

PBLNow Elementary Science Units

About the Units

PBLNow, a new division of PBLWorks, has developed science project-based units for grades K-5.

We've developed two units per grade level, each focusing on both national and state-based standards, and lasting 2-3 weeks. All units are built using the NGSS standards, and each can be substituted for an OpenSciEd unit at the same grade level. Additionally, they include formative and summative performance tasks embedded within the unit. Read about the unit topics below, and click [here](#) to see more detailed overviews:

Grade	Unit 1	Unit 2
K	Forces & Motion Designing safer playground equipment	Plant & Animal Relationships Developing a solution to protect animals & plants by reducing litter
1	Earth's Place in the Universe Using the sky to help us plan our daily routines	Sound Waves & Communication Designing a device to help tour guides give tourists a city tour
2	Ecosystem Dynamics Growing plant species native to Kentucky	Processes that Shape the Earth Designing a park protection plan to will resist disasters
3	Contact & Non-Contact Forces Designing a device to clean a river	Ecosystems & Change Proposing a way for people & horses to coexist
4	Energy Transfer Making a blueprint of a clean transport device	Animal Growth & Reproduction Developing a diagnosis for a sick animal
5	Earth, Water & Atmosphere Recommending solutions to respond to natural disasters	Movements of Energy & Matter Reporting on the health of Kentucky's cave ecosystem

Test a Unit in Your Classroom

Teachers have the opportunity to test these units between February-March 2024 and give PBLNow feedback about their experience using them. Any teachers who test a unit and give us feedback can earn \$600.

Here's a description of the tasks involved:

1. **Lesson Plan (Workshop) Feedback Form & Tips Videos**

Complete an online form giving us feedback about yours and the students' experience after each workshop you teach. Additionally, create short videos using Flipgrid letting us know your tips and tricks for facilitation.

2. **Performance Task Teacher Feedback and Student Reflection**

Complete an online form giving us feedback about each performance task in the unit, providing observations about students' experience. Additionally, students also share their perspectives about the experience using a Student Reflection online form.

3. **End of Unit Student Survey**

At the close of the unit, students will complete an anonymous online survey. The survey asks students to share more about their attitudes toward science and success skills (communication, collaboration, and self-directed learning).

4. **De-Identified Student Work Samples**

For each key milestone in the unit, you will upload student work samples in an assigned Google Folder. Before sharing the work samples, you would remove any markers of students' identities.

Express Your Interest to Participate!

Let us know you're interested in participating in this field test by signing up using the link here: [Curriculum Test Sign Up](#)

Questions?

Reach out to Ari Dolid, Director of Curriculum Design for PBLWorks:
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