

WHAT'S NEW

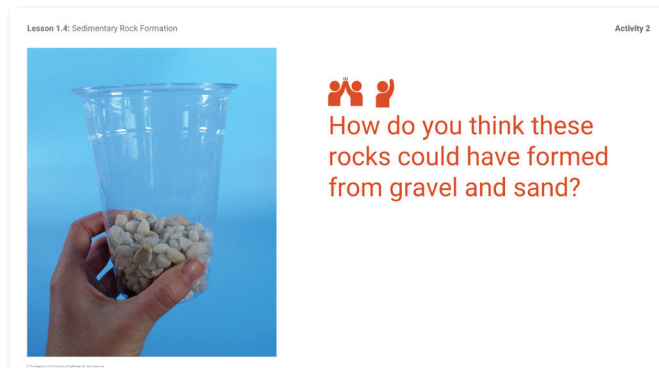
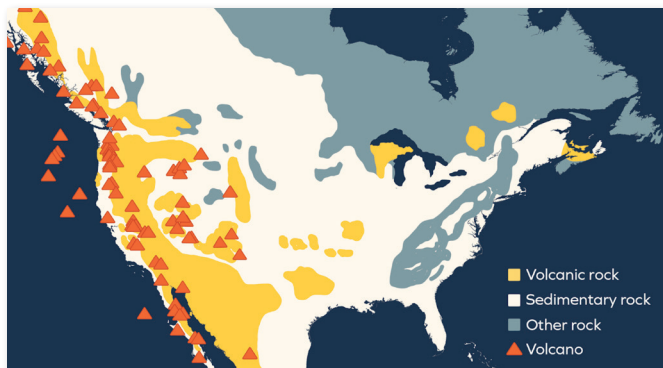
Back to school 2019

Back to school 2019 is here! This document will outline the changes you need to be aware of to be successful with the 2019 version of Amplify Science.



Classroom Slides

To make planning and delivering Amplify Science K–5 lessons faster and easier, we’re developing new Classroom Slides for all K–5 lessons. Each lesson will have a downloadable and editable PowerPoint file to help guide teachers and their students through the lesson with clearly sequenced, engaging, and easy-to-follow images, videos, questions, and instructions.



Classroom Slides will allow teachers to easily customize their lessons and streamline the in-class presentation experience. With Slides, teachers no longer have to balance opening their step-by-step instructions in one tab (or having their printed Teacher’s Guide open) and their projections in another. Slides take all lesson content*—including student-facing questions, teacher prompts, activity transitions, and visuals—and put it in a logical sequence. At any time, teachers can feel free to change up the wording, paste in a new visual, or link to their favorite YouTube video.

Slides will be ready in the following units on August 1, 2019:

- Kindergarten: Needs of Plants and Animals
- Grade 1: Animal and Plant Defenses
- Grade 2: Plant and Animal Relationships
- Grade 3: Balancing Forces
- Grade 4: Energy Conversions
- Grade 5: Patterns of Earth and Sky

Slides for subsequent units will roll out over the course of the 2019–20 school year. Amplify is committed to rolling out the units in time for teachers to use them, assuming that their schools are following the recommended Amplify Science K–5 scope and sequence.

2019–20 rollout schedule:

- First unit of each grade: August 2019
- Second unit of each grade: October 2019
- Third unit of each grade: January 2020
- Fourth unit of each grade: March 2020

*Classroom Slides match the intent, pedagogy, and general structure of existing content closely. However, users will note small differences between the language used in the print/digital Teacher’s Guides and the Slides themselves.

Hands-on Flextensions

For fall 2019, we are adding optional investigations called Hands-on Flextensions. These new additional investigations give teachers the flexibility to incorporate more hands-on focused activities into select units, if time permits.

As part of our commitment to offering a dynamic product—one that evolves with the changing needs of educators—we are adding even more hands-on investigations to select units of Amplify Science.

When teachers go back to school in fall 2019, they will find these new hands-on investigation activities, as well as suggestions on how to seamlessly integrate them into instruction.

As an Amplify Science user, you will automatically gain access to new activities starting in 2019.

Materials referenced in Hands-on Flextension activities will either be included in the unit kit or easily sourced. Supporting resources such as instructional guidance and student sheets will be included as downloadable PDF files.

For a video walkthrough of finding these resources as well as more information on the Flextensions, visit my.amplify.com/help/amplify-science/hands-on-flextensions.

