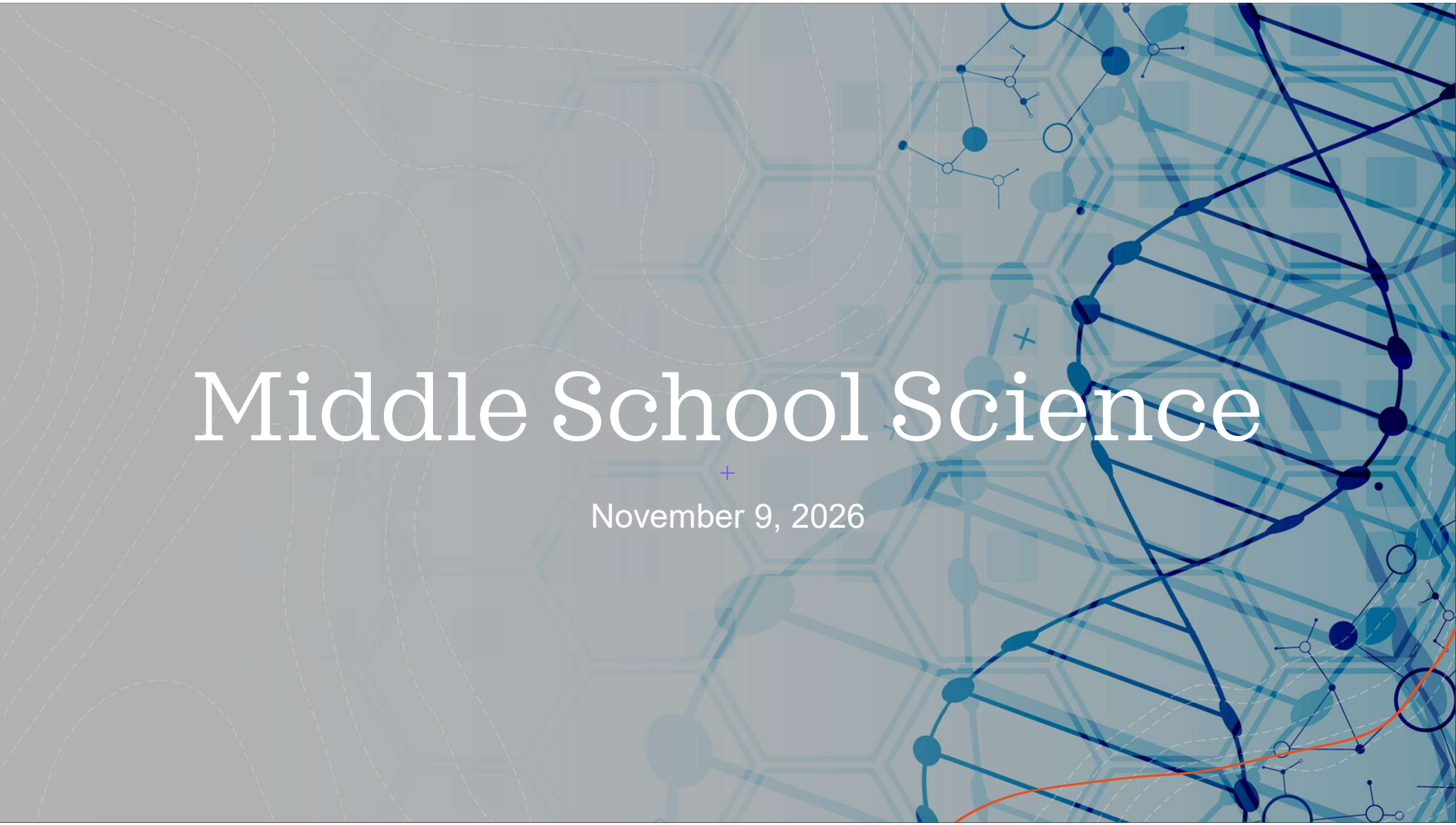
# Middle School Science

November 9, 2026



# Tonight's Goals:

| | |
|---|---|
| Build | Background Knowledge |
| Describe | Current Realities |
| Share | Pilot Process & Timeline |
| Answer | Questions |



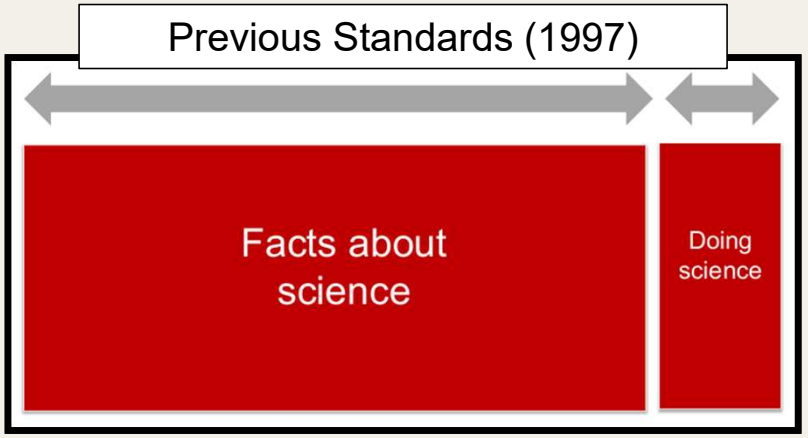
# Illinois Science Learning Standards = Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

