Mystery Science uses the 5E Instructional Model

Our Mysteries are designed based on the 5E instructional model.

Engage

SHORT INTRO VIDEOS

Mystery Science raises a question, and uses compelling storytelling and visuals to introduce students to a scientific phenomenon and get them excited to investigate.

Explore

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

Students experience key concepts through a collaborative hands-on, inquiry activity. They test predictions, share ideas and record observations. Teachers act as a facilitator, supporting students in establishing relationships and communicating their experience and ideas.

Explain

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Students have frequent opportunities to connect their prior knowledge to new concepts. They share their thinking and build explanations. Post-activity questions encourage students to engage in sense-making, linking their findings to the Mystery question. The final video of the Mystery builds upon the student discussion and provides scientific explanation.

Elaborate

EXTENSIONS

Our extensions offer an opportunity for students to apply their learning to a similar or new situation. They include additional activity suggestions, online resources, project ideas and readings to help extend the learning.

Evaluate

MYSTERY ASSESSMENTS

Grades K-1: Each Mystery includes a Drawing and Writing Prompt that can be used to assess students' knowledge.

Grades 2-5: Each Mystery includes an open response assessment and answer key. A variety of questions at different levels are included. In addition to Mystery assessments, there is a summative assessment for each unit.