For back to school 2019, Amplify Science will add new Hands-on Flextension activities to the following units:

Grades K–5

Grade 2

- Plant and Animal Relationships

Grade 3

- Environments and Survival
- Inheritance and Traits
- Weather and Climate

Grade 4

- Earth's Features
- Vision and Light
- Energy Conversions
- Waves, Energy, and Information

Grade 5

- The Earth System
- Ecosystem Restoration
- Patterns of Earth and Sky



Grades 6–8

Earth & Space Science

- Plate Motion
- Rock Transformation
- Ocean, Atmosphere, and Climate
- Weather Patterns
- Earth's Changing Climate

Life Science

- Microbiome
- Metabolism
- Metabolism: Engineering Internship
- Traits and Reproduction
- Populations and Resources
- Matter and Energy in Ecosystems
- Natural Selection
- Evolutionary History

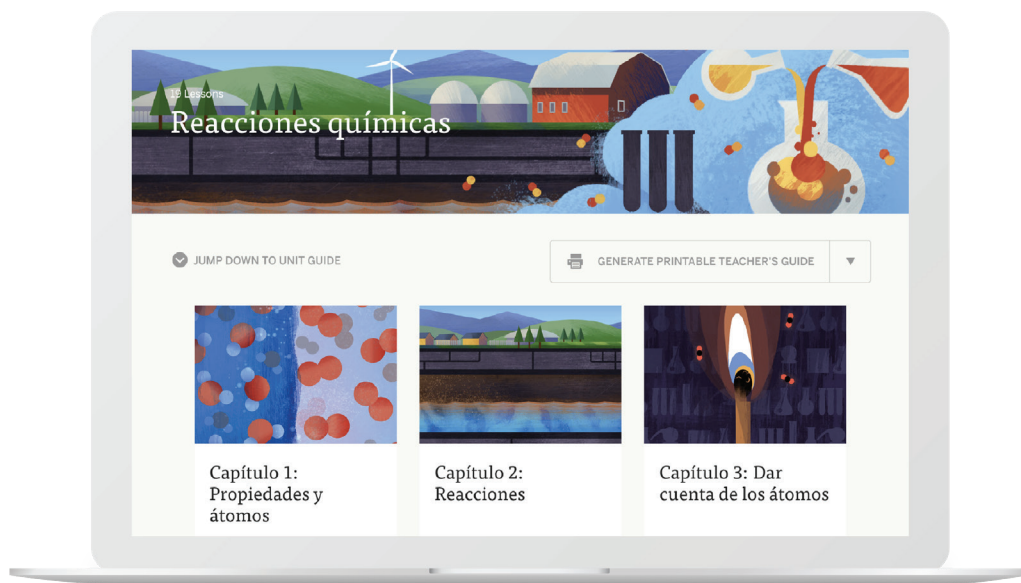
Physical Science

- Harnessing Human Energy
- Magnetic Fields
- Thermal Energy
- Phase Change
- Chemical Reactions



Additional Spanish supports

New Spanish supports (available as purchased add-on licenses) give K–8 teachers access to the following additional materials in Spanish: lesson projections, PDFs of print materials (including wall materials, Student Investigation Notebooks, assessments, and more), and recommended in-class “teacher talk” moments. Students in grades 6–8 who access their lessons digitally can now access fully translated digital student activities and articles.



Amplify Science already offers Spanish translations of all student-facing materials in print for grades K–8, including the Student Investigation Notebooks with lesson instructions, all science texts, classroom wall materials, and assessments. But for the 2019–20 school year, we’re making it even easier to provide the supports and materials needed to support Spanish-speaking students.

We are now offering Spanish Support licenses as optional purchased add-ons to existing licenses. The Spanish Support license grants teachers access to all the following materials in Spanish: lesson projections, PDFs of print materials (including wall materials, Student Investigation Notebooks, assessments, and more), and recommended in-class “teacher talk” moments.

But these aren’t just for teachers. Spanish Support licenses for students are now available for purchase for schools that have students in grades 6–8 accessing their lesson instructions online, offering the digital student experience in Spanish!

If your district decides to purchase Spanish Support licenses for students in grades 6–8, teachers will then get access to a new dashboard that allows them to choose which language each student in their class has access to: English, Spanish, or both. For example, in a class of 30 students, a teacher can

give five of their students access to just the Spanish version of the digital student experience, ten students both English and Spanish, and 15 students access to just the English version.

