

## PLTW Launch Modules Overview K-5

## Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) | K-5

This curriculum guide provides standards connections for 4 bodies of standards:

- 1. Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)
- 2. Common Core State Standards ELA (CCSS)
- 3. Common Core State Standards Math (CCSS)
- 4. CSTA K-12 Computer Science Standards

Each PLTW Launch Module integrates science performance expectations (PEs) with science and engineering practices (SEPs), disciplinary core ideas (DCls), and crosscutting concepts (CCCs), while focusing on engineering, computer science, or one of the three areas of science outlined in the NGSS:

- Physical Science
- Life Science
- Earth and Space Science

The Curriculum Framework for each PLTW Launch module, found in the Teacher Guide, is another valuable planning tool. The framework offers a big-picture view of the module that includes the desired results of student learning, an overview of the module's scaffolded approach to learning, and assessment opportunities found in each activity, project, and problem.









## LAUNCH K-5 Modules Overview

	Physical Science	Life Science	Earth and Space Science	Engineering	Computer Science
K	Pushes and Pulls	Living Things: Needs and Impacts	Living Things: Needs and Impacts  Sunlight and Weather		Animals and Algorithms
1	Light and Sound	Designs Inspired Animal by Nature Adaptations	Light: Observing the Sun, Moon, and Stars		Animated Storytelling
2	Materials Science: Materials Properties of Science: Form Matter and Function	Living Things: Diversity of Life	The Changing Earth		Grids and Games
3	Stability and Stability and Motion: Motion: Forces and Science of Interactions Flight	Variation of Environmental Life Cycles and Traits Changes Survival	Weather: Factors and Hazards		Programming Patterns
4	Energy Waves and the Properties of Light	Organisms: Structure Input/Output: and Function Human Brain	Earth: Past, Present, and Future  Earth: Human Impact and Natural Disasters		Input/Output: Computer Systems
5	Matter: Properties and Reactions	Ecosystems: Flow of Matter and Energy	Earth's Patterns in the Water and Universe Interconnected Systems	Robotics and Automation:  Infection: Detection	Robotics and Automation: Challenge  Infection: Modeling and Simulation



LAUNCH Kindergarten		Essential Questions	NGSS Science Standards	NGSS Engineering Design Standards	Common Core ELA Standards	Common Core Math Standards	CSTA Standards
	Pushes and Pulls	In what ways do forces impact your daily life? How are pushes and pulls related? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	K-PS2-1 K-PS2-2	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	W.K.2 SL.K.1.a SL.K.4 SL.K.1.b SL.K.5 SL.K.2	K.CC.A.3 K.MD.A.2 K.MD.B.3 Math Practices 1, 3, 5	1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
	Living Things: Needs and Impacts	How can plants and animals impact their natural environment to meet their needs?  How can humans lessen their negative impact on the natural environment?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	K-LS1-1 K-ESS2-2 K-ESS3-1 K-ESS3-3	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	W.K.2 W.K.7 RI.K.1 SL.K.1 RI.K.2 SL.K.2 SL.K.4 SL.K.5	K.CC.A.1 K.CC.A.3 K.CC.B.5 K.MD.B.3 Math Practices 1, 3	1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
4	Sunlight and Weather	How does the Sun affect Earth? How does weather affect our lives? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	K-PS3-1 K-PS3-2 K-ESS2-1 K-ESS3-2	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RL.K.1 RI.K.1 RL.K.3 RI.K.2 RL.K.10 RI.K.10	K.CC.A.3 K.MD.A.2 Math Practices 1-3	1A-DA-06, 07 1A-IC-17, 18
<>	Animals and Algorithms	How do you use algorithms in your daily life? How can you use computer programming to complete a task? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	K-ESS3-1	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RL.K.3 SL.K.1.a W.K.3 SL.K.1.b W.K.6 SL.K.5	K.CC.A.1 K.CC.B.4 K.CC.B.5 K.G.A.1 Math Practices 1-3	1A-CS-01 1A-AP-09 → 12 1A-AP-14, 15 1A-AP-17, 18
	Structure and Function: Exploring Design	How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem? How do materials impact the structure and function of an object? How does the structure of an object impact its function?		K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RL.K.1 RL.K.2 RL.K.3 SL.K.1.b	K.CC.A.3 → 5 K.MD.A.2 K.G.A.2 Math Practices 1-5	1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
	Structure and Function: Human Body	How are structure and function related? How would we function if our bodies were structured differently? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?		K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RL.K.1 RL.K.2 SL.K.1.b RL.K.3	K.CC.A.3 → 6  Math Practices 1-5	1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18



