



PASO ROBLES

JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
THE DISTRICT OF EXCELLENCE

6th-8th grade Science Adoption March 2021

The Paso Robles Middle School adoption committee has recommended FOSS for our 6th-8th grade science courses beginning with the 2021-2022 school year. FOSS science curriculum will be on public display March 8th- March 19th.

FOSS science curriculum is designed specifically for the NGSS integration.

Research shows that the best way to learn science is by doing science, and the FOSS developers at the [Lawrence Hall of Science](#) have spent more than 25 years working in classrooms learning how to best support teachers as they facilitate doing exactly that. We invite you to build on this experience by joining the thousands of successful FOSS teachers across the country.

FOSS Next Generation puts the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) into practice by integrating all three dimensions: the **Disciplinary Core Ideas**, the **Science and Engineering Practices**, and the **Crosscutting Concepts**, all within our classroom-proven tools and strategies to engage students and teachers in enduring experiences that lead to deeper understanding of the natural and designed world.

FOSS Next Generation:

- Engages all students with meaningful active learning experiences
- Prepares all students to succeed with the NGSS performance expectations
- Integrates robust reading and literacy strategies to support the Common Core ELA for all students
- Utilizes technology to deliver learning experiences and provide teachers with time-saving classroom management resources

Committee Leads: Erin Haley, Caramé Kroener, Darian Buckles

Committee Members: Dana Budd (previously), Justin Ward, Colleen Macklin Musial, Caramé Kroener, Savannah Carlson, Shauna Franchi, Darian Buckles, Sarah Lomanto, Janelle Sailer, John Hutchings, Babette DeCou, Trina Nicklas, Tim Vincent, Kurt Payne

Stemscopes Presentation

Date: March 2020

Time: 1:00- 2:30 p.m.

Stemscopes review with teachers: October 29th, 2020 @ 2:30 p.m.

Attendees: Dana Budd (previously), Justin Ward, Colleen Macklin Musial, Caramé Kroener, Savannah Carlson, Shauna Franchi, Darian Buckles, Sarah Lomanto, Janelle Sailer, John Hutchings

FOSS Presentation

Date: January 11th, 2021

Time: 1:30- 3:30 p.m.

Attendees: Justin Ward, Colleen Macklin Musial, Caramé Kroener, Savannah Carlson, Shauna Franchi, Darian Buckles, Sarah Lomanto, Janelle Sailer, John Hutchings

Teacher Committee Member Votes:

The Science Adoption Committee put the Stemsscopes and FOSS adoptions side by side and came up with the following list of pros/cons for each textbook.

Vote: Unanimous 8-0 vote amongst all 6-8 grade science teachers.

Final Recommendation:

FOSS, Middle School science curriculum (School Speciality)

Stemsscopes	FOSS
<p><u>Pros:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear and user-friendly layout of 5 E's• Easy to follow "menu"• Lessons translated in spanish• Thoughtful, well-developed CERs• Formative assessments are well-aligned• Content connections videos add to concept• NGSS, CCCs, SEP, and DCIs stated for each scope	<p><u>Pros:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content is rigorous and age appropriate• Lessons flow well in sequence and spiral back to previous learning• Spanish translation for lessons and resources• Engaging videos• High-quality materials• Materials in the kits are high quality• Easy to use technology which can be assigned through Google Classroom• Provides an easy to follow roadmap for teachers• Great technology• Lots of opportunity for students to write about their observations, investigations, connections and conclusions• Integrated science curriculum is strong• NGSS standards

Cons:

- Weak phenomena in most scopes
- Difficult to navigate technology
- Unable to “autosave”
- Overlapping assignments/lessons
- Lessons do not progress in a cohesive manner
- Videos shorts
- Summative assessments weak- gaps in concepts
- Weak vocabulary integration

Cons:

- CCC's and SEP's are not clearly defined in each lesson
- Difficult to evaluate a hands-on program through online learning.
- Felt like the teacher module was difficult to navigate.

Component List

Investigations Guide

[➞ LEARN MORE](#)

The Investigations Guide is the core instructional tool for teachers and provides them with the support and strategies to successfully facilitate FOSS investigations.

Teacher Resources

[➞ LEARN MORE](#)

Teacher Resources guides teachers in the instructional design behind **FOSS Middle School**. This valuable tool includes chapters on assessment, science notebooking, science-centered language development, and more along with all teaching masters.

Equipment Kits

[➞ LEARN MORE](#)

Each **FOSS Middle School** module features an equipment kit with all the necessary materials to complete each investigation and enough consumable materials for five class uses.

Technology

FOSS Middle School offers a variety of integrated technology resources for teachers and students through the FOSSweb including digital teacher support, interactive simulations and virtual investigations, and other additional resources.

FOSS Science Resources Book

[➞ LEARN MORE](#)

FOSS Science Resources is a book of original readings, called articles, developed to accompany each module. Students read the articles in the book covering specific concepts as they progress through the module's investigations.

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