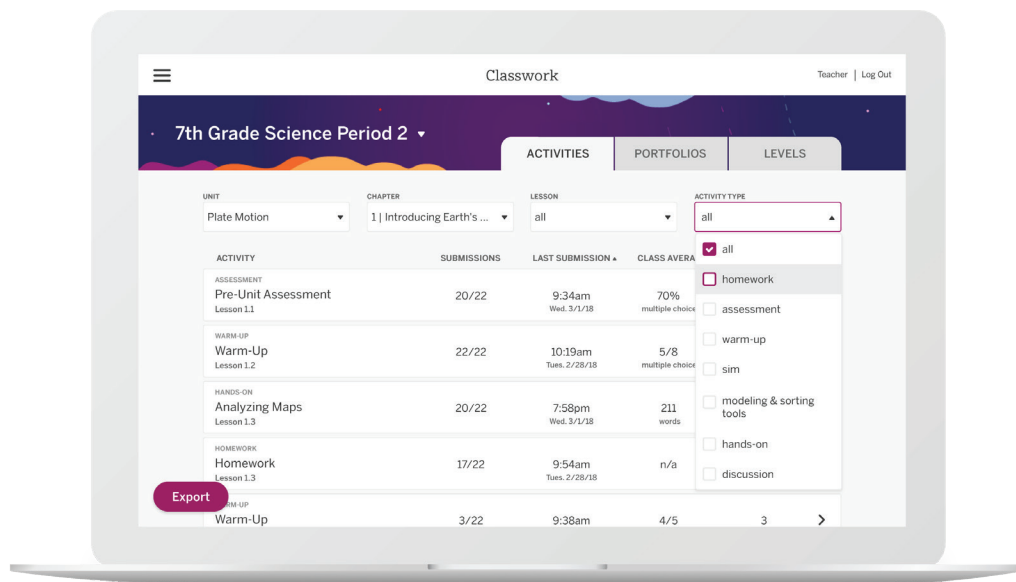
For students that have access to both English and Spanish versions of the digital student experience, a new toggle button will appear on their screens. The toggle allows them to quickly switch back and forth between the English and Spanish versions of lesson instructions, science articles, and more.

All teachers with the Spanish Support license will have access to this toggle button as well, making it easy to change projections and other resources from English to Spanish and back again in two clicks!

If your school or district is interested in learning more about or purchasing the Spanish Support licenses, please contact your Amplify sales representative, or email us at sales@amplify.com.

Classwork

Classwork is the clean, organized, and redesigned replacement for Amplify Gradebook—allowing teachers to spend less time looking for student work, and more time reviewing it.



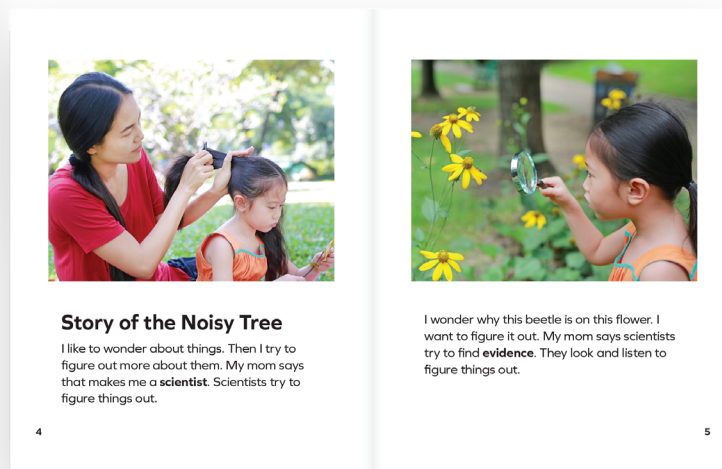
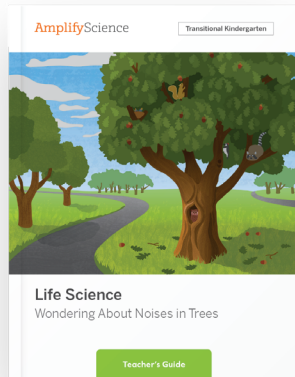
Classwork makes grading, reviewing, and comparing student work more intuitive, requiring fewer clicks overall. Teachers can now review all of a student's work for a lesson on a single page, with the ability to provide feedback and scores, then easily advance to the next student on the same assignment.

