Support NGSS Teaching and Learning in your District with Research-Based Evidence

NOW Accepting District Applications for the 2019-20 school year!

Please contact us to learn more: islc_study@wested.org

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Join a study of Amplify Science First Grade Curriculum

An exciting opportunity for districts to join a study that will examine how the Amplify Science Curriculum Materials support literacy-rich NGSS teaching and learning in the early grades.

NOW Accepting District Applications for the 2019-20 school year!

Key benefits for participating districts

- Amplify Science first grade curriculum materials at no cost to schools
- Professional development on the first grade curriculum and NGSS
- Learn best teaching practices related to NGSS instruction

Participate in a landmark study funded by the U.S. Department of Education

Led by WestEd, the study’s goals are to understand classroom implementation and the impact of the first grade curriculum on student achievement and instructional practice.

Findings from this study will help the science education community better understand how well-designed literacy-rich science curriculum materials support NGSS instruction in the early grades.

Amplify Science Elementary curriculum units feature:

- Hands-on investigations
- Engaging media
- Literacy Supports
- Classroom sets of student books & big books for each unit

The research questions are:

1. What is the impact of a literacy-rich first grade science curriculum on learning outcomes in culturally and linguistically diverse school settings?
2. How does the first grade curriculum support teachers in implementing NGSS instruction?

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WestEd, SRI International, RAND, and Lawrence Hall of Science have been awarded a research grant from the U.S. Dept. of Education to design and conduct an independent study to examine the impact of the Amplify Science elementary curriculum on teaching and learning.

The 2-year study is a randomized-controlled trial comparing first grade classrooms that receive the Amplify science curriculum materials and professional development support with classrooms in a “business as usual” (control) condition in several large school districts.

The research team is currently inviting districts to participate in the study that will take place during the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years.

Why conduct a study of Amplify Science?

The first grade materials are ideally suited for a study that aims at the NGSS. Designed by the Lawrence Hall of Science in collaboration with Amplify Education Inc., the units support the science and literacy development of all learners and are specifically designed to be accessible to English language learners. Importantly, the curriculum is aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards and Common Core English Language Arts and Literacy.

This is an exciting opportunity for districts to join a study that will examine the impact of these materials on first grade students’ science and literacy learning.

Study Goals:

- Examine classroom implementation
- Determine impacts on student achievement and instructional practice

Benefits of participation in the study:

Amplify Science Curriculum Materials
First grade curriculum package provided at no cost to all participating districts

Amplify Science Professional Development
Provided at no cost to all participating first grade teachers

Participating teachers will receive stipends for:
- Contributing to the research activities
- Participating in professional development

District stakeholders, teachers, and students will benefit from study reports of:
- Best teaching practices related to NGSS instruction in the early grades, a valuable resource as more teachers adopt Amplify Science
- Descriptions of effective ways to support students’ developing science and literacy proficiencies (aligned with NGSS)
- District-level statistics on student achievement outcomes, including a presentation of topics students had more difficulty mastering

Are you considering adopting Amplify Science Elementary Curricula?

Participating in this study could be a great way to work carefully toward a measured implementation of the Amplify Science materials and at a reduced cost.

This study timeline provides a high-level overview of study activities. Please reach out to Alison K. Billman, Co-Principal Investigator (alison_billman@berkeley.edu) for more information if you are an interested district.

This study is a randomized controlled trial where participating schools will be randomly assigned to implement the first grade literacy-rich science curriculum. The study will take place over the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years.

After the main study concludes in Spring 2021, the remaining first grade teachers receive PD and are provided the full-year Amplify Science curriculum for implementing in the other half of the district’s schools.

An opportunity for school districts to try a staggered curriculum implementation

STUDY TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Now - April '19</th>
<th>District Coordination (Districts plan with study team)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Random assignment of schools to conditions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer '19</td>
<td>• Teachers implementing Amplify receive PD on curriculum materials and NGSS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• District receives 1st grade curriculum materials for schools assigned to Amplify</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall ‘19 - Spring ‘20</td>
<td>• Teachers implement Amplify in their classrooms</td>
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<td>• School-year curriculum PD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall ‘20 - Spring ‘21</td>
<td>• Teachers implement Amplify in their classrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• School-year curriculum PD</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Data collection in all participating classrooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer ‘21</td>
<td>• District receives 1st grade curriculum materials for all remaining schools</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Remaining 1st grade teachers receive curriculum PD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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