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# Engineering The Future: A Summer Academy for Underrepresented Students

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## Engineering the Future: A Summer Academy for Underrepresented Students



**Before we begin:** Find a couple of friends (or make a few new ones) and pick up a zip lock bag of supplies

**Your task:** To build the tallest free-standing structure out of 20 sticks of spaghetti, one yard of tape, one yard of string and a marshmallow. The marshmallow has to be on top.



## Engineering the Future: A Summer Academy for Underrepresented Students



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Director, Center for STEM Inquiry



## Partnerships and Schools

- Hope College Natural and Applied Sciences and Social Sciences Divisions
- Muskegon Area Intermediate School District Math and Science Center
- Muskegon Heights Public School Academies
- Holland New Tech High School

## Funding

- Michigan Space Grant Consortium
- Hope College
  - Natural & Applied Sciences and Social Sciences Divisions
  - Center for STEM Inquiry (Howard Hughes Medical Institute Grant)



## The Marshmallow Challenge

- Who Consistently Performs Poorly?
  - Recent Business School Graduates
- Who Consistently Performs Well?
  - Recent Kindergarten School Graduates
- Why?
  - Business students tend to strive for the one best solution and only after the structure is built do they see if it will hold a marshmallow
  - Kindergarten Students – engage in the natural design process; smaller steps, testing materials and seeing what works as they plan and build prototypes arriving at a solution – **an engineering approach**

The Marshmallow Challenge Website with TED Talk Video is at <http://marshmallowchallenge.com/Welcome.html>



# Engineering? but I teach Science!

**Table 2. Framework for comparison review of the NGSS and MSS Grade Level Content Expectations for Grades K-7**

NGSS		MSS	
<b>Scientific and Engineering Practices</b>		<b>Science Processes</b>	
Asking questions and defining problems Developing and using models Planning and carrying out investigations Analyzing and interpreting data Using mathematics and computational thinking Constructing explanations and designing solutions Engaging in argument from evidence Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information		Inquiry Process Inquiry Analysis and Communication Reflection, and Social Implications	
<b>Crosscutting Concept</b>		<b>Disciplines</b>	
Patterns Cause and effect Scale, proportion, and quantity Systems and system models Energy and matter Structure and function Stability and change		Physical Science Force and Motion Energy Properties of Matter Life Science: Organization of Living Things Heredity Evolution Ecosystems	Earth Science Earth Systems Solid Earth Fluid Earth Earth in Space and Time
<b>Disciplinary Core Ideas</b>		<b>Disciplines (all of the above)</b>	
Physical Sciences Life Sciences Earth and Space Sciences		Physical Science Life Science Earth Science	
<b>Disciplinary Core Ideas</b>		<b>Science Processes</b>	
Engineering, Technology and Application of Science		Inquiry Reflection, and Social Implications	

A Content Comparison Analysis of the Next Generation Science Standards and the Michigan Science Standards (Ziker, 2014, p. 9).



## Science and Engineering Practices in the NGSS

1. Asking questions (for science) and defining problems (for engineering)
2. Developing and using models
3. Planning and carrying out investigations
4. Analyzing and interpreting data
5. Using mathematics and computational thinking
6. Constructing explanations (for science) and designing solutions (for engineering)
7. Engaging in argument from evidence
8. Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information



Table 2. Framework for comparison review of the NGSS and MSS Grade Level Content Expectations for Grades K-7

NGSS		MSS	
<b>Scientific and Engineering Practices</b>		<b>Science Processes</b>	
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Patterns Cause and effect Scale, proportion, and quantity Systems and system models Energy and matter Structure and function Stability and change		Physical Science Force and Motion Energy Properties of Matter Life Science: Organization of Living Things Heredity Evolution Ecosystems	Earth Science Earth Systems Solid Earth Fluid Earth Earth in Space and Time
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<b>Disciplinary Core Ideas</b>		<b>Science Processes</b>	
Engineering, Technology and Application of Science		Inquiry Reflection, and Social Implications	



