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Core Curriculum

Fast Track: Supporting NGSS PEs and Assessments

Fast Track shortens the instructional footprint while preserving the same core module storyline, anchor phenomena, grade-level NGSS Performance Expectations (PEs), and a clear assessment pathway.

What Fast Track Protects:

- **Full Performance Expectation Coverage:** Each grade-level NGSS PE is addressed in at least one Fast Track location.
- **3-Dimensional Learning:** Students apply Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts through Driving Questions.
- **Coherent Storyline:** Core narrative and module anchor phenomena remain, so students build towards the same conceptual goals.

Instructional Design	NGSS Connection	Assessment Evidence
Streamlined pacing	Fast Track prioritizes essential learning while reducing some reinforcement, extended writing, design iterations, and non-essential extensions.	Focuses time on learning needed to access standards and assessments.
5E lesson flow	Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, and Evaluate remain visible in teacher materials.	Teachers gather ongoing evidence through questioning, discussion, observation, student explanations, and formal checks.
Driving Questions	Students apply SEPs, DCIs, and CCCs together.	Performance Tasks demonstrate integrated 3D understanding.
Assessment pathway	Pre-Explorations identify prior knowledge and misconceptions, with Misconception Tables linking common errors to supporting lessons.	MCAs and Benchmarks remain aligned to the Fast Track content.

Assessments-at-a-Glance

- **Pre-Explorations:** Quickly identify starting points and misconceptions before a Driving Question.
- **Misconception Tables:** Connect common student errors to the Fast Track lessons that address them.
- **Formative discussion:** Use questioning, talk moves, observations, and class discussion as ongoing evidence.
- **Performance Tasks:** Look for students applying SEPs, DCIs, and CCCs together in a culminating task.
- **MCAs and Benchmarks:** Use preserved lesson content to support readiness for curriculum-aligned checks.