Most teachers also need to get student work and scores out of Amplify Science and into their own grading software or LMS. Fortunately, Classwork makes this easy—in just one click, teachers can bulk export multiple assignments in an intuitively designed (and easily editable) CSV/Excel file, the most common format used by district grade-management systems.

Classwork will continue to develop throughout the 2019–20 school year, so be on the lookout for more updates soon.

Transitional Kindergarten

This back-to-school season, we're offering a brand new product: Amplify Science Transitional Kindergarten (TK). Amplify Science TK is a developmentally and pedagogically appropriate curriculum designed to introduce your youngest students to real-world phenomena and jump-start a lifelong love of science.



Written by the authors of Amplify Science K–8 (the curriculum experts at University of California, Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science), Amplify Science TK includes an emphasis on developing the oral language skills essential for success in elementary school. Through guided and independent activities, Amplify Science TK integrates successful approaches found in the research-proven Amplify Science K–8 curriculum to get your students thinking and talking like real scientists.

Amplify Science TK is made up of three units, one for each science domain: Earth & Space Science, Life Science, and Physical Science. The Physical Science unit also includes an engineering design challenge.

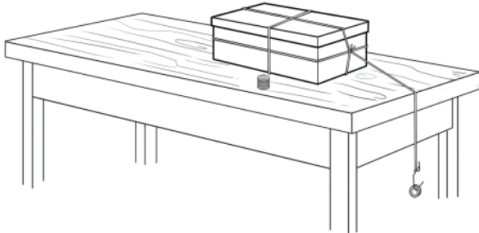
If your school or district is interested in learning more about Amplify Science TK, please contact your Amplify sales representative, or email us at sales@amplify.com.

NGSS benchmark assessment updates

We have made several critical updates and corrections to select NGSS benchmark assessments to ensure the assessments are accurate and clear.

1

This box is sitting still on a table. How could you explore the changing forces that act on the box?



a. Describe the direction in which the box is pushing on the table.

b. Observe that the box is not moving. That means there are no forces acting on it.

c. Hang weights from the hook until the box slides on the table. The weights will push on the box. The moving box shows that the net forces on the box add up to zero.

d. Hang weights from the hook. The weights will pull on the box. When the box slides on the table, the motion shows that the net forces on the box no longer add up to zero.

An example of a benchmark assessment question

The NGSS benchmark assessments became available at the start of the 2018–19 academic year. They are designed to help teachers, schools, and districts gauge how students are progressing toward mastery of the three dimensions and performance expectations of the NGSS ahead of high-stakes end-of-year state assessments. Although they are separate from the Amplify Science program, it is recommended that they are delivered after specific units in the Amplify recommended scope and sequence.

As we approach the second year with these assessments, we have started on a multi-year improvement path for them. Critical content fixes were our highest priority for back-to-school 2019–20, including but not limited to:

- Question and possible response edits to improve clarity.
- Corrections to the scoring guide.
- Corrections to the standards associated with certain question items.
- Corrections to imagery to remedy inaccurate labeling or visual references.
- Minor grammatical errors.

Users with access to the NGSS benchmark assessments will be able to download updated PDF and QTI files beginning July 1, 2019. The updated assessments will also be available on the Illuminate assessment platform at that time.

Accessibility supports

Amplify is committed to building products that address the needs of all learners. Over the past year, we have made significant strides in a long-term effort to update and improve accessibility-related features in Amplify Science, including but not limited to screen readability, keyboard navigation, and assessments.



Screen readability

We've made the majority of content screen-readable in the digital student experience for grades 6–8 and in digital Student Books for grades K–5. This means users who employ text-to-speech tools and screen readers like VoiceOver, NVDA, and ChromeVox are able to hear the text they see. This meets a critical need for students and teachers with visual impairments, and is also sought out as a support among learners who benefit from audio as a reading comprehension aid.

Keyboard navigation

We've added keyboard navigational support across the majority of the digital teacher and student experience. This means that users who rely on the keyboard in lieu of mouse or trackpad to navigate through and access content will be able to do so. This meets a critical need for students and teachers with physical impairments and/or manual dexterity issues, where keyboarding is the easiest (and sometimes only) way to access digital content.