	LAUNCH Frade	Essential Questions	NGSS Science Standards	NGSS Engineering Design Standards	Common Core ELA Standards	Common Core Math Standards	CSTA Standards
	Light and Sound	How do light and sound affect your life? Why is understanding cause and effect important to your life? How can collaboration help you solve problems?	1-PS4-1 1-PS4-2 1-PS4-3 1-PS4-4	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RL.1.1 RL.1.2 RL.1.3 RL.1.3 SL.1.1 RI.1.1 SL.1.2 SL.1.5	Math Practices 1, 3, 5	1A-AP-11 1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
	Designs Inspired by Nature	Why do animals communicate as they do? How can nature inspire solutions to human problems? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	1-LS1-1 1-LS1-2 1-LS3-1	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RI.1.1 RI.1.2 SL.1.1 RI.1.10 SL1.2 W.1.7 SL.1.5 W.1.8	1.G.A.1 1.G.A.2 Math Practices 1, 3, 5	1A-AP-11 1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
	Animal Adaptations	How do plants and animals adapt to their environments? How can nature inspire solutions to human problems? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	1-LS1-1	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RL.1.1 SL.1.2 RI.1.1 SL.1.5 W.1.8 SL.1.6	1.NBT.C.4 1.MD.C.4 Math Practices 1-6	1A-DA-07 1A-AP-11 1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
4	Light: Observing the Sun, Moon, and Stars	How does the Sun affect your life? Why is understanding cause and effect important to your life? What is the relationship between patterns and natural phenomena?	1-PS4-2 1-ESS1-1 1-ESS1-2	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RL.1.1 SL.1.1.C RI.1.1 SL.1.5 W.1.8 SL.1.6	1.MD.A.1 1.MD.B.3 1.MD.C.4 Math Practices 1-6	1A-DA-07 1A-AP-11 1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
<>	Animated Storytelling	In what ways can stories be told using different tools? How does technology impact our lives? How can collaboration help you design or improve a solution to a problem?		K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RL.1.1 RL.1.2 SL.1.1.a RL.1.3 SL.1.2 W.1.3 SL.1.4 W.1.6	Math Practices 1-8	1A-CS-01 → 03 1A-NI-04 1A-DA-05 1A-AP-08 → 15 1A-IC-16 → 18



	LAUNCH Grade	Essential Questions	NGSS Science Standards	NGSS Engineering Design Standards	Common Core ELA Standards	Common Core Math Standards	CSTA Standards
	Materials Science: Properties of Matter	What properties of materials do you need to consider when designing a product? How can we identify when something is (or is not) a solution to a problem?	2-PS1-1 2-PS1-2 2-PS1-3 2-PS1-4	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RI.2.1 RI.2.3 W.2.7 W.2.8	2.MD.D.10 Math Practices 1, 3-6	1A-DA-06 1A-DA-07 1A-AP-11 1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
	Materials Science: Form and Function	How does the function of an object influence its form? How does nature influence design? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	2-PS1-2 2-PS1-3 2-LS2-2	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RL.2.1 W.2.8 Rl.2.1 SL.2.1 Rl.2.3 SL.2.2	Math Practices 1, 3-5	1A-AP-11 1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
	Living Things: Diversity of Life	How do scientists learn about the world? How do diverse habitats meet the needs of organisms? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	2-LS2-1 2-LS4-1	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	W.2.7 W.2.8	2.MD.A.1 2.MD.D.10 Math Practices 1-6	1A-DA-06 1A-DA-07 1A-AP-11 1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
	The Changing Earth	How can something appear stable when it is actually changing?  How are system models used to predict and understand real-world situations or scientific phenomena?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	2-ESS1-1 2-ESS2-1 2-ESS2-2 2-ESS2-3	K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2 K-2-ETS1-3	RL.2.1 W.2.7 W.2.8 Rl.2.1 SL.2.1 Rl.2.3 SL.2.2	Math Practices 1-6	1A-DA-06 1A-DA-07 1A-AP-11 1A-IC-17 1A-IC-18
<>	Grids and Games	How can learning from others help you design or improve a solution to a problem? In what ways can computer science impact our lives?		K-2-ETS1-1 K-2-ETS1-2	RL.2.1 SL.2.1 RL.2.7 SL.2.2	2.OA.B.2 2.NBT.B.5 Math Practices 1-4, 6	1A-CS-01 → 03 1A-NI-04 1A-DA-05 1A-AP-09 → 15 1A-IC-16 → 18