# Real World Inquiry and the NGSS



- Cross Cutting Concepts
  1. Patterns
  2. Cause and effect
  3. Scale, proportion and quantity
  4. Systems and system models
  5. Energy and matter
  6. Structure and function
  7. Stability and change

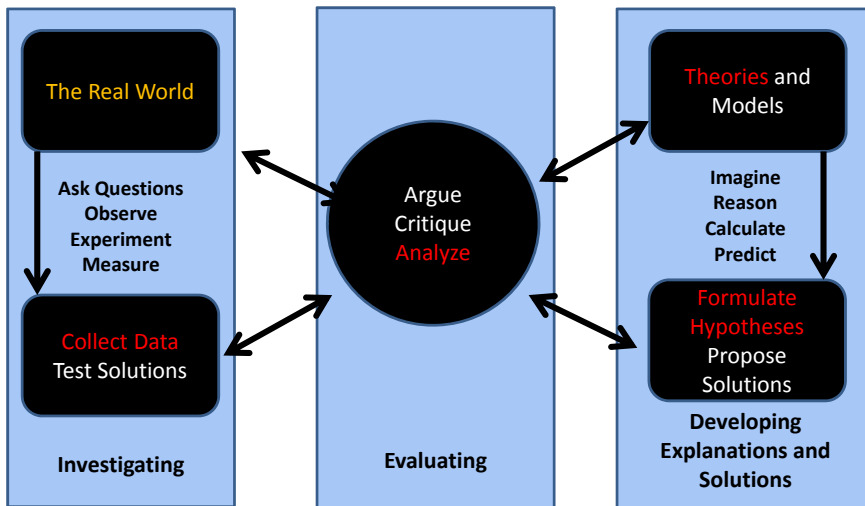
Table 1. Framework for comparison review of the NGSS and MSB Grade Level Content Specifications for Grades 6-8

NGSS	MSB
<b>Science and Engineering Practices</b> Asking questions and defining problems Developing and using models Planning and conducting investigations Analyzing and interpreting data Using mathematics and computational thinking Constructing explanations and designing solutions Engaging in argument from evidence Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information	<b>Science Practices</b> Inquiry Process Inquiry Analysis and Communication Reflection, and Social Interaction
<b>Crosscutting Concepts</b> Patterns Cause and effect Scale, proportion, and quantity Systems and system models Structure and function Stability and change	<b>Science Practices</b> Inquiry Process Inquiry Analysis and Communication Reflection, and Social Interaction
<b>Disciplinary Core Ideas</b> Physical Sciences Earth Science Life Science The Earth and Space Science	<b>Disciplinary Core Ideas</b> Physical Sciences Earth Science Life Science The Earth and Space Science
<b>Engineering, Technology and Application of Science</b>	<b>Engineering, Technology and Application of Science</b>



# Scientists and Engineers Areas of Activity

A Framework for K-12 Science Education: Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Core Ideas



### Scientific Method

Redrawn from "A Scientific Method Based on Research Scientists' Conception of Scientific Inquiry," R. Ball, W. S. Harwood, I. Phillips. Proceedings of the 2002 Annual International Conference of the Association for the Education of Teachers in Science.

### Engineering Design

**ENGINEERING DESIGN PROCESS**

<https://www.teachengineering.org/engrdesignprocess.php>

## Engineering? but I teach Science!

Table 3. Results of the NGSS and the MSS Grade Level Content Expectations for K-7  
Content Comparison Analysis

Next Generation Science Standards	Michigan Science Standards for K-7	Degree of Match
Scientific and Engineering Practices	Science Processes	Low Match
NGSS Crosscutting Concepts	MSS Disciplines	Low Match
NGSS Disciplinary Core Ideas	MSS Disciplines	Moderate Match
<b>Overall Degree of Match</b>		<b>Low to Moderate Match</b>

The NGSS Scientific and Engineering Practices and MSS Disciplines of Science Processes were fairly similar in how they address science; however, only the NGSS include references to engineering, developing and using models, and using mathematics and computational thinking.

