The

Amplify Science

Newsletter

CELEBRATING

ASIAN AMERICAN &

PACIFIC ISLANDER

HERITAGE MONTH

In celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May, we encourage you to spark conversations about how Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have contributed to the culture, history, and achievements of the United States. Download and display this virtual background as you introduce your students to a few of the many AAPI scientists featured in Amplify Science:

- **Meet a scientist who studies natural selection**
- **Meet an engineer who prints in 3-D with living material**
- **Ideas and Inventors**

2021-2022: transitioning back to classroom learning

Your return to your classroom in 2021-2022 is likely to be a return to something that feels more like normal. This includes returning to teaching the standard Amplify Science curriculum. We're here to provide a refresher on all the things you may love about Amplify Science but may have had a year away from as you taught from our @Home materials.

Standard Platform Resources

So, you are back on the full Amplify Science platform: where do you even start?

- **First, get excited because you have access to materials again!** You will want to open up your boxes and inventory your materials and start prepping for the unit ahead. You will find the list of the kit materials and teacher provided materials in the Materials and Prep section.
- **Next, open up those coherence flow charts.** If you are new to the unit you may want to access the unit map and the science background documents as well, but if you are an experienced user

you can head to the coherence flow chart to review how the investigations connect and build as well as familiarize yourself with what was removed or shortened in the home units**.**
- **Then you can take a look at some new resources you will actually have time to explore!** For example, eliciting and leveraging student's lived experiences, our experiences and what we think we know activities and family connections letters and activities for every unit.

Transitioning from @Home to Full Resources

So you appreciated the hands-on experiences. Our standard curriculum has more hands-on experiences included than our @Home units. For guidance on providing even more hands-on opportunities, we recommend consulting our *Flextensions* documents on the unit landing page in some units Grade 2-8.

So you loved the shorter lesson times. We have resources that can help you manage your time within the standard units so you can get through the full-length lessons and not miss anything. We recommend starting with the *lesson overview compilation* so you can consider how to break lessons apart to fit them into your science block.

So your students will need more social and emotional support during the coming school year. We have multiple ways of supporting students' social and emotional health and development built right into the standard curriculum. The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning identifies five competencies that support SEL.

- *Self awareness:* Students are consistently prompted within lessons to consider their individual assets such as their prior knowledge.
- *Self-management:* All units support students learning to set personal or collective goals.
- *Social awareness:* The standard curriculum makes space for students to recognize family, school, and community issues as well as resources, particularly when confronting problems and designing solutions.
- *Relationship skills:* Students have many opportunities for peer communication and collaborative problem-solving at all grade levels.
- *Responsible decision-making:* Particularly in design solution units, students get good practice evaluating solutions and arguments based on evidence.

Access to Home Resources

Don't worry even though we are going back to the standard curriculum, the program hub resources aren't going away. They will be available throughout the 2021-2022 school year.
- Use the videos as models to view a lesson start to finish, as a supplement/homework for your students or assign it when you or a student is absent
- Use the pacing guides as an example of how to make instructional decisions if you are running into scheduling challenges
- Use the professional learning tab to support new colleagues in onboarding, planning for a unit or looking for additional planning resources

Coming soon to a podcast feed near you

Amplify is pleased to present Science Matters, a new podcast about science teaching and learning. In an ever-changing world full of new phenomena to explore, new discoveries to make, and new learning standards to meet, science education has never looked more different from its past. How are K–12

educators keeping up with these changes, and how are they preparing their students to be the next generation of 21st-century scientists?

Join us to hear how educators inside and outside of classrooms are braving this new world and inspiring kids across the country to love learning science—and to learn how you can bring that magic into your classroom.

Key updates for back to school

We hope you'll be as excited about these important program updates as we are! Click below for in-depth details on the product improvements, new features, and additional options we're adding for the new school year.

What's new for Amplify Science >

STEM career discussion activity

Download these **classroom slides** to begin discussions around what STEM jobs look like in our communities.

How do people use STEM in their lives and careers? >

Kit component ordering

Are you looking to restock supplies for your materials kits? Amplify has made commonly requested kit components available to order online. Here's a **simple form** you can use!

Educator Spotlight Series

Did you miss any of the sessions featuring Amplify Science teachers talking about their experience with the program through a unique topical lens (such as literacy integration, remote learning, or student connections)? You can watch all **six webinars on demand**!
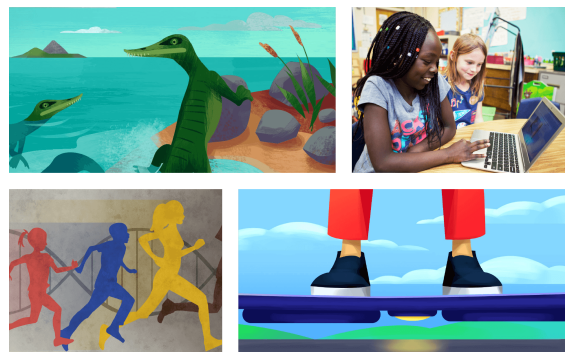
Calendar

Webinar Series

Finish a school year unlike any other with free professional development in a series of webinars from the curriculum experts at Amplify and UC Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science.

Sessions include:

- **Leading with Phenomena: Mystery in Desert Rocks Canyon** on Tuesday, May 25 at 3 p.m. ET
- **Evidence in the Era of NGSS** on Thursday, May 27 at 4 p.m. ET
- **Establishing a Culture of Figuring Out** on Tuesday, June 8 at 3 p.m. ET

- **Coding Science Internship Showcase** on Thursday, June 10 at 4 p.m. ET

Sign up today›

Use Stimulus Funding to Accelerate Student Learning

Wednesday, May 26
4 p.m. ET

Free
webinar

The new federal funding from ESSER III, or the American Rescue Plan, includes $122 billion in support for K–12 schools and educators. How can you use these resources to help students get caught up—and accelerate their future success? Our experts are here to show you.

Register now >.

Advice and answers

Classroom Slides
Amplify Science Classroom Slides are designed to make it easier for you to prepare for and present lessons. **Here are some helpful hints.**

Historical uptime for Amplify Science during the month of April was 100%. **Learn more about uptime and how to stay informed.**

Spotlight

Diane Clark, Chico Unified School District, CA

"This is my 34th year of teaching, and my last. The Amplify Science premade slide made it invaluable. My students loved learning about worms and many wanted more information about worm farms."

Do you know an Amplify educator who deserves some recognition?

Each featured educator will receive a special gift from us.

Submit a nomination!

Let's connect

Shad Lacefield shared a post.
20h ·

I know the school year is almost over but a promise is a promise! Another week another costume. I appreciate all the teachers in this group who are so encouraging to me as I keep this fun tradition going. Hang in there!

LET'S TALK COMMUNICATION

Shad Lacefield from Fayette County, Kentucky, shared on the **Amplify Science Facebook** group how he inspires his students by dressing up as popular characters.

Join the group to see what character Shad will disguise himself as next and to share what you are doing to spark passion in your students.

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