

Getting Started with Elementary OpenSciEd Curriculum

Grade Levels

K-5

Educational Setting

In school.

Informational Webinar

Jan. 23, 4 p.m.

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[Recordings on Iowa STEM's Website](#)

Award Provides

- \$100 stipend for attending one day summer in-person session
- \$50 stipend for attending each of the three virtual support sessions offered (Up to \$150 if participant attends all three virtual support sessions)
- Choice of one grade-level classroom kit of materials (with printed teacher guide):
 - Kindergarten [K.1 Unit](#)
 - First Grade [1.1 Unit](#)
 - Second Grade [2.1 Unit](#)
 - Third Grade [3.1 Unit](#)
 - Fourth Grade [4.1 Unit](#)
 - Fifth Grade [5.1 Unit](#)

2025-26 STEM Scale-Up Program Summary



OpenSciEd (OSE) is more than a curriculum. It is a paradigm shift that reimagines the experience of science education to ensure that all students, regardless of their previous exposure to science, can excel in and outside the classroom.

Teachers select one of the grade-level units listed below and will receive a one day in-person training in addition to an OSE kit for their classroom. There will be multiple virtual support sessions held throughout the 25-26 school year to support educators implementing this curriculum into their practice.

The curriculum is designed to support teachers in engaging students' natural curiosities and interests. The complete K-5 program meets NGSS and integrates ELA/literacy and math standards. Iowa is one of the OSE field test states and has played an integral part in the research and development of curricula materials. This free open education resource provides access for all districts and teachers to use, customize, and share curriculum resources.

The program will provide an overview of the instructional practice shifts necessary to successfully implement this award-winning curriculum widely recognized as high-quality instructional materials.

K-5 OpenSciEd Units available through this Scale Up program:

- K: Energy/Sunlight (Why do some surfaces get hot and how can we make them less hot?)
- 1st Grade: Waves/Light (How can we read under covers when it is dark?)
- 2nd Grade: Earth/Land Changing Shape (How do wind and water change the shape of the land and what can we do about it?)
- 3rd Grade: Forces & Interactions (How can we design objects to balance and move in different ways?)
- 4th Grade: Energy Transfer/Collisions (Why does an object's motion change?)
- 5th Grade: Ecosystems & Matter Cycling (How does a nurse log help other things live and grow?)

Additional Cost(s) to Awardee During Award Period
None.

Approximate Sustainability Cost(s) After Award Period
\$50 to \$100

Website
opencied.org

Video
youtube.com/watch?v=aTELpeQke9g

Requirements to Implement the Program

- Educator(s) must attend the in-person training session.
- Educator(s) must participate in the STEM Council Scale-Up Educator Survey.

Iowa Standards Alignment

All OSE units align with the latest science standards and research and are reviewed using the EQuIP rubric from the NSTA. The diagram below provides a guide for the standards alignment in each unit. This award provides access to the first unit in the sequence for a grade level.



Professional Development

Duration:

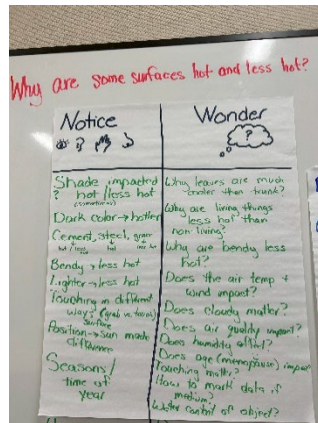
One full day of in-person summer training followed by three optional two-hour grade-specific virtual sessions offered throughout the fall of 2025.

Date(s):

All training sessions will be delivered between July 15 and August 15.

Location:

Regionally



To Learn More or To Apply: educate.iowa.gov/STEM/ScaleUp