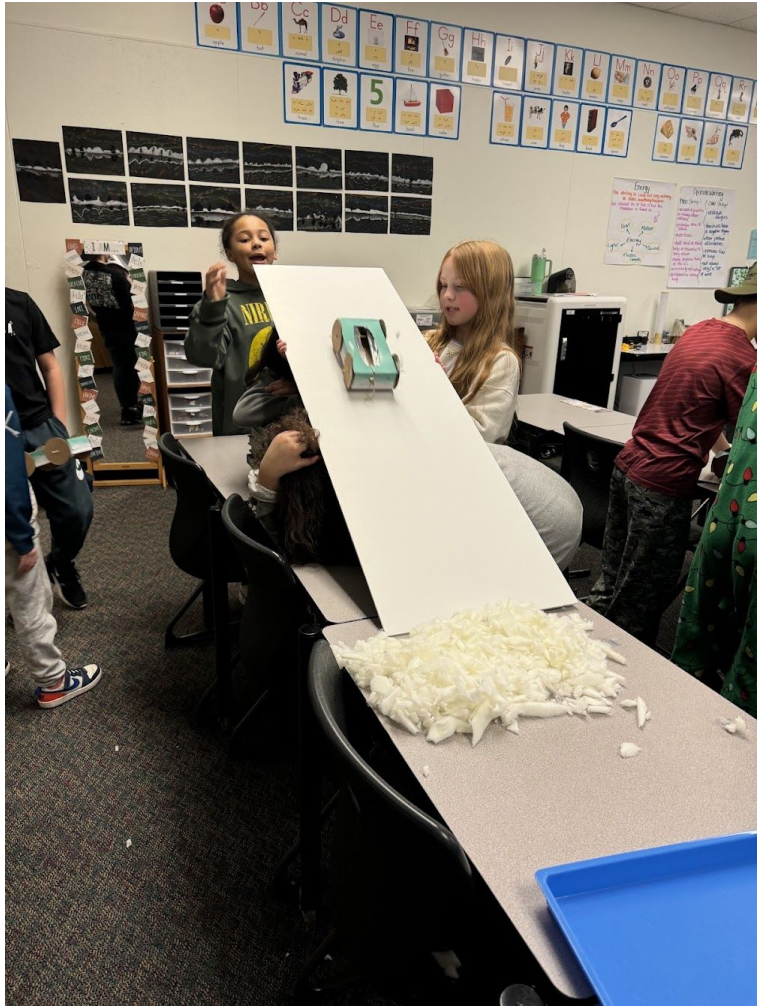


Elementary Science Adoption

2024-25 School Year
for 2026 implementation

Our Why

In alignment with GBSD's Equity Policy, the Adoption Committee's charge is to provide every student with access to a high-quality curriculum grounded in evidenced-based best practices that supports collaborative opportunities embedded within a culturally responsive framework.

State of Oregon Standards

In 2022, the State Board of Education adopted the Oregon Science Standards, which represent K-12 learning expectations in science education for all students and are a foundational expectation of the Oregon Diploma.

“Equity in science education requires that all students are provided with equitable opportunities to learn science and become engaged in science and engineering practices; with access to quality space, equipment, and teachers to support and motivate that learning and engagement; and adequate time spent on science. In addition, the issue of connecting to students’ interests and experiences is particularly important for broadening participation in science.

(National Research Council, 2012)

Elementary Science in GBSD

- Last science adoption was in 2019
- STEMscopes was adopted at the elementary level and will be in place due to our contract through the 2025-26 school year.

