Leon County Schools Adoption Rubric 2024-2025

Company: __Accelerate Learning Inc.__   Course: _____

Book Title: __STEMscopes Science Florida__

0	1	2	3
Shows no evidence of meeting LCS standards	Shows minimal evidence of meeting LCS standards	Shows adequate evidence of meeting LCS standards	Shows overwhelming evidence of meeting LCS standard

Review Criteria	Comments (Cite specific examples with page numbers)	Score
CONTENT		
Does the product align to the Florida State Academic Standards for Science?	All content is written to the Florida's State Academic Standards for Science. Each scope (chapter) also includes alignment to Related Access Points, B.E.S.T. English Language Arts & Math Standards, and English Language Development Standards. To view the aligned benchmarks, click on any scope > Standards > Scroll down the page.	3
Is there a logical progression and organization of the materials?	The material is presented in a logical progression and in an order that makes sense for instruction. To view our suggested scope order, click on the Blue Resources tab > Planning with STEMscopes > Suggested Scope Order > View Files > Select desired resource. To assist with building students' conceptual understanding, we provide spiral opportunities for every scope. To view this, click on any scope > Home > Scroll down to the Spiral Opportunity. A vertical alignment is also provided for every scope to show what a student learned in a previous grade (Flashback) and/or what the student will learn in a future grade (Fast Forward). To view this, click on any scope > Standards > Scroll down to Vertical Alignment of Science Standards.	3
Does each unit provide opportunities for engagement, exploration, explanation, elaboration and evaluation (5Es)?	STEMscopes Science is based on research and best practices in education following the 5E Instructional Model where students construct scientific ideas through engaging scientific content as the teacher facilitates the learning through all parts of the 5E lesson cycle. Our curriculum immerses students in the 5Es on a daily basis. To view our 5E lesson components, click on any scope > Select desired "E" from across the blue banner.	3
Does the product provide activities, questions, and materials that reflect the rigor demanded by Webb's Depth of Knowledge?	The curriculum was designed to represent the cognitive complexity levels designated by the grade level benchmarks. The assessment questions reflect a balance between low, moderate, and high cognitive complexity. To view the Depth of Knowledge level of our Scope Assessment questions, click on any scope > Evaluate > View Files > Answer Key.	3

Does the product provide quality multimedia and online resources that make text connections to content more explicit?	A variety of multimedia and online resources are embedded throughout our curriculum to assist students with making connections to the Science content. Natural phenomena can be found in the Engage, Explore, Explain, & Evaluate sections of every scope to assist teachers with facilitating a connection between the content and real-world phenomena. In addition, the Elaborate tab includes Content Connection videos and virtual interactives. To view this, click on any scope > Elaborate > Content Connections Videos or Virtual Experience.	3
Is scaffolding provided to help students connect real world examples to concepts?	Scaffolded support is provided throughout our 5E lesson plans so that teachers have multiple strategies to teach the concepts and help students connect real-world examples to the concepts.	3
Is there meaningful alignment of diagrams, illustrations, graphs, and maps to text materials?	The diagrams, illustrations, graphs, etc. featured throughout the program are aligned and are designed to engage students, as well as support understanding of the content.	3
Does the product provide real-world and cross-curricular applications?	Real-world and cross-curricular activities are integrated throughout our platform for each of the 5Es. Our scopes include literacy components, such as our STEMscopedia (student text), Science Today (Associated Press articles), Reading Science and Writing Science. To assist with data literacy, we provide Math Connections, Tuva real-world datasets, and PhET simulations. STEM Choice Boards and Science Art activities are also provided in our Acceleration section.	3
Does the text show a respect of and value for diverse cultures, races, and ethnicities?	The content fairly represents people of various groups in an unbiased manner. All content is designed to represent the diverse nature of classrooms. Imagery and names include diversity of ethnic groups and representation of scientists and engineers from all backgrounds.	3
Differentiation resources provided for ELLS, struggling readers, students w/ disabilities, and advanced learners?	A variety of resources and activities included in the curriculum provide the opportunity for teachers to meet the needs of all learners from embedded English Language Learner supports (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced/Advanced High) and tiered intervention (Tiers 1-3) strategies to additional intervention and acceleration options. To view our Language Supports and our Tiered Differentiation Strategies, click on any scope > Engage/Explore/Explain/Elaborate/Evaluate > Select desired resource. To view our Intervention or Acceleration activities, click on any scope > Intervention or Acceleration > Select desired resource.	3

