



5E-SESE How-To-Use Guide

All students can learn and “do” meaningful inquiry-based science. The 5E-Model Professional Development in Science Education for Special Educators (5E-SESE) approach supports teachers in creating and teaching 5E learning cycle science lessons that get students with significant cognitive disabilities engaged in and excited about learning science.

Teachers, instructional coaches, and those who lead professional learning can use 5E-SESE resources to help students with significant cognitive disabilities meet alternate academic expectations in science. Project resources support educators in teaching science lessons that are inquiry-based. Let’s get started!

Learn More About Teaching Inquiry-Based Science

- Looking for more background on what it means to teach science that is “inquiry-based” using the 5E model of instruction? Read “Moving from Activity to Inquiry” under the “Other Instructional Support” filter.
- Wondering how teachers can determine class-wide science learning goals and differentiated learning objectives for students who have varying levels of science background knowledge? Read “Determining Learning Objectives from Multidimensional Standards and Students’ Prior Knowledge” under the “Other Instructional Support” filter.

Learn More About 5E-SESE Lesson Plans

- Start with the “5E-SESE Lesson Plan User Guide” (under the “Other Instructional Support” filter) for definitions of each the 5E-SESE lesson sections. The lesson plan template guides teachers step-by-step in determining science learning goals and carrying them out with students using the 5E cycle.
- Use completed lesson plans as examples that can be taught as-is or adapted depending on varying student learning needs. Choose a topic or Essential Element from 18 different examples (under the “Lesson Plan” filter).

Go Deeper With 5E-SESE Learning Modules

- Learning modules provide more detailed information about how Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) Essential Elements (aligned to national science standards) can be used with Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles and each of the 5Es to plan and carry out inquiry-based science lessons.

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- Each module follows a storyline of a special education teacher and a science teacher who are working together to plan an inquiry-based science lesson for a student who qualifies for the science alternate assessment. DLM Essential Elements are the foundation for each lesson.
- Learning modules can be completed individually as self-paced, just-in-time learning or can be used by or with groups who want to learn and plan together. Choose from seven Essential Element examples (four for Grades 3–5, three for middle school students) that represent each of the domains in the national standards (life science, Earth and space science, or physical science).
- Filter “Module” as the Resource Type, choose a module, then work through nine lessons at the pace that is right for you or your group.