Recommendation from ODE

Category 1: Grades K-5	MEETS*	Amplify Education	Amplify Science K-5	2022
Category 1: Grades K-5	MEETS*	Discovery Education	Science Techbook for Oregon K-5	2024
~~Category 1: Grades K-5~~	~~MEETS*~~	~~Great Minds~~	~~PhD Science K-5~~	~~2023~~
Category 1: Grades K-5	MEETS*	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	HMH Into Science K-5	2021
~~Category 1: Grades K-5~~	~~MEETS*~~	~~McGraw Hill~~	~~Inspire Science K-5 with Actively Learn~~	~~2020~~
Category 1: Grades K-5	MEETS*	Twig Education	Twig Science Oregon K-5	2022

First Observation Note Taking Tool (look for tool)

Publisher:

Curriculum:

GBSD Priorities	Evidence of Priorities in the Curriculum
1. Materials have evidence of each part of **3-dimensional learning (SEP, CCC, DCI)** that is intentional, clear, and transparent with students actively and authentically* engaging in science. *From Adoption Team SWOT* & Science Framework*	
2. There are **multiple language (emphasizing Spanish for DLI)*** options for **all parts** of the curriculum. *From Adoption Team SWOT* & Equity Audit*	
3. *Materials include a storyline that begin with ***phenomena/driving questions**, include activities that are relevant, relatable, realistic, and current, and circle back to **summarize the big idea** and data.* *From Adoption Team SWOT* & Science Framework*	
*4. Units embed a ***scaffolded approach** (i.e. sentence frames, reading levels, adjustable math levels) for students to access the science. There are a **variety of opportunities for students to test ideas and revise their thinking and models.** Promotes ways so that **all students can engage in sophisticated ways.*** *From Adoption Team & Science Framework*	
5. Every lesson includes clear **language (EML) goals and targets** and embeds **science vocabulary and strategies in multiple languages*** to engage with multilingual students and DLI program crosslinguistic connections. *From Adoption Team SWOT* & GBSD Equity Audit*	

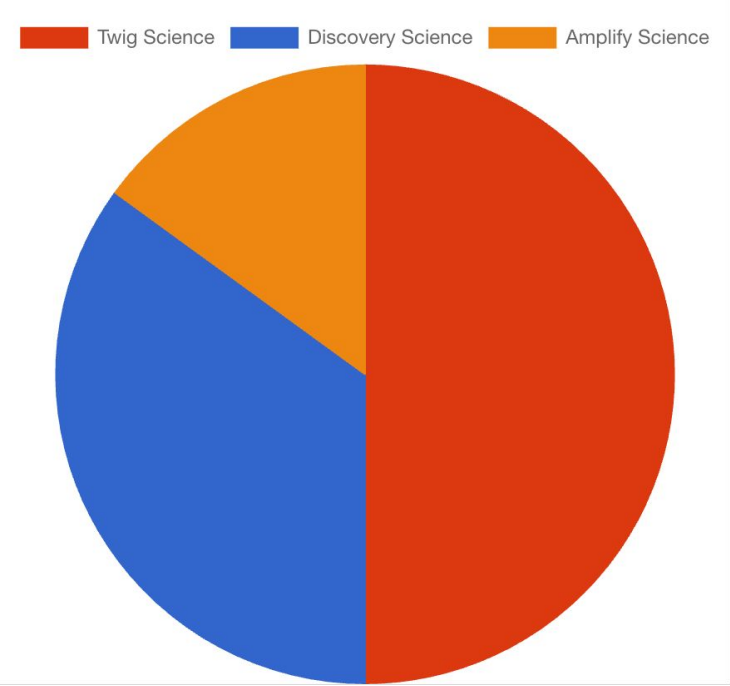
Look Fors

Created by the adoption team and the GBSD Equity Audit

Community Feedback

November 2024

Data



Feedback

Twig Science:

- It has more pictures and colorful. It has basic information and keeps it simple
- Looks like Wonders, our reading curriculum
- I would like to make sure that they have some hands on practice so the learning is not only based on reading because it can be boring for them

Discovery Science:

- The pictures draw me in. It seems to walks you through the experiments/labs
- Felt familiar to what parents had in school
- My community is not represented