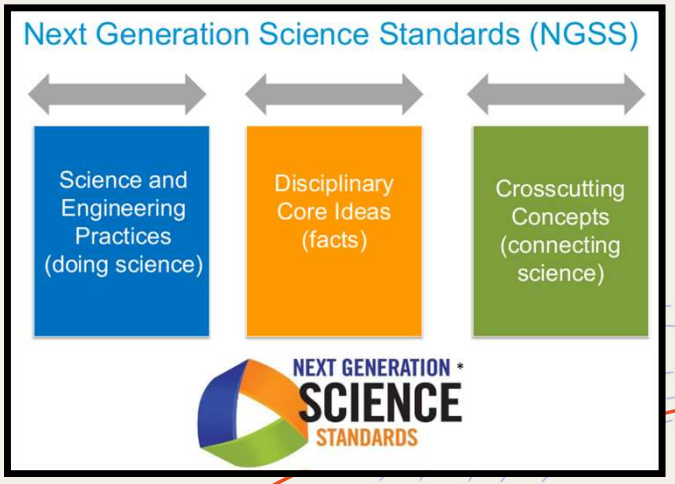
Released for state adoption in 2013.

Illinois officially adopted in ***February 2014***.

Required ***significant shifts*** in instructional practices.

Middle school teachers participated in Geneva's Collaborative Teacher Project (2014-2017).



# Curricular Resource History




## 2008–2016

Pearson *Science Explorer* Curricular Resources

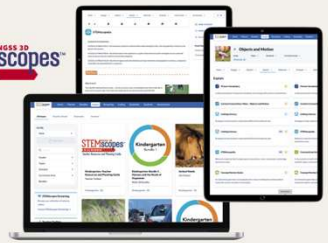
Traditional Textbook & Digital Textbook

(2014)
Illinois Adopted
the NGSS

STEMscopes

All digital

## 2016–2022



## 2022 - Current

*Gizmos* Simulations

Geneva created/curated units and resources based off of STEMscopes.

# Current Realities ~ Why now?

Multiple staffing changes over the last couple of years.

Teachers taking on additional grade-levels or subject areas.

Teachers using personal funds to purchase materials on TPT, etc.

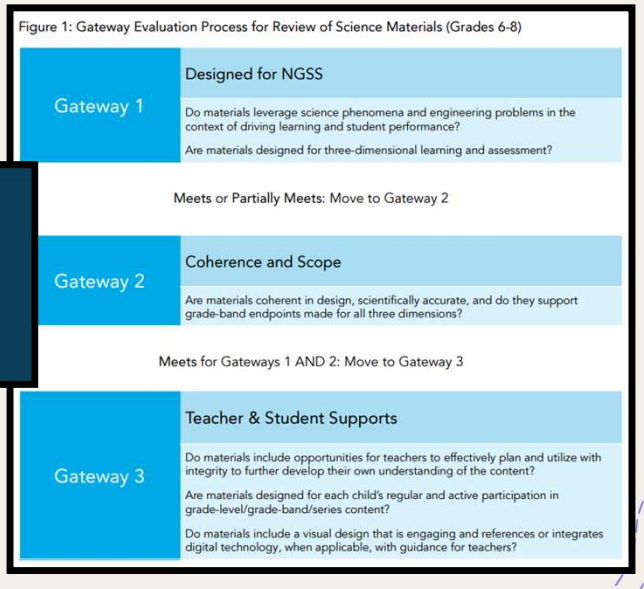
Geneva curated/created units no longer meeting our needs.

Many more NGSS aligned resources on the market than before.

Gizmos subscription ends June 30, 2027.

# How did we identify potential resources?

- District Networking
- EdReports
  - Alignment to Standards
  - Usability
- Learning List
  - Curriculum Review Service
  - Subscription Based ~ Vendors shared their reviews.
- Evidence for ESSA:
  - Identifies the level of evidence under ESSA.
  - Similar to What Works Clearninghouse.




*ESSA = Every Student Succeeds Act

# Pilot Process Timeline

**Winter/Spring 2026**

Gathered Department Feedback
Explored Available Resources
Identified 5 Potential Resources

**September 2026**

5 Vendor Presentations
Selected Two to Pilot

**November 2026-January 2027**

Pilot #1: Savvas ***Experience Science***

**January-March 2027**

Pilot #2: Imagine Learning ***Twig Science***

**April 2027**

Bring Recommendation to the Board
Teachers in Attendance

# What resources did we select to pilot?

*Experience Science*
(Savvas)







*Twig Science*
(Imagine Learning)

Print & Digital Resources
Hands-On Materials
Teacher Manuals
Student Consumable Journals


Questions