A Content Comparison Analysis of the Next Generation Science Standards and the Michigan Science Standards (Ziker, 2014, p 16).

## Engineering the Future Academy Summer 2014

### The Center for STEM Inquiry at Hope College

- Public support for STEM education
- Saturday programs
- Summer high school academies
- Teacher workshops
- Education student field placements
- Student leadership and training



## Engineering The Future Academy Goals/Rationale

- **motivate students to learn math and science concepts** by illustrating relevant applications.
- **fosters problem-solving skills**, including problem formulation, iteration, and testing of alternative solutions.
- embraces project-based hands-on learning, and sharpen **abilities to function in three dimensions**



## Engineering The Future Academy Goals/Rationale

- **increase students' awareness of and access to scientific and technical careers**—to consider engineering as a career, so that they enroll in the necessary science and math courses in high school.
- **Engineering and technological literacy are necessary for the 21st century.**

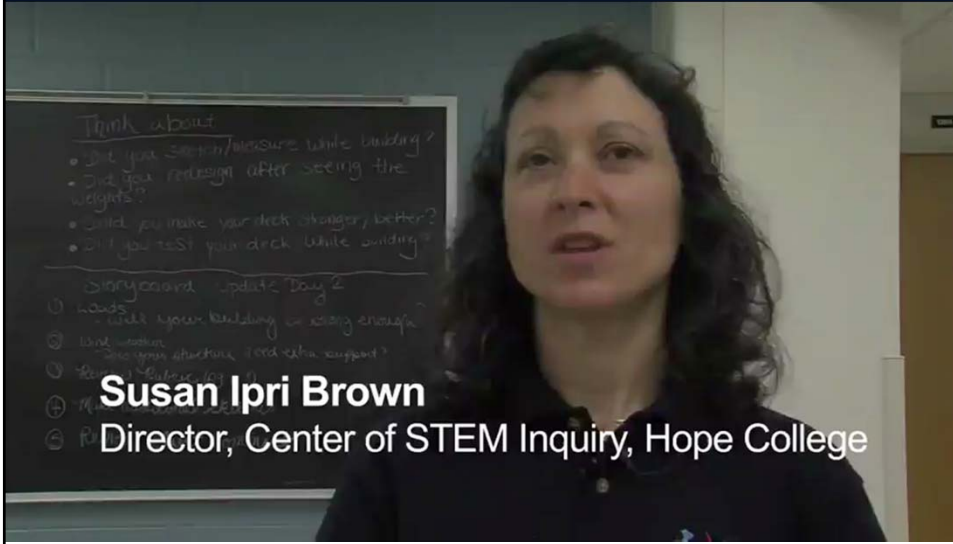


## Approach

- Boston Museum of Science's *Engineering the Future, Unit 2 Sustainable Cities*
- Participants recruited from Muskegon Heights Public School and Holland New Tech High Schools
- Assessments focused on both knowledge of engineering and the design process and students' attitudes and beliefs







Think about


- Did you stretch/measure while building?
- Did you redesign after seeing the weights?
- Could you make your deck stronger, better?
- Did you test your deck while building?

Storyboard Update Day 2

- 1. Loads
- 2. Will your building be strong enough?
- 3. Don't forget to add extra support!
- 4. Be creative!
- 5. Measure!
- 6. Record!

**Susan Ipri Brown**  
Director, Center of STEM Inquiry, Hope College

[Video Link](#)



## A Teacher's Perspective

- “The power of having a real world context that was centered in their community along with the hands on labs and activities created a strong level of engagement.”
- “When I think about the engineering context, I now feel like I have another way to think about my math content.”



## A Pre-service Teacher's Perspective

- "I learned that different people are good at different things"
- "It was helpful to see how all the classroom teachers handled the students because they all did it differently. I also really liked the experience of designing lessons because that is a concrete thing I will have to do in my life."