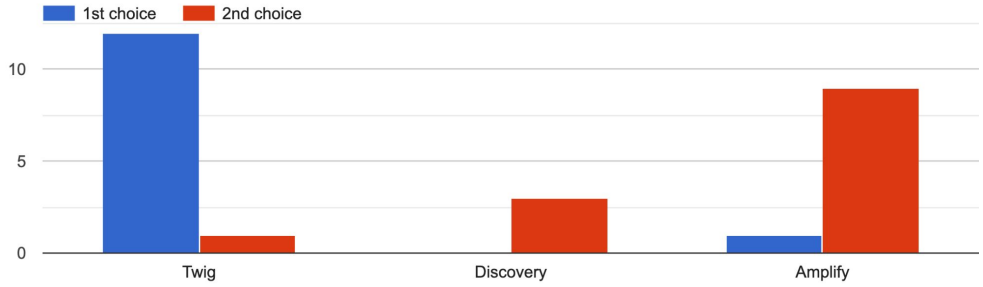
Amplify Science:

- It looks more like science
- It isn't distracting - it was easier for me to see the materials and not get distracted by the busy
- I don’t like this because it requires two books

Narrowing to Two Curriculums to Pilot

Data

Vote for your top 2 curriculum to move forward.



Feedback

Twig Science:

- It has many colorful graphics to support learning
- Like our reading curriculum and text can be annotated
- Spanish materials for students and Spanish teacher's guide

Discovery Science:

- The Teacher's Guide seems easy to follow and has STEM project starters. Lack of editable slides.
- Lacking supports for differentitation
- Spanish materials for students, but lacking quality - English videos dubbed over in Spanish. No Spanish teacher's guide

Amplify Science:

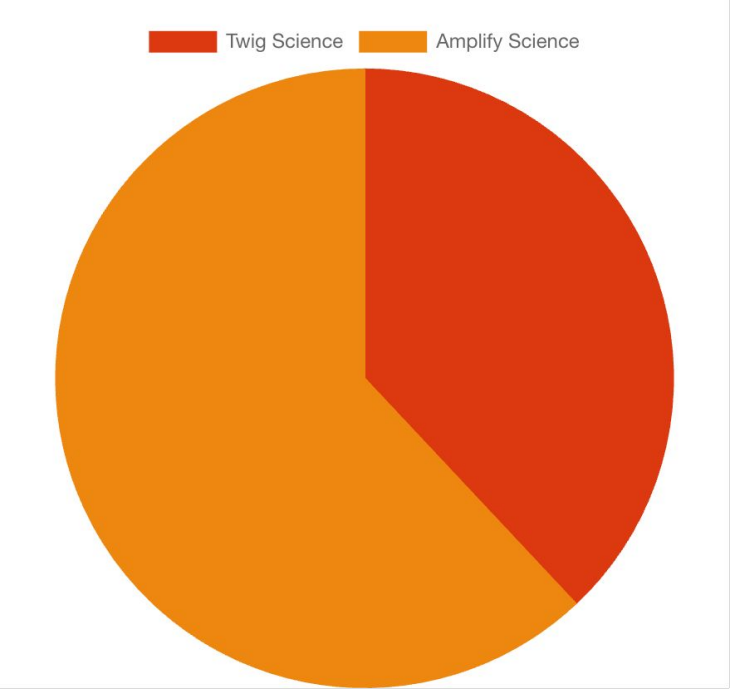
- Editable Google Slides and easy to use platform
- Clear storyline format
- Family connection letters available
- Spanish materials for students. No Spanish teacher's guide

December 2024

Student Feedback

January-April 2025

Data



Feedback

Twig Science:

- I like the pictures in the books.
- I wish there wasn't so much reading and writing - sometimes there was too much in the lesson.
- The videos were good and helped me learn
- The hands-on lessons were fun. I learned a lot.

