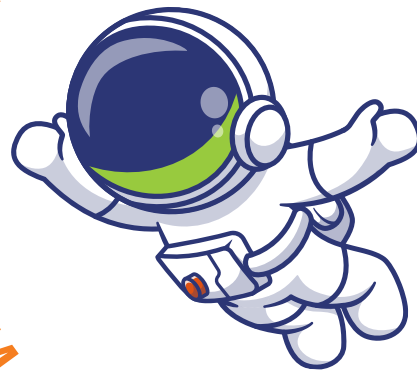
### About OpenSciEd

OpenSciEd is committed to expanding access to high quality, phenomena-based equitable science education to students across the country. In OpenSciEd classrooms, students learn through discovery. Through student-led questioning, investigating, and problem-solving, students have the opportunity to engage more deeply with the material and develop a strong foundation in science.

To ensure all teachers have the tools and confidence to implement OpenSciEd in their classrooms successfully, teachers are encouraged to adapt, transform, and build upon OpenSciEd materials to accommodate students' learning styles, cultures, languages, and local contexts.

OpenSciEd is thrilled about the future of equitable science education! Through innovation, collaboration and evaluation, we hope to create classrooms with inspired educators and motivated learners.

Inspired Educators.



Motivated Learners.

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### Benefits to Participating Teachers and Students

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#### Teachers

1

Receive free kit materials (including classroom texts) for two units per year for the field test and to keep afterward. Teacher and student materials will be available as Google docs.

2

Receive free professional learning to support use of the instructional materials and deepen knowledge of instructional shifts needed to realize the vision of the Framework for equitable teaching and learning.

3

Have opportunities to provide feedback to developers as they revise the materials.

#### Students

1

Experience meaningful and engaging science learning organized around investigating natural phenomena.

2

Use the science and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts, and disciplinary core ideas together to develop deep conceptual understanding.

3

Have opportunities to improve the materials by giving feedback to developers.

### Expectations of District Staff, Principals, and Teachers

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The Developers Consortium will work with district research offices to seek approval for all data collection. OpenSciEd will also maintain ongoing communication with participating districts and school staff so they understand the expectations of the field test. All participants must commit to fulfilling the expectations summarized below:

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### Expectations of District Staff, Principals, and Teachers continued....

#### **District Staff:**

- Identify potential school administrators to participate.
- Work with the state coordinator and school administration to ensure field test teachers have the necessary equipment and supplies to implement their units.
- Support data collection by ensuring all district-level data collection policies and procedures are followed.

#### **Principals:**

- Help identify and recruit field test teachers.
- Enable teachers to participate in all required professional learning activities including securing substitute coverage for attendance.
- Support teachers in implementing the units as intended, ensuring teachers have adequate science instructional time to teach the units during the field test windows and working with district staff to ensure teachers have the necessary equipment and supplies.



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### Expectations of District Staff, Principals, and Teachers continued...

#### Teachers:

- Participate in the field test of four units across two years: summer 2023 through spring 2025.
  - **Round 1 field test window:** Fall 2023
  - **Round 2 field test window:** Spring 2024
  - **Round 3 field test window:** Fall 2024
  - **Round 4 field test window:** Spring 2025

#### Anticipated Field Test Schedule\*

	Field Test Window	Professional Learning (PL) Window	Before Unit PL	During Unit PL
Unit 1	Fall 2023	Summer 2023	3 Days	3 2-Hour Virtual Sessions
Unit 2	Spring 2024	Winter 2024	2 Days	3 2-Hour Virtual Sessions
Unit 3	Fall 2024	Summer 2024	2 Days	3 2-Hour Virtual Sessions
Unit 4	Spring 2025	Winter 2024	2 Days	3 2-Hour Virtual Sessions

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### *Teachers continued:*

- During-unit professional learning: Three interactive, professional learning sessions (2 hours each, either in-person or online) in both the fall and winter.
- Implement two units as designed each year. Each unit takes 6-10 weeks to implement and addresses 2-6 performance expectations (standards). The timing of teaching the units will vary based on each field test teacher's daily school schedule for teaching science.
  - In grades K-2, lessons are designed to take 60 minutes, and each unit is composed of about 10 lessons.
  - In grades 3-5, lessons are designed to take 90 minutes, and each unit is composed of about 15 lessons.
  - Lessons in both K-2 and 3-5 are designed to be broken up across multiple days to fit into different schedules.
- Give feedback through a 15-minute online survey administered at the end of each unit. In addition, give feedback through 1 of the 3 methods below, based on a sampling plan administered by the OpenSciEd field test team, for an estimated total commitment of about 1 hour per unit.
  - **Interviews:** At the end of each unit, a sample of teachers will be interviewed about their perceptions of the curriculum and recommendations for improvement.
  - **Student Work Samples:** At the beginning and end of each unit, a sample of teachers will gather and submit student work.
  - **Student Exit Tickets:** At the end of specific lessons, students in a sample of teachers' classes will complete exit tickets to understand students' perceptions of and engagement with the units.

INSPIRING  
THE NEXT  
GENERATION  
OF SCIENTISTS

"The materials are a huge equalizer in the classroom, especially for students with special needs and English learners. Students are figuring things out and actually doing science rather than just being "told" about science"

-Teacher

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### For more Information

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If you are interested in supporting the OpenSciEd Initiative by field testing the materials and providing feedback on the learning materials and professional learning, please complete the [Oklahoma OpenSciEd Elementary School Field test School Application](https://airtable.com/shru11hqYXprC93I8) (<https://airtable.com/shru11hqYXprC93I8>). The application can be completed in less than 10 minutes!

If you have questions, contact:

**Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance**  
**Levi Patrick, Dr. Emily Mortimer, and Melissa Cobb**  
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**Thank You**