	LAUNCH Grade	Essential Questions	NGSS Science Standards	NGSS Engineering Design Standards	Common Core ELA Standards	Common Core Math Standards	CSTA Standards
	Stability and Motion: Forces and Interactions	In what ways do forces impact your daily life? How do machines make life easier? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	3-PS2-1 3-PS2-2 3-PS2-3 3-PS2-4	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.3.1 W.3.7 RI.3.3 W.3.8	Math Practices 1, 3, 5	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05
	Stability and Motion: Science of Flight	In what ways do forces impact our world?  How do balanced and unbalanced forces affect aircraft flight?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	3-PS2-1 3-PS2-2	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	W.3.7 RI.3.1 W.3.8 RI.3.3 SL.3.1	3.MD.B.4 Math Practices 1-3, 5-6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07
	Variation of Traits	Why do some offspring look like their parents while others do not?  How are traits of one generation passed to the next?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	3-LS3-1 3-LS3-2 3-LS4-2	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2	RI.3.1 W.3.8 RI.3.2 RI.3.3 SL.3.1 RI.3.4 SL.3.2	3.MD.B.3 Math Practices 1-7	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07
	Life Cycles and Survival	Why are life cycles of organisms important for life on Earth?  How do bees impact our world?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	3-LS1-1 3-LS2-1	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2	RI.3.1 W.3.7 RI.3.2 W.3.8 RI.3.3 SL.3.1	Math Practices 1-3	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-07
	Environmental Changes	How does an animal's habitat affect its survival?  How do environmental changes affect organisms?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	3-LS4-1 3-LS4-3 3-LS4-4 3-ESS2-2	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2	W.3.2 RI.3.1 W.3.7 RI.3.2 W.3.8 RI.3.3 SL.3.1 SL.3.4	Math Practices 1-5	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07
	Weather: Factors and Hazards	How does weather affect our lives? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	3-ESS2-1 3-ESS2-2 3-ESS3-1	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.3.1 W.3.7 RI.3.2 W.3.8 RI.3.3 RI.3.4 SL.3.1	3.MD.A.2 Math Practices 1-3, 5-6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07
<>	Programming Patterns	How does technology impact our lives? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?		3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.3.1 RI.3.2 SL3.1 RI.3.3 SL.3.2 W.3.3 L.3.1.A W.3.6	Math Practices 1-3, 5-6, 8	1B-CS-02, 03 1B-NI-05 1B-AP-08 1B-AP-10, 11 1B-AP-13 1B-AP-15 → 17



	LAUNCH Grade	Essential Questions	NGSS Science Standards	NGSS Engineering Design Standards	Common Core ELA Standards	Common Core Math Standards	CSTA Standards
	Energy Exploration	Why is energy necessary? How does energy transfer affect your life? How can a step-by-step process help you construct an explanation or design a solution to a problem?	4-PS3-1 4-PS3-2 4-PS3-3 4-PS3-4	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.4.1 W.4.7 RI.4.2 W.4.9 RI.4.3 SL.4.1 RI.4.4 SL.4.3 RI.4.7 SL.4.4 W.4.2 SL.4.5	Math Practices 1, 3, 5-6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07
	Input/Output: Computer Systems	How does technology impact our lives? In what ways do computing systems work together to accomplish tasks? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	4-PS4-3	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	W.4.2 RI.4.3 W.4.4 RI.4.4 SL.4.1 SL.4.2	Math Practices 1-5, 8	1B-CS-01 → 03 1B-NI-04, 05 1B-DA-06, 07 1B-AP-08 → 17 1B-AP-19, 20
	Waves and the Properties of Light	How are waves used to predict results and solve problems?  How do the properties of light allow us to see?  How can we use patterns to make sense of the world?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	4-PS4-1 4-PS4-2	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	SL.4.5	4.MD.C.5 4.MD.C.6 4.G.A.1 Math Practices 1-6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07
	Organisms. Structure and Function	How are organisms structured to support and sustain life? How do scientists and engineers understand the world around them? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	4-LS1-1 4-LS1-2	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2	RI.4.2 W.4.8 RI.4.3 SL.4.1 RI.4.4 SL.4.2 W.4.1.B SL.4.4 W.4.2.D SL.4.5	Math Practices 1, 3, 5-6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05
	Input/Output: Human Brain	How does technology impact our lives? In what ways do computing systems work together to accomplish tasks? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	4-LS1-2	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2	RI.4.1 W.4.7 RI.4.2 W.4.9 RI.4.3 SL.4.1 RI.4.4 SL.4.3 RI.4.7 SL.4.4 W.4.2 SL.4.5	Math Practices 1,3, 5-6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07
	Earth: Past, Present, and Future	How has Earth changed over time? Why is Earth constantly changing? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	4-ESS1-1 4-ESS2-1 4-ESS2-2	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.4.3 RI.4.4 RI.4.7 W.4.9 W.4.2 W.4.2 W.4.2 W.4.5	Math Practices 1, 3, 5-6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07 1B-IC-21
	Earth: Human Impact and Natural Disasters	In what ways do human interactions impact Earth? How do natural hazards impact Earth? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	4-ESS3-1 4-ESS3-2	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2	RI.4.1 W.4.7 RI.4.3 W.4.8 RI.4.4 W.4.9 RI.4.9 SL.4.1 W.4.2 SL.4.4	Math Practices 1-4	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-07