Amplify Science:

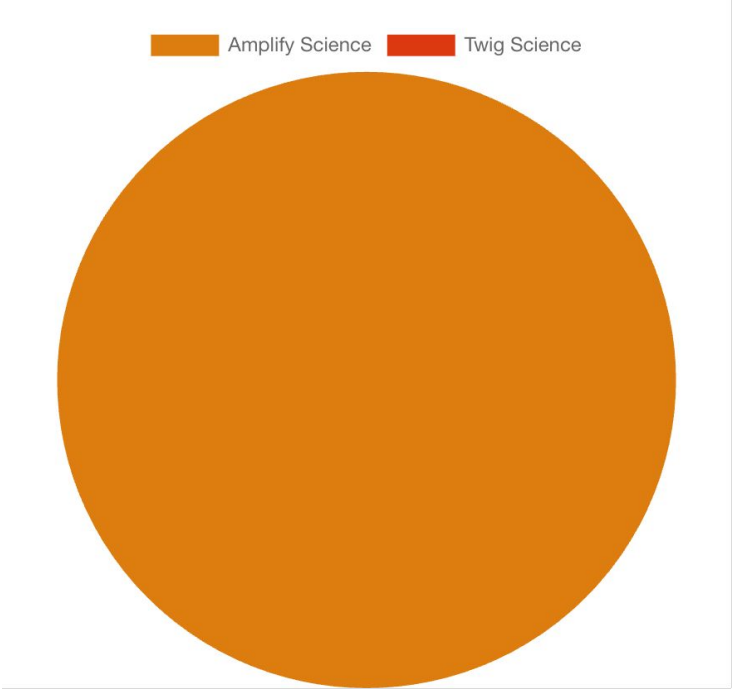
- I feel like there was more making connections with real life/phenomena and the question we were trying to solve was more evident.
- This curriculum was not too colorful or busy/distracting.
- The simulator and coding activities with this curriculum (for 4th and 5th graders) were really engaging.
- There seemed to be more interesting topics and the hands-on labs were fun.

Teacher Feedback

January-April 2025

Team Decision

Data



Feedback

Twig Science:

- Storyline/Phenomena not clear/connected throughout the unit
- The Teacher's Guide is in Spanish, but not all of the videos for students are. All student print materials are in Spanish for students.
- Student workbook contained some picture support and all of the reading is included (whereas separate in Amplify), which tended to be overwhelming

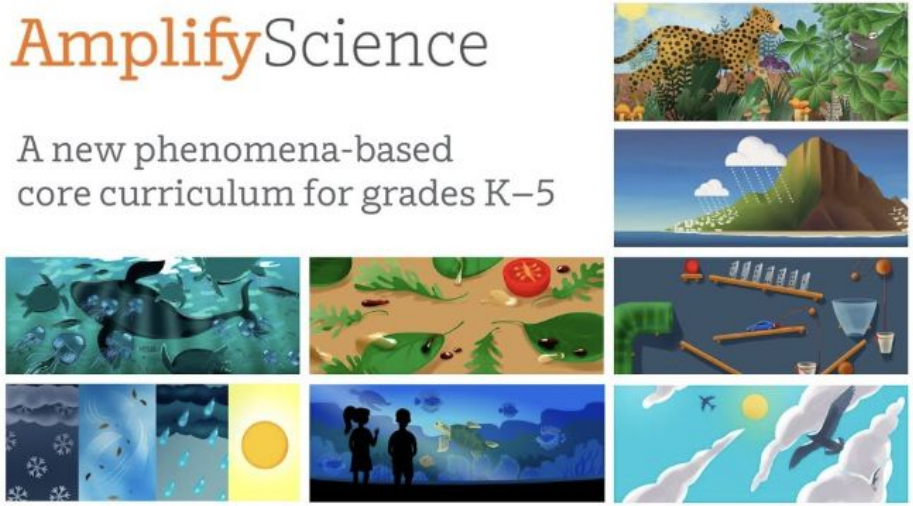
Amplify Science:

- Clearer objectives and connections to science for students
- The Teacher's Guide is not in Spanish. The Slide notes for DLI classrooms are in Spanish and there are Spanish (and English) vocabulary cards and other card sets to support language learning.
- The ease of use for teachers was more apparent in this curriculum (slides, lesson plans, online portal…)

Team Decision

May 2025

Recommendation



Thank you!

Heidi Lasher
Executive Director of Teaching & Learning

Inspire, Empower, THRIVE