## The Student's Perspective



- ... I learned about the process of making a building from start to finish. Starting with looking at an empty lot, and looking at the area around it to find out what needs to be there and what isn't in the area around it. Then learning about urban sprawl and other population difficulties and figuring out the best materials for our building. Lastly we got to design the floor plans of our building and then presented our designs to an engineer...
- (9<sup>th</sup> grade, male Holland New Tech)



## The Students' Perspective



...we had to build things with only a certain amount of objects. And we got to make concrete and it was fun...  
(9<sup>th</sup> grade female, Muskegon Heights)



We did a lot of fun things that really make you think...  
(9<sup>th</sup> grade male, Muskegon Heights)



## The Student's Perspective



Engineering is about creating things, designing things, improving things and breaking things. Engineering is more than just designing, much more. (10<sup>th</sup> grade male, Holland New Tech)

...we built buildings and designed buildings and that metal can stretch!  
(9<sup>th</sup> grade male Muskegon Heights)



## The Student's Perspective



...I learned how to work better in a team and did engineering activities... (10<sup>th</sup> grade female, Holland New Tech)



## Impact – Quantitative assessment

- Few students (13 of 33, 39%) chose to participate in our follow-up survey distributed several months after the summer academy
- Insufficient quantitative data to assess the effect of participation on student engagement in school

Patterns of Adaptive Learning Scales (Midgley, et al 2000)	Pre	Post	Norms
Academic Efficacy	4.03	4.27	4.15
Avoiding Novelty	2.52	2.42	2.46
Mastery Goal Orientation	4.44	4.23	2.40
Performance Approach Goal Orientation	3.35	3.18	4.20
Performance Avoidance Goal Orientation	3.67	3.27	2.92
Skepticism of the Relevance of School	2.21	2.01	1.95



# Your turn: Measuring Elasticity

**Measuring Elasticity**

It may surprise you that steel is somewhat elastic. That is, when a steel cable is under tension, it will stretch a little. How much a material stretches under different loads is important to engineers. Because it requires expensive equipment to measure the elasticity of steel, in this task you'll measure how much an elastic band stretches under different loads.

**You will need these materials:**

- 1 10-in. piece of string
- 2 rulers
- 1 large elastic band
- 1 fine plastic bag (one from a Ziploc bag)
- weights of 2-lb each (balls that will water and submerge weights)
- Blue poster felt marker

- 1) Mark two lines two inches apart on an elastic band.
- 2) Suspend the elastic band from two rulers taped together, using a small weight on the bottom.
- 3) With the weight hanging, measure and record the change in length between the two lines (elongation).
 

Elongation ( $\Delta L$ ) = new length ( $L$ ) - original length ( $L_0$ )

$\Delta L = L - L_0$
- 4) Unload the elastic band by holding up the weight. Does it go back to its original length and shape?
- 5) Add different amounts of weight and measure the elongation for each different weight. After each measurement, hold up the weight and measure to determine whether it returns to its original length. Record your observations on the next page.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Weight	New length $L$	Original length $L_0$	Elongation $\Delta L$	Return to original shape? Yes/No

4) Plot each of the data points, with elongation on the y-axis and load (weight) on the x-axis.

**Graphing**

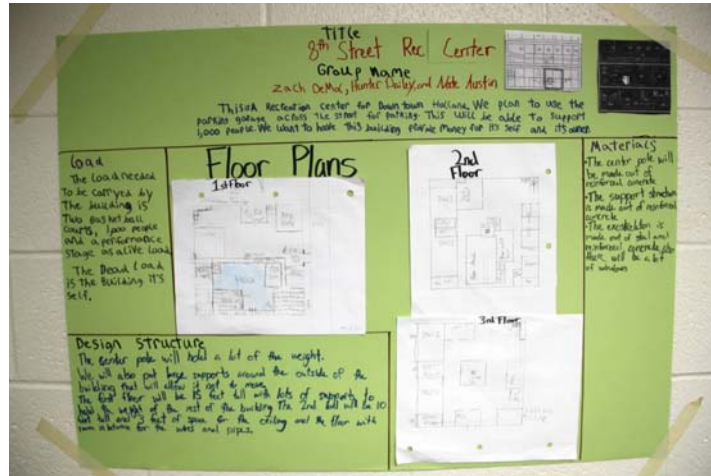
- 1) Label x and y axes.
- 2) Choose increments for axes that make sense. For example, if the x-axis range from 0 to 2, use increments of 0.5.
- 3) Label the points the same way. Be sure to label the axes and include the units.
- 4) Plot each point carefully.