Skip to main content

A best practice for web accessibility is to provide users an easy way to skip over common navigational elements, such as navigational menus. We've implemented this "Skip to main content" feature for screen reading software across the digital Teacher's Guide, eReader, digital student experience for grades 6–8, and digital Student Books for grades K–5. This allows users who rely on screen reading and keyboard navigation to access the heart of the content in a more efficient way.

Coming soon

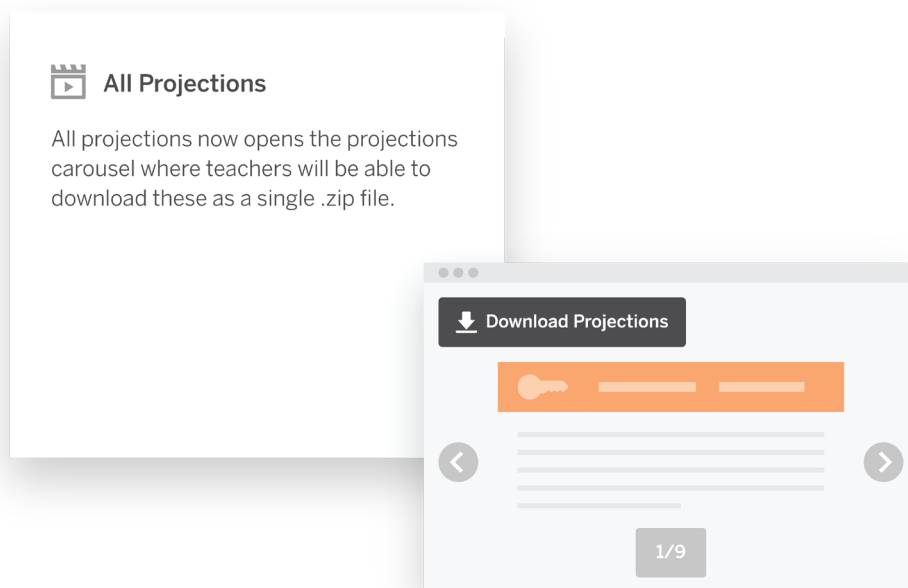
Auto read-aloud for assessments: In an effort to better support all learners, we've added an audio read-aloud function to digital unit assessments. This feature allows any student in grades 6–8 to turn on an automated reading of individual question items, as well as speed up or slow down the rate of reading and pause the audio at any point. Audio is available for multiple choice questions and writing prompts.

Download all projections

Teachers can now download all projections for a lesson at once in a single .zip file, accessible on the Lesson Brief page.

In the Digital Resources section of every Lesson Brief, teachers can download that lesson's projections. Previously, there were two different buttons associated with projections in the Lesson Brief: a button to download a PDF file of the projections, and another button to open the projections in a "carousel", allowing you to click through them without downloading them.

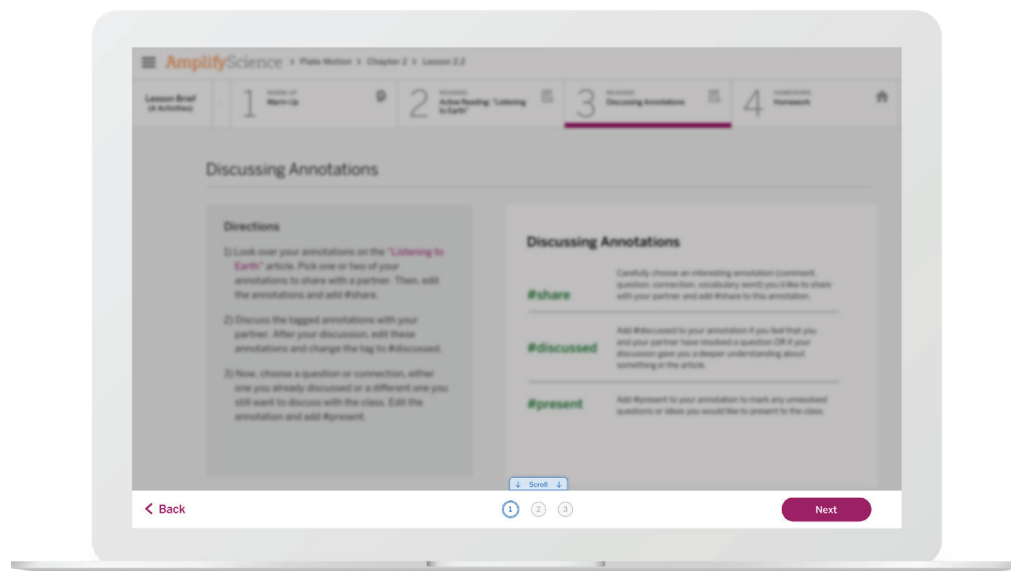
To reduce the number of buttons in the Lesson Brief, we're combining these two buttons into one for back to school 2019. With this update, teachers can now click the one Lesson Projections button and it will open the projections as a carousel (see image).