9	LAUNCH Grade	Essential Questions	NGSS Science Standards	NGSS Engineering Design Standards	Common Core ELA Standards	Common Core Math Standards	CSTA Standards
	Matter: Properties and Reactions	How do the structures and properties of matter help us solve realworld problems?  How do mechanical properties impact engineering design?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	5-PS1-1 5-PS1-2 5-PS1-3 5-PS1-4	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.5.7 SL.5.1 W.5.8 SL.5.2 W.5.9 SL.5.4	5.MD.C.3 5.MD.C.4 Math Practices 1-6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05
	Ecosystems: Flow of Matter and Energy	How do matter and energy flow through an ecosystem?  How does a change in an ecosystem affect its balance?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	5-PS3-1 5-LS1-1 5-LS2-1 5-ESS3-1	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.5.1 W.5.7 RI.5.3 W.5.8 RI.5.4 W.5.9 RI.5.7 SL.5.1 RI.5.9 SL.5.2 W.5.2.D SL.5.5	5.MD.B.2 Math Practices 1-6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07
	Patterns in the Universe	What is Earth's place in the universe? How do the predictable patterns of Earth impact our lives? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	5-ESS1-1 5-ESS1-2	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.5.1 W.5.2 W.5.7 RI.5.4 W.5.8 RI.5.7 RI.5.8 SL.5.1 RI.5.9 SL.5.2 W.5.1 SL.5.5	Math Practices 1-4, 6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07 1B-IC-19, 21
	Earth's Water and Interconnected Systems	How do Earth's major systems interact?  Is there enough fresh water on Earth?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?	5-PS2-1 5-ESS2-1 5-ESS2-2 5-ESS3-1	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.5.3 W.5.9 RI.5.4 SL.5.1 RI.5.7 SL.5.2 RI.5.9 SL.5.4 W.5.8 SL.5.5	5.NBT.B.5 Math Practices 1-6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07



	LAUNCH Grade	Essential Questions	NGSS Science Standards	NGSS Engineering Design Standards	Common Core ELA Standards	Common Core Math Standards	CSTA Standards
	Robotics and Automation	How can automation and robotics by used to protect the Earth's resources and environment?  How can the engineering design process be applied in daily life?	5-ESS3-1	3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.5.1 W.5.8 RI.5.7 W.5.9 RI.5.9 SL.5.1 W.5.7 SL.5.4	Math Practices 1, 3, 5, 6	1B-CS-01 → 03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07 1B-IC-18
	Robotics and Automation: Challenge	How can autonomous robots be used to help people? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?		3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.5.1 W.5.8 RI.5.7 W.5.9 RI.5.9 SL.5.1 W.5.7 SL.5.4	Math Practices 1, 3, 5, 6	1B-CS-01, 03 1B-NI-05 1B-AP-08, 10 → 13 1B-AP-15 → 17 1B-IC-18
	Infection: Detection	How can germs be spread from person to person?  How do medical professionals use cause and effect relationships to diagnose illnesses?  How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?		3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	RI.5.2 W.5.2 RI.5.3 W.5.4 RI.5.4 W.5.9 RI.5.7 RI.5.9 SL.5.1 RI.5.10 SL.5.4	5.NBT.A.2 Math Practices 1, 3, 6	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07
	Infection: Modeling and Simulation	How do computer models and simulations help us make sense of scientific phenomena? In what ways can computer models and simulations be used to predict outcomes? How can a step-by-step process help you design or improve a solution to a problem?		3-5-ETS1-1 3-5-ETS1-2 3-5-ETS1-3	W.5.2 RI.5.2 W.5.4 RI.5.4 W.5.9 RI.5.7 RI.5.9 SL.5.1 SL.5.5	5.OA.A.1 5.NBT.A.3 5.NBT.A.4 5.NBT.B.6 Math Practices 1-6, 8	1B-CS-03 1B-NI-05 1B-DA-06, 07 1B-AP-08 → 17 1B-IC-20

