



PLTW Launch Standards Guide

Utah Science with Engineering Education
(SEEd) Standards K-5



PLTW Launch (PreK-5) is designed to support your science learning needs. The modules are developed to ensure an unmatched experience, combining three-dimensional learning; unique, problem-based instructional approach; real-world applied learning; as well as Spanish language options – all in one program.

This Standards Guide shows how each PLTW Launch module supports the Utah Science with Engineering Education (SEEd) Standards K-5. Because schools need the flexibility to implement the curriculum in the way that best meets their students' needs, PLTW Launch is designed to support a wide range of implementations. Whether the modules are offered in all classrooms, as a specials rotation, as grade level rotations, as an after-school program, or even as a summer learning implementation, PLTW Launch offers the flexibility to meet your needs.

The module charts below provide a single-grade, up or down shift in the grade level recommendations to support the range of school needs across the country.

Use this Standards Guide in combination with the [Module Descriptions PDF](#) as planning tools to explore how you can implement PLTW Launch as your elementary learning solution.



Kindergarten

| | | SEEd Standard | PLTW Launch Modules |
|---|-------|---|--|
| K.1: Weather Patterns | K.1.1 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about local, observable weather conditions to describe patterns over time. | Sunlight and Weather (K) |
| | K.1.2 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information on the effect of forecasted weather patterns on human behavior. | Sunlight and Weather (K) |
| | K.1.3 | Carry out an investigation using the five senses, to determine the effect of sunlight on different surfaces and materials. | Sunlight and Weather (K) |
| | K.1.4 | Design a solution that will reduce the warming effect of sunlight on an area. | Sunlight and Weather (K) |
| K.2: Living Things and Their Surroundings | K.2.1 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to describe patterns of what living things (plants and animals, including humans) need to survive. | Living Things: Needs and Impacts (K) |
| | K.2.2 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about patterns in the relationships between the needs of different living things (plants and animals, including humans) and the places they live. | Living Things: Needs and Impacts (K), Animals and Algorithms (K) |
| | K.2.3 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about how living things (plants and animals, including humans) affect their surroundings to survive. | Living Things: Needs and Impacts (K) |
| | K.2.4 | Design and communicate a solution to address the effects that living things (plants and animals, including humans) experience while trying to survive in their surroundings. | Living Things: Needs and Impacts (K) |
| K.3: Forces, Motion, and Interactions | K.3.1 | Plan and conduct an investigation to compare the effects of different strengths or different directions of forces on the motion of an object. | Pushes and Pulls (K) |
| | K.3.2 | Analyze data to determine how a design solution causes a change in the speed or direction of an object with a push or a pull. | Pushes and Pulls (K) |

| | | SEEd Standard | PLTW Launch Modules |
|---|-------|--|--|
| 1.1: Seasons and Space Patterns | 1.1.1 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the movement of the Sun, Moon, and stars to describe predictable patterns. | Light: Observing the Sun, Moon and Stars (1) |
| | 1.1.2 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the patterns observed at different times of the year to relate the amount of daylight to the time of year. | Light: Observing the Sun, Moon and Stars (1) |
| | 1.1.3 | Design a device that measures the varying patterns of daylight. | Light: Observing the Sun, Moon and Stars (1) |
| 1.2: The Needs Of Living Things and Their Offspring | 1.2.1 | Plan and carry out an investigation to determine the effect of sunlight and water on plant growth. Emphasize investigations that test one variable at a time. | Living Things: Diversity of Life (2) |
| | 1.2.2 | Construct an explanation by observing patterns of external features of living things that survive in different locations. | Designs Inspired by Nature (1), Animal Adaptations (1) |
| | 1.2.3 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the patterns of plants and nonhuman animals that are alike, but not exactly like, their parents. | Designs Inspired by Nature (1) |
| | 1.2.4 | Construct an explanation of the patterns in the behaviors of parents and offspring which help offspring to survive. | Designs Inspired by Nature (1) |
| 1.3: Light and Sound | 1.3.1 | Plan and carry out an investigation to show the cause and effect relationship between sound and vibrating matter. | Light and Sound (1) |
| | 1.3.2 | Use a model to show the effect of light on objects. | Light and Sound (1) |
| | 1.3.3 | Plan and carry out an investigation to determine the effect of materials in the path of a beam of light. | Light and Sound (1) |
| | 1.3.4 | Design a device in which the structure of the device uses light or sound to solve the problem of communicating over a distance. | Light and Sound (1) |