While in the carousel mode, you can then choose to download the projections as a .zip file containing all projections in that lesson. The new .zip file with images format, rather than a PDF file, is also meant to support those teachers that wish to easily import the Amplify-supplied images into their own slides or other presentations (which is trickier to do with PDFs).

Improved HAND IN button

The HAND IN button on the top of student's screens in grades 6–8 has been updated! The new button is now always present at the bottom of students' screens, making navigation easier and more intuitive.



The Amplify team heard from teachers around the country that students often do not see the HAND IN button because, as the students scroll down on the screen, the button is hidden (they have to scroll back up to see it). That can lead to students forgetting to hand in work or accidentally skipping important activities, and overall confusion in navigation.

Additionally, in activities with multiple screens (e.g., “1 of 3”), students sometimes forget to click the “NEXT” button to advance to the next part of the activity (e.g., “2 of 3”).

Based on feedback from teachers, the Amplify team has redesigned student activity navigation. We are excited to introduce a new hand-in bar that is always visible at the bottom of the screen, even as students scroll up and down. When there are multiple screens in a given activity, this same HAND IN bar will now have numbers to more clearly and visibly indicate that. These numbers were designed to indicate progress and make it obvious to students if they've accidentally skipped part of an activity.

A scroll indicator will also be added so that if there are additional questions on the lower half of the screen, students will be reminded to keep scrolling to finish up the assignment.

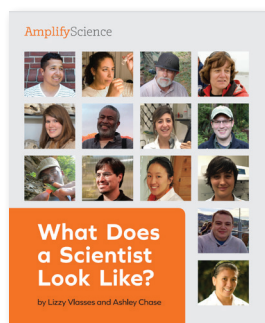
And finally, when students reach the end of an activity, the HAND IN button will become a NEXT ACTIVITY button, enabling them to more easily flow through the lesson.

New digital K–5 Student Books available

We've added six new titles, one per grade, to the digital Student Book library. They can be accessed through the Elementary Student Apps page. These new Student Books feature real scientists currently active in their fields, and represent the diverse ethnicities, backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences that make the scientific community so rich and interesting. Many of the titles feature LGBTQ professionals. These books are not referenced in the Teacher's Guide or lessons and are not required reading in the Amplify Science program.