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TEACHER MATERIALS		
Do ancillary materials offer valuable content support for teachers who use them?	All components, including ancillary products are embedded within the curriculum at point of need. Teacher supports with facilitation points and directions for the resources are provided.	3
Are the teacher's digital resources easy to access, use, and manipulate? Does tech support appear to be user-friendly?	The platform is user-friendly and easy to navigate. Our digital resources enhance and compliment instruction. Assignments, if assigned digitally, will be auto graded for the teacher. If needed, tech support is available by simply clicking on the Feedback button located at the bottom of the screen.	3
The teacher guide provides information that would aid new teachers and veterans in their instructional approach in the classroom?	The curriculum is comprehensive to meet all needs for teaching the course including formative and summative assessments, step-by-step facilitation points, visuals, student handouts, and extension and cross-curricular activities.	3
Do the physical attributes (size, weight, etc.)? of the print text provide for mobility and ease of use?	Yes, the physical attributes of the print text provide for mobility and ease of use.	3
Does the digital text provide adequate functionality for whole-class instruction, including but not limited to annotating text, enlarging and minimizing, audio reading of text, translating to other languages, copying into text document, changing colors, etc.?	The platform is designed to fully meet the needs of the teachers and students interacting with the curriculum. All users are able to set accessibility settings in their profile that allow them to set up the environment to best fit their needs, including font size and type, background theme and the ability to adjust the speaking rate using our text-to-speech tool. Users also have the ability to highlight and comment on the content pages. Students have an expanded list of accessibility features such as additional color schemes for the page, annotation tools, including sticky notes, a notepad, and a drawing tool to allow them to mark up their assignments regardless of the question type. In addition, teachers and students can easily toggle between English and Spanish or utilize our Google Translate button to translate to 200+ languages.	3
Does the product provide an effective digital planning tool as well as standard lesson plan templates?	The STEMscopes Planning Guide, located on the side-menu of any scope, provides teachers with a Suggested Scope Calendar that is broken down by day and includes the 5E phase, along with the suggested activities and assessment options. Teachers have options when lesson planning with STEMscopes Science. They can simply print our included step-by-step lesson facilitation points as is or download it as a Word document and edit as needed. Teachers also have access to our Lesson Planning Guide that can be accessed by clicking on the blue Resources tab > Planning with STEMscopes > Lesson Planning Guide.	3

Does the product include suggested activities and resources to accommodate advanced learners, struggling readers, ESE students, and/or second language learners?	A variety of resources and activities included in the curriculum provide the opportunity for teachers to meet the needs of all learners from embedded English Language Learner supports and tiered differentiation strategies to additional intervention and acceleration options.	3
Is each unit and lesson accompanied by useful interactive presentations, test banks, virtual and hands-on labs, relevant videos, literacy strategies for the content area, and online support?	The curriculum is comprehensive and includes a multitude of teacher supports and resources to assist teachers with their daily instruction. Hands-on and virtual labs, Content Connection videos, Phet simulations, Tuva real-world data set activities and embedded literacy strategies are some of the resources included for each scope. Teachers have access to our test item bank where they can create and customize assessments based on their specific needs. To view our Assessment Bank, click on the brown More tab at the top of the page > Assessment Bank.	3
Text provided has quality, detailed sample answers for questions included in the student edition?	Quality sample student responses are provided for the questions that are embedded throughout the curriculum.	3

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STUDENT MATERIALS		
Does the text have appropriate readability for the grade-level and subject matter?	Materials for our grade-specific scopes were written to appropriately meet student grade level and ability based on that grade level.	3
Is the text written to engage students in the specified content and skills referenced in the standards?	STEMscopes Science Florida scopes were designed to focus on Florida's grade-specific content and Nature of Science benchmarks. All scope components and content were written to match those benchmarks.	3
Are there alternative text materials or support resources for students who struggle with reading the text?	To assist with all students accessing the informational text, embedded before, during and after reading activities are included with our STEMscopedia (student text) along with our Interactive Science Notebook pages that include anticipation guides, Stop and Jots, graphic organizers, concept maps, etc. We also provide a Reading Science below level reading passage for every scope. To view our on level and below level reading passages, click on any scope > Elaborate > Reading Science > View Files > Student Handout – OL or BL.	3
Do the print and digital texts provide tools to help define vocabulary and support background knowledge so students can better understand content?	Numerous resources are available on our platform to support students acquiring and utilizing academic and scientific vocabulary. We provide Multiple Meaning Word Charts, Vocabulary in Context, Interactive Word Wall activities with Picture Vocabulary slides, Kahoot! Picture Vocabulary games, and Science Rock songs. To view the multiple meaning word charts, click on any scope > Engage > Pre-Assessment and Accessing Prior Knowledge > Scroll down the page. To view the Interactive Word Wall activities, click on any scope > Explain > Picture Vocabulary. To view the Picture Vocabulary slides from this page, click on the View Files. To view the Science Rock songs, click on any 3-8 scope > Intervention > Science Rock. Our student text, the STEMscopedia assists students with making connections between their hands-on learning experiences and the science content they are learning in class. The text includes features like, vocabulary callouts, images and diagrams, real-world connections and virtual field trips to assist students with understanding the content.	3
Do the digital and print texts provide ease of use and accessibility to all students, including but not limited to annotating text, enlarging and minimizing, audio reading of text, translating to other languages, copying into text document, changing colors, etc.?	The platform is designed to fully meet the needs of students interacting with the curriculum. All users are able to set accessibility settings in their profile that allow them to set up the environment to best fit their needs, including font size and type, background theme and the ability to adjust the speaking rate using our text-to-speech tool. Users also have the ability to highlight and comment on the content pages. Students have access to annotation tools, including sticky notes, a notepad, and a drawing tool to allow them to mark up their assignments regardless of the question type. In addition, students can	3