Second Grade

| | | SEEd Standard | PLTW Launch Modules |
|---------------------------------------|-------|---|---|
| 2.1: Changes In The Earth's Surface | 2.1.1 | Develop and use models illustrating the patterns of landforms and water on Earth. | The Changing Earth (2) |
| | 2.1.2 | Standard 2.1.2 Construct an explanation about changes in Earth's surface that happen quickly or slowly. | The Changing Earth (2) |
| | 2.1.3 | Design solutions to slow or prevent wind or water from changing the shape of land. | The Changing Earth (2) |
| 2.2: Living Things and Their Habitats | 2.2.1 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about patterns of living things (plants and animals, including humans) in different habitats. | Living Things: Diversity of Life (2) |
| | 2.2.2 | Plan and carry out an investigation of the structure and function of plant and animal parts in different habitats. | Animal Adaptations (1) |
| | 2.2.3 | Develop and use a model that mimics the function of an animal dispersing seeds or pollinating plants. | Materials Science: Form and Function (2) |
| | 2.2.4 | Design a solution to a human problem by mimicking the structure and function of plants and/or animals and how they use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs. | Designs Inspired by Nature (1) |
| 2.3: Properties Of Matter | 2.3.1 | Plan and carry out an investigation to classify different kinds of materials based on patterns in their observable properties. | Materials Science: Properties of Matter (2) |
| | 2.3.2 | Construct an explanation showing how the properties of materials influence their intended use and function. | Materials Science: Properties of Matter (2) |
| | 2.3.3 | Develop and use a model to describe how an object, made of a small set of pieces, can be disassembled and reshaped into a new object with a different function. | Materials Science: Properties of Matter (2) |
| | 2.3.4 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about changes in matter caused by heating or cooling. Emphasize that some changes can be reversed and some cannot. | Materials Science: Properties of Matter (2) |

Third Grade

| | | SEEd Standard | PLTW Launch Modules |
|------------------------------------|-------|---|--|
| 3.1: Weather and Climate Patterns | 3.1.1 | Analyze and interpret data to reveal patterns that indicate typical weather conditions expected during a particular season. | Weather: Factors and Hazards (3) |
| | 3.1.2 | Obtain and communicate information to describe climate patterns in different regions of the world. | Weather: Factors and Hazards (3) |
| | 3.1.3 | Design a solution that reduces the effects of a weather-related hazard. | Weather: Factors and Hazards (3) |
| 3.2: Effects of Traits On Survival | 3.2.1 | Develop and use models to describe changes that organisms go through during their life cycles. | Life Cycles and Survival (3) |
| | 3.2.2 | Analyze and interpret data to identify patterns of traits that plants and animals have inherited from parents. | Variation of Traits (3) |
| | 3.2.3 | Construct an explanation that the environment can affect the traits of an organism. | Variation of Traits (3) |
| | 3.2.4 | Construct an explanation showing how variations in traits and behaviors can affect the ability of an individual to survive and reproduce. | Variation of Traits (3) |
| | 3.2.5 | Engage in argument from evidence that in a particular habitat (system) some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all. | Environmental Changes (3) |
| | 3.2.6 | Design a solution to a problem caused by a change in the environment that impacts the types of plants and animals living in that environment. | Environmental Changes (3) |
| 3.3 Force Affects Motion | 3.3.1 | Plan and carry out investigations that provide evidence of the effects of balanced and unbalanced forces on the motion of an object. | Stability and Motion: Science of Flight (3), Stability and Motion: Forces and Interactions (3) |
| | 3.3.2 | Analyze and interpret data from observations and measurements of an object's motion to identify patterns in its motion that can be used to predict future motion. | Stability and Motion: Science of Flight (3), Stability and Motion: Forces and Interactions (3) |
| | 3.3.3 | Construct an explanation that the gravitational force exerted by Earth causes objects to be directed downward, toward the center of the spherical Earth. | Standard not currently supported. |
| | 3.3.4 | Ask questions to plan and carry out an investigation to determine cause and effect relationships of electric or magnetic interactions between two objects not in contact with each other. | Stability and Motion: Forces and Interactions (3) |
| | 3.3.5 | Design a solution to a problem in which a device functions by using scientific ideas about magnets. | Stability and Motion: Forces and Interactions (3) |