Kindergarten

Needs of Plants and Animals unit



Grade 1

Spinning Earth unit



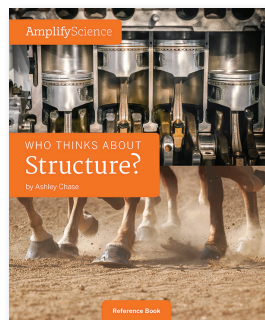
Grade 2

Properties of Materials unit



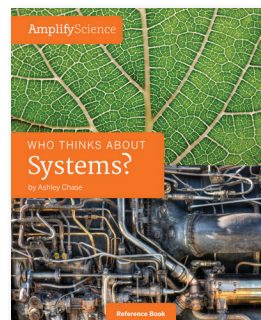
Grade 3

Environments and Survival unit



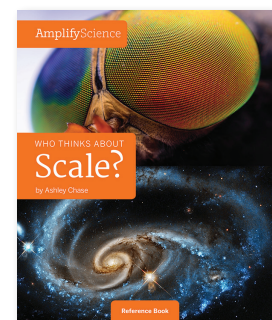
Grade 4

Energy Conversions unit



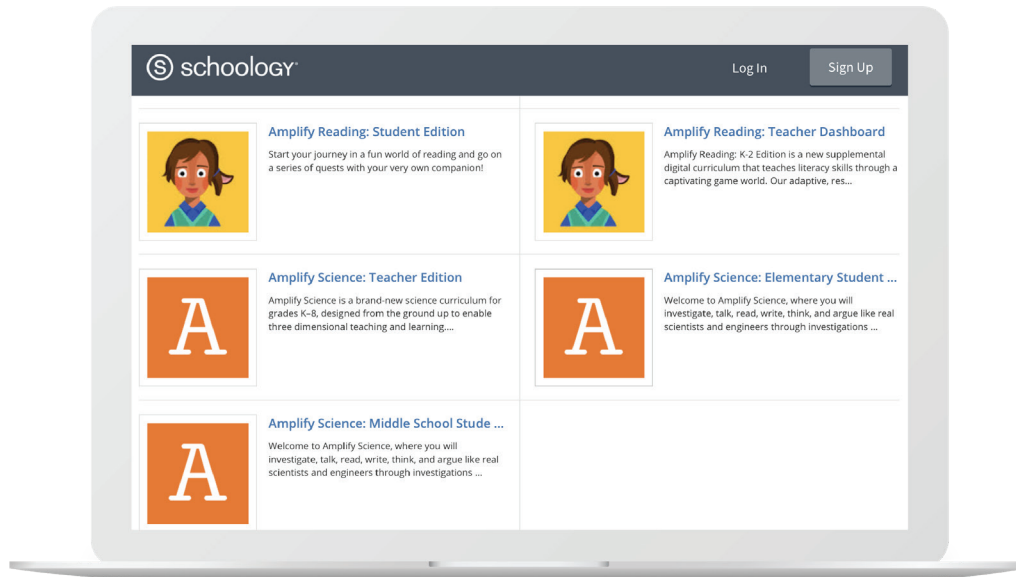
Grade 5

Modeling Matter unit



Schoology login integration

Teachers and students who use both the Schoology learning management system and Amplify Science can now launch the Amplify Science app from within Schoology, with no additional login required.



eReader improvements

The Amplify Library and eReader have a fresh new look and feel for the 2019–20 school year. Also, in schools that purchase the new Spanish support add-on licenses, students will be able to toggle between the English and Spanish versions of their articles.



Updated eReader

The visuals and navigation of the eReader are being updated to become more accessible and modern. Changes include:

- More accessible color palette and keyboard navigation functionality.
- Ability to highlight vocabulary words.
- New audio player, which allows users to scrub back and forth in the audio file.
- More reading settings, such as more font sizing and line height adjustment.
- Improved menus and progress bars.
- Improved annotation functionality (for copying, highlighting, and adding notes).
- Updated menus and navigation.

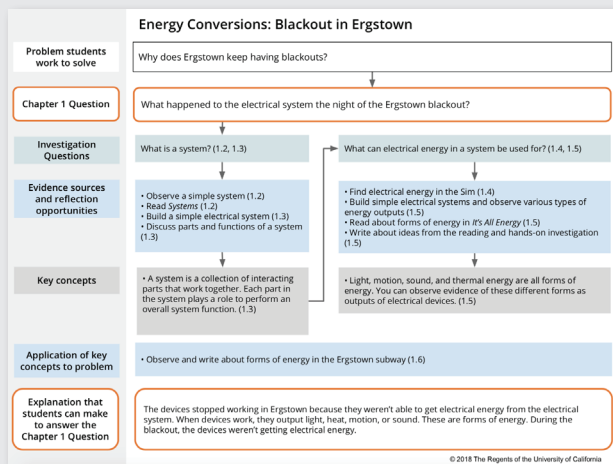
Coherence flowcharts

Coherence flowcharts help teachers visualize how all the different parts of the unit connect and flow into one another.

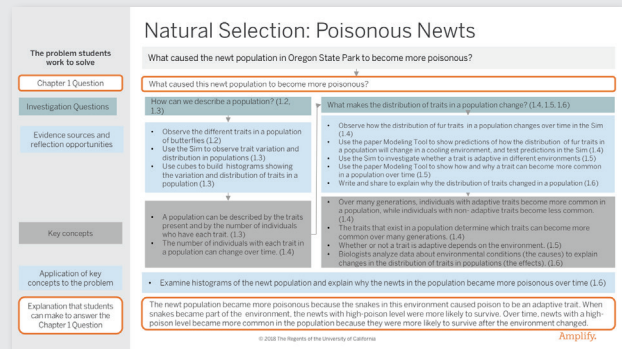
Amplify Science units are designed to be coherent, with lessons purposefully building on each other. As students progress through the lessons and chapters in their investigation of the unit's real-world problem, they'll use a variety of evidence sources, including readings, digital tools (such as simulations), hands-on activities, and media.