	easily toggle between English and Spanish or utilize our Google Translate button to translate to 200+ languages.	
Are there opportunities for meaningful project-based learning or extensions for standards taught in each unit?	Extensions and project-based learning opportunities are provided in our Elaborate and Acceleration tabs of the platform. Cross-curricular and STEM-based activities with real-world applications are provided in our Elaborate Section. STEM Choice Boards, found in our Acceleration tab, provide additional extension activities teachers can choose to use with their students.	3
Does the text contain interesting graphics and other meaningful text features that command the students' attention?	Diagrams, illustrations, graphs, etc. are embedded throughout the platform and are designed to engage and capture the students' attention, as well as support understanding of content.	3
Do the units and chapters contain comprehension questions that prompt students to think about how concepts are applied to the real world?	Questions to promote scientific discourse and reasoning and real-world application are included at point of need throughout the curriculum. In addition, each scope has Question Prompts provided at different levels of Bloom's Taxonomy and Webb's Depth of Knowledge to check for student understanding at any point during the scope. To view our Question Prompts, click on any scope > Question Prompts.	3
Are additional readings provided in each unit and lesson study?	In addition to our STEMscopedia, more reading opportunities can be found in our Elaborate tab of every scope. Our Science Today articles, written by The Associated Press, provide real-world connections and applications. Reading passages in two Lexile levels are also provided through our Reading Science activities. To view these resources, click on any scope > Elaborate > Science Today or Reading Science.	3
Are the print and online texts available in other languages?	All print resources are available in both English and Spanish. In addition, students can easily toggle between English and Spanish or utilize our Google Translate button to translate to 200+ languages when accessing the content via the online platform.	3

Review Criteria	Comments (Cite specific examples with page numbers)	Score
ASSESSMENT		
Does the program include multiple assessments (e.g., multiple choice, short answer questions, longer essays, performance-based tasks, etc.) in print and digital form?	All assessments are available digitally and in print. Beginning and End of Year Assessments are designed to measure learning based on the benchmarks addressed in each grade level. Pre-Assessments are five-question multiple choice assessments that assess students' current knowledge of the content covered in the scope. Pulse Checks are game-like assessments to help measure comprehension of scope concepts. Claim-Evidence-Reasoning (CER) tasks are writing assessments in which students write a scientific explanation to show their understanding of the concepts using evidence. Concept Attainment Quizzes are formative assessments to be utilized after intervention has taken place. Scope Assessments are ten-question standards-based assessments containing question types that reflect Florida's Statewide Science Assessment. Our digital assessments include technology-enhanced questions, such as drag and drop, multi-select, hot spots, text entry, constructed response.	3
Do the assessments align to the Florida Academic Standards for Science (2008)?	Scope Assessments strategies and resources are aligned to Florida's Academic Standards for Science grade-specific benchmark content and cognitive complexity ratings. To view this, click on any scope > Evaluate > Scope Assessment > View Files > Answer Key.	3
Are formative assessment tasks aligned to standards provided throughout each lesson and unit?	Formative assessments are provided for each scope. In addition, all teachers have access to our test item bank where they can create and customize their own formative assessments based on need. All digital assessments can be assigned and graded electronically.	3
Do the assessments represent content reading questions (like the statewide assessment)?	Assessment questions reflect Florida's Statewide Science Assessment and follow the Test Item Specifications provided by the Florida Department of Education.	3
For assessment items requiring extensive responses, are exemplary responses provided to guide teacher evaluation of student work?	Exemplary responses are provided for applicable assessments and item types. To view this for our Claim-Evidence-Reasoning tasks, click on Evaluate > Claim-Evidence-Reasoning > View Files > Answer Key.	3
Are rubrics included for performance assessment items?	The curriculum includes rubrics for our Elaborate activities, Claim-Evidence-Reasoning tasks, and Open-Ended Response questions. To view our CER rubrics, click on any scope > Evaluate > CER > View Files > Student Handout.	3
Is Progress monitoring built into the online platform?	Each scope provides a variety of formal and informal assessment strategies and assessments at point of need that allow for frequent opportunities to assess student understanding of the aligned benchmarks. Diagnostic assessments are available as a Beginning of Year	3

	assessment or at the scope level as Pre-Assessments. Formative assessments are available throughout all lessons in the curriculum. Pulse Checks are our mid-scope assessments. Summative assessments are available in the Evaluate tab. In addition, teachers have access to an additional test item bank where they can create and customize their own assessments based on need. End of year assessments are also provided. To view our Beginning of Year or End of Year Assessments, click on the blue Resources tab at the top of the page > Evaluate: Assessments > BOY and EOY Assessments > View Files> Select desired assessment.	
Is there a specific test preparation workbook with assessment questions modeled for Florida specific testing?	To assist with test preparation for the Grade 8 Statewide Science Assessment and Biology EOC, all teachers have access to our test item bank where they can create and customize their own assessments based on need. All assessment items show an alignment to the benchmark content and follow the Test Item Specifications provided by the Florida Department of Education. To view our Assessment Bank, click on the brown More tab at the top of the page > Assessment Bank.	3