Fourth Grade

| | | SEEd Standard | PLTW Launch Modules |
|---|-------|---|---|
| 4.1: Organisms Functioning In Their Environment | 4.1.1 | Construct an explanation from evidence that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction. | Organisms: Structure and Function (4) |
| | 4.1.2 | Develop and use a model of a system to describe how animals receive different types of information from their environment through their senses, process the information in their brain, and respond to the information. | Organisms: Structure and Function (4) |
| | 4.1.3 | Analyze and interpret data from fossils to provide evidence of the stability and change in organisms and environments from long ago. | Earth: Past, Present, and Future (4), Environmental Changes (3) |
| | 4.1.4 | Engage in argument from evidence based on patterns in rock layers and fossils found in those layers to support an explanation that environments have changed over time. | Earth: Past, Present, and Future (4) |
| 4.2: Energy Transfer | 4.2.1 | Construct an explanation to describe the cause and effect relationship between the speed of an object and the energy of that object. | Energy Exploration (4) |
| | 4.2.2 | Ask questions and make observations about the changes in energy that occur when objects collide. | Energy Exploration (4) |
| | 4.2.3 | Plan and carry out an investigation to gather evidence from observations that energy can be transferred from place to place by sound, light, heat, and electrical currents. | Energy Exploration (4) |
| | 4.2.4 | Design a device that converts energy from one form to another. | Energy Exploration (4) |
| 4.3: Wave Patterns | 4.3.1 | Develop and use a model to describe the regular patterns of waves. | Waves and the Properties of Light (4) |
| | 4.3.2 | Develop and use a model to describe how visible light waves reflected from objects enter the eye causing objects to be seen. | Waves and the Properties of Light (4) |
| | 4.3.3 | Design a solution to an information transfer problem using wave patterns. | Waves and the Properties of Light (4) |
| 4.4: Observable Patterns In The Sky | 4.4.1 | Construct an explanation that differences in the apparent brightness of the Sun compared to other stars is due to the relative distance (scale) of stars from Earth. | Patterns in the Universe (5) |
| | 4.4.2 | Analyze and interpret data of observable patterns to show that Earth rotates on its axis and revolves around the Sun. | Patterns in the Universe (5) |

| | | SEEd Standard | PLTW Launch Modules |
|---|-------|---|---|
| Strand 5.1: Characteristics and Interactions of Earth's Systems | 5.1.1 | Analyze and interpret data to describe patterns of Earth's features. | Earth: Past, Present and Future (4) |
| | 5.1.2 | Use mathematics and computational thinking to compare the quantity of saltwater and freshwater in various reservoirs to provide evidence for the distribution of water on Earth. | Earth: Past, Present and Future (4) |
| | 5.1.3 | Ask questions to plan and carry out investigations that provide evidence for the effects of weathering and the rate of erosion on the geosphere. | Earth: Past, Present and Future (4) |
| | 5.1.4 | Develop a model to describe interactions between Earth's systems including the geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and/or atmosphere. | Earth's Water and Interconnected Systems (5) |
| | 5.1.5 | Design solutions to reduce the effects of naturally occurring events that impact humans. | Earth: Human Impact and Natural Disasters (4) |
| Strand 5.2: Properties and Changes of Matter | 5.2.1 | Develop and use a model to describe that matter is made of particles on a scale that is too small to be seen. | Matter: Properties and Reactions (5) |
| | 5.2.2 | Ask questions to plan and carry out investigations to identify substances based on patterns of their properties. | Matter: Properties and Reactions (5) |
| | 5.2.3 | Plan and carry out investigations to determine the effect of combining two or more substances. | Matter: Properties and Reactions (5) |
| | 5.2.4 | Use mathematics and computational thinking to provide evidence that regardless of the type of change that occurs when heating, cooling, or combining substances, the total weight of matter is conserved. | Matter: Properties and Reactions (5) |
| 5.3: Cycling of Matter In Ecosystems | 5.3.1 | Construct an explanation that plants use air, water, and energy from sunlight to produce plant matter needed for growth. | Ecosystems: Flow of Matter and Energy (5) |
| | 5.3.2 | Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information that animals obtain energy and matter from the food they eat for body repair, growth, and motion and to maintain body warmth. | Ecosystems: Flow of Matter and Energy (5) |
| | 5.3.3 | Develop and use a model to describe the movement of matter among plants, animals, decomposers, and the environment. | Ecosystems: Flow of Matter and Energy (5) |
| | 5.3.4 | Evaluate design solutions whose primary function is to conserve Earth's environments and resources. | Ecosystems: Flow of Matter and Energy (5) |