From a teacher's perspective, however, it can be challenging to visualize how all the pieces fit together: how the chapters build on each other, how the various evidence sources help students answer and explain the chapter questions, and how students can ultimately master the unit's ideas and provide a robust scientific explanation for the unit question. That's where coherence flowcharts come in.

Coherence flowcharts visualize all the different parts of the unit connecting and flowing into one another, including the unit question, chapter questions, investigation questions, key concepts, application of key concepts to the problem, and chapter explanations. Below are examples of coherence flowcharts.



Coherence flowchart for Chapter 1 of Grade 4's Energy Conversions unit



Coherence flowchart for middle school's Natural Selection unit

Coherence flowcharts will be available as PDFs in the digital Teacher's Guide, found in the printable resources section at the unit-level of each unit.

Multilingual glossary PDFs

Both K–8 teachers and 6–8 students can now download a 10-language glossary for all unit vocabulary.

Every unit in Amplify Science K–8 has a multilingual glossary available, with translations of all unit vocabulary in 10 languages: Arabic, Mandarin Chinese, French, Haitian-Creole, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

Previously, the multilingual glossary was available for students to view in the Amplify Library, but it could not be downloaded. A PDF for the multilingual glossary can now be downloaded from the Digital Resources section in the first non-assessment lesson (usually lesson 1.2) of the unit for both 6–8 students and K–8 teachers.

English-Arabic Glossary	
cause: an event or process that leads to a result or change	السبب: هو الحالة أو العملية التي تؤدي إلى نتيجة أو تغيير ما
collision: the moment when two objects hit each other	التصادم: هو لحظة ارتطام جسمين أحدهما بالآخر
effect: a result or change that happens because of an event or process	الآثار: هو النتيجة أو التغيير الذي يحدث جزء حدث أو عملية
equal: the same in quantity, size, degree, or value	المساوي: هو ذات الكمية أو الحجم أو الدرجة أو القيمة
exert: to apply a force	يبدل: يستخدم قوة
force: a push or a pull that can change the motion of an object	القوة: هي الدفع أو الشد الذي يغير حركة جسم ما
friction: a force between an object and the surface it is moving over	الاحتكاك: هو القوة بين الجسم والسطح الذي يتحرك فوقه
infer: to reach a conclusion using evidence and reasoning	يستنتج: يصل إلى نتيجة باستخدام الدلائل والاستدلال
kinetic energy: the energy that an object has because it is moving	الطاقة الحركية: هي الطاقة الكامنة في جسم ما لأنه يتحرك
mass: the amount of matter that makes up an object	الكتلة: هي كمية المادة التي يتكون منها الجسم
matter: anything that has mass and takes up space	المادة: هي أي شيء له كتلة ويشغل حيزاً
opposite: acting in or going in the reverse direction	التضاد: الفعل أو الدخول في الاتجاه المعاكس
pod: a self-contained unit on an aircraft, spacecraft, vehicle, or vessel that can be detached for a particular function	البحرّة: هي وحدة تامة في ذاتها على متن طائرة أو مركبة فضائية أو سيارة أو وعاء منفصل من أجل مهمة معينة
Force and Motion—Multi-Language Glossary © The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.	

Teachers can provide students with copies of the glossary to reference as needed. They can be used while students work offline.

Minor content corrections

Every year, Amplify Science teachers from around the country report typos and other mistakes in the curriculum. The good news is that we can make those fixes quickly! If you're interested, a list of minor corrections is available. But fear not: None of these corrections change instruction or require purchasing new materials.

Please visit my.amplify.com/help/amplify-science/minor-content-corrections to see a chart that contains a list of all typos, grammar edits, corrected images, and re-phrased sentences that have been updated in the digital Teacher's Guide and digital student experience (for grades 6–8) for the 2019–20 school year.

If a teacher and their students access the curriculum digitally, they already have access to the corrections! No further action needed. If, however, a teacher delivers some aspects of the curriculum on paper, they will need to re-download the resource to gain access to the corrected materials.

For example, if a teacher gives assessments out on paper, they'll need to re-download that assessment to get the version with the corrections. Some articles in grades 6–8 have also been corrected. If students access the articles in print via a Student Investigation Notebook or if their teacher prints articles and hands them out as needed, the teacher will need to download the new version of that article from the lesson in which it appears. These updates are live in your accounts now.