SUMMIT K12

Publisher Response

Eighth Grade

Summit K12's Dynamic Science program was developed for Texas by Texas science educators. It is 100% aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), Scientific and Engineering Practices (SEPs), Recurring Themes and Concepts (RTCs), and English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS). Our curriculum is designed to immerse students in science as they make sense of phenomena through three-dimensional teaching and learning. In addition, it provides teachers the flexibility to deliver content in a way that positions and honors educators as experts in determining what works best for the unique needs of their students.

Summit K12 has created a science curriculum that supports the needs of all 5 million Texas students and subpopulations, including the 36% of Texas students who receive emergent bilingual, gifted/talented, special education, or 504 services. It offers second language acquisition and newcomer student support, vertically aligned scaffolds, and all TEA-allowable accessibility tools and accommodations.

Dynamic Science is written to be easy and intuitive for teachers and students, efficient for teachers and administrators, and effective in delivering desired outcomes for students, teachers, schools, and districts.

The Texas Resource Review analysis and detailed reports demonstrate and elaborate on the exceptional content and materials within the Dynamic Science program. However, Summit K12 would like to address and further explain criteria where the committee may have overlooked some materials that would have merited a score of Meets.

To view examples of our Summit K12 curricula that address these criteria, visit: https://bit.ly/SummitK12ScienceTRR

Indicator 5

5.2.1, 5.2.2

Summit K12 Dynamic Science curriculum provides extensive guidance to support teachers in anticipating student misconceptions and responses through the use of questioning. Lesson Guides and teacher resources such as the Phenomenon Teacher Guides, activity and investigation teacher guides, and scaffolded class discussions include specific questions that support and extend the learning process.

Scaffolds and supports have also been included to assist teachers and students in vocabulary development. Vocabulary instruction is purposefully embedded within the context of the science investigations and learning process. Lesson guides, study guides, videos, phenomena, literacy connections, and assessments all allow students to learn and practice using scientific vocabulary.

Indicator 6

6.2.4, 6.3.3

Dynamic Science materials include multiple resources and teacher guidance to support students at every level of conceptual understanding. Online assessments yield color-coded data reports that teachers can use when planning intervention or extension activities. Students who have mastered the TEKS can extend their learning using activities from the Lesson Guide's Apply and Extend section, though all students can benefit from these opportunities. Students who need additional support may be assigned scaffolded, self-paced online materials, or teachers may select activities from previous grade-level scaffolded Lesson Guides that support gaps in understanding.

Our curriculum provides a variety of guidance and supports to ensure consistent and accurate administration of assessment tools. Within the Summit K12 LMS, the Teacher Reports Dashboard provides educators with information to support consistent and accurate administration of Summit K12 online assessments. Lesson Guides and teacher resources include rubrics that denote the level of student mastery of the content and support educators with administration, scoring, and providing specific feedback to students regarding their performance. Every activity, study guide, investigation, graphic organizer, and literacy connection includes a detailed answer key to help teachers accurately assess student concept mastery.

Indicator 7

7.3.1

Summit K12 Dynamic Science curriculum includes teacher guidance for linguistic accommodations so that emergent bilingual students are engaged and successful in mastering scientific concepts. Each Lesson Guide includes ELPS alignment for all student activities and strategies, such as targeted, concept-specific question stems to support students at various levels of English language proficiency as they master the TEKS. Summit K12 also provides an extensive ELPS support guide with numerous strategies for teachers to implement to assist students with language development. In addition, Dynamic Science includes Science cognates, Multilingual Newcomer Lessons offering teacher guides, e-Books, vocabulary reviews, assessments, and Vocabulary Mastery practice with audio support and Spanish vocabulary translations for students.

Indicator 8

8.1.3, 8.2.2

Dynamic Science materials provide opportunities for review and practice of knowledge and skills spiraled throughout the year to support mastery and retention. The online Concept Mastery component includes student learning resources sorted by reporting category. Teachers may assign two assessments within each category, a video review, or a vocabulary activity from any TEKS at any time. In addition, the assessment bank enables educators to include spiraled content within their own custom-built assessments.

This flexibility allows teachers to spiral knowledge and skills as needed for mastery and retention, fitting within any scope and sequence framework. These resources also include scaffold supports for relevant TEKS, which allows differentiation for students who need more intensive

concept review from previous grade-level standards. In addition, the Scientific and Engineering Practices and Recurring Themes and Concepts are reviewed and practiced throughout the year and correlated for every student activity within each Lesson Guide for teachers.

Dynamic Science includes standards correlations that explain the standards within the context of the grade level. All Lesson Guides and teacher resources show correlations to TEKS, ELPS, Scientific and Engineering Practices, and Recurring Themes and Concepts. In addition, these standards are listed online for easy reference. The Summit K12 Pacing Materials also outline the standards covered within the course. Because the course was custom-built from the TEKS, every content standard is 100% correlated to TEKS content. All ELPS and process standards (Scientific and Engineering Practices are 100% correlated as well.

Cross-content standards are also covered within the course. Math and ELA content is integrated within numerous literacy connections, writing opportunities, research projects, investigations, data collection and analyses, models, and mathematical calculations.