Science Links 9 AND *Science Links 10*

FEATURE OUTLINE

Feature	***The Science Links Advantage***
STSE	
Content Development	Students will be intrigued by high-interest narrative developed through an STSE lens.
Case Study Investigations	Compelling STSE-based *Case Studies* in an investigation format support students as they analyze STSE issues related to the unit content.
Strange Tales in Science	Real science stories presented in a graphic novel format will engage learners. In one case students follow the adventures of a lone carbon atom as it journeys through time and space in its quest for immortality. In another, they learn about a NASA experiment designed to find out how much radiation enters the human body during space travel.
Making a Difference	Students will be inspired by the extraordinary stories of local activist high school students who have made a difference in the environment or society through their own initiatives.
Unit Projects	Each unit provides a choice of two projects—one investigative and one research-based. In completing the projects, students will apply their newly acquired knowledge and skills in investigating and analyzing related environmental issues.
Unit Openers	The environmental aspects of the unit are brought to life through a selection of pop culture.
INQUIRY SKILLS DEVELOPMENT	
Activities	Select activities provide focused instruction in a specific inquiry skill as students explore a question or problem.
Investigations	Students learn the skills of scientific inquiry through engagement in a variety of structured, plan-your-own, and data-analysis investigations.
Safety Skills	Guidance on safe use of materials and equipment is provided throughout.
Science Skills Toolkit	Provides guidance and support in individual skills of inquiry and research.
RESEARCH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT	
Activities	Activities provide instruction in research skills as students develop their content knowledge.
Investigations	Students develop the skills of scientific research through engagement in a variety of structured, plan-your-own, and data-analysis investigations.
Science Skills Toolkit	Provides guidance and support in individual skills of inquiry and research.
LITERACY SKILLS DEVELOPMENT	
Activities	Select activities provide focused instruction in individual literacy skills and strategies by integrating their use as a tool students use while they explore a question or problem.
Literacy Skills Toolkit	Support tools for developing effective reading and communication skills.

MATH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Activities	Select activities provide focused instruction in specific math skills as students explore a question or problem.
Math Skills Toolkit	Provides support and tools for the specific math skills needed to effectively learn the science content and skills in the resource.

LEARNER-FOCUSED PRESENTATION

Unit at a Glance	A graphic organizer highlights the focus for each unit, its relationship to each topic question, and the key concepts relevant to the specific topic. The graphic organizer provides a convenient reference for students as they organize their learning into a coherent whole.
Topic Organization	Each unit is organized into 5 - 7 topics. Each topic presents a key question related to the *Big Ideas* for that unit. Each section within the topic fosters conceptual development through a mix of compelling narrative, instructional visuals, and hands-on or minds-on activities.
Compelling, Easy-to-read Narrative	Developed through an STSE lens, concepts are developed in short paragraphs related to issues of interest and concern to students.
Active Learning	A variety of hands-on or minds-on activities allows students to work either individually, with a partner or in small groups.
Instructional Visuals	Unit visuals are purposefully designed to serve as a powerful instructional tools to support differentiated instruction.
Key Term Treatment	Key terms are highlighted, bolded, and defined in context, in the margin, and in an illustrated glossary.
Science at Work	Each unit highlights a variety of interesting career opportunities appropriate for the range of students in the class. Students are prompted to research essential skills for a career of personal interest.

ASSESSMENT

Get Ready	A diagnostic tool at the beginning of each unit provides an assessment of students' prior knowledge and facility with a range of literacy, numeracy, and inquiry skills.
Learning Checks	Frequently placed *Learning Checks* provide an opportunity for students to check their understanding as they work through the topics.
Topic Reviews	Each topic ends with a question that asks students to organize their learning using a graphic organizer plus a full page of questions correlated to the *Achievement Chart* categories.
Unit Reviews	Comprehensive review featuring connections to *Big Ideas*, questions correlated to the *Achievement Chart*, and a full page of *Literacy Test Prep* questions modelled on those students will encounter in the OSSLT.
Unit Projects	Each unit provides a choice of two unit projects—one investigative and one research-based—that allow students to apply their new knowledge and skills in investigating and analyzing environmental issues related to the unit.

DIFFERENTIATED LEARNING

Instructional Strategies	The careful orchestration of narrative, instructional visuals, and active learning ensure that students experience concepts developed in multiple ways to accommodate different learning styles and needs.
Activities	*Activities* provide instruction in inquiry, research, literacy, and math skills to ensure students develop both the skills and the knowledge important to them as science learners.

EMPOWERING ACTIVISM

Making a Difference	*Making a Difference* feature highlights viable and influential student contributions.
Unit Projects	Investigating and analyzing issues provides opportunities for deeper research and response to environmental issues important to young learners.