HOPE COLLEGE

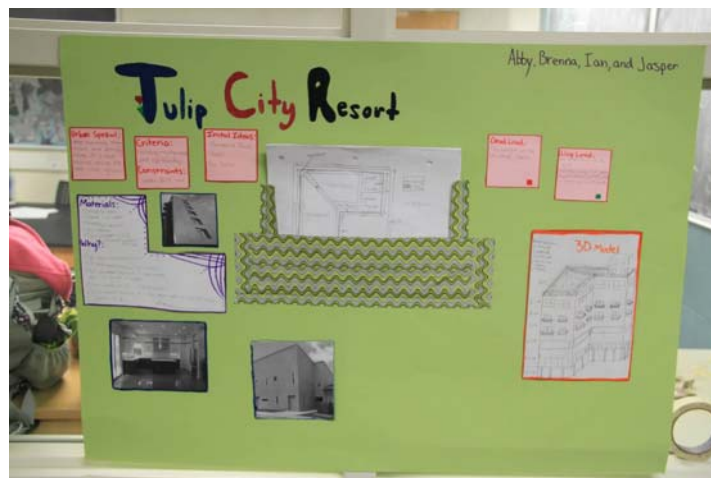
# Retro City

HOPE COLLEGE

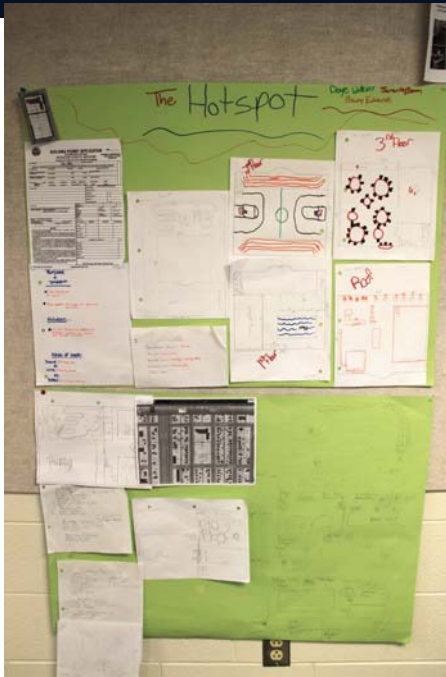
## 8th Street Rec Center



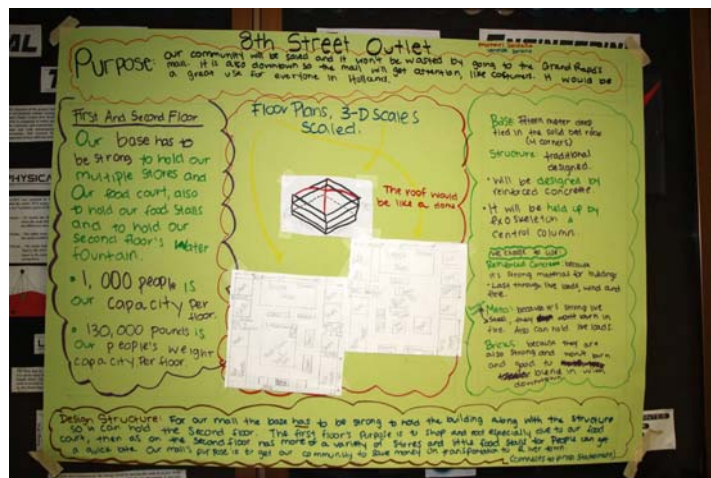
## Tulip City Resort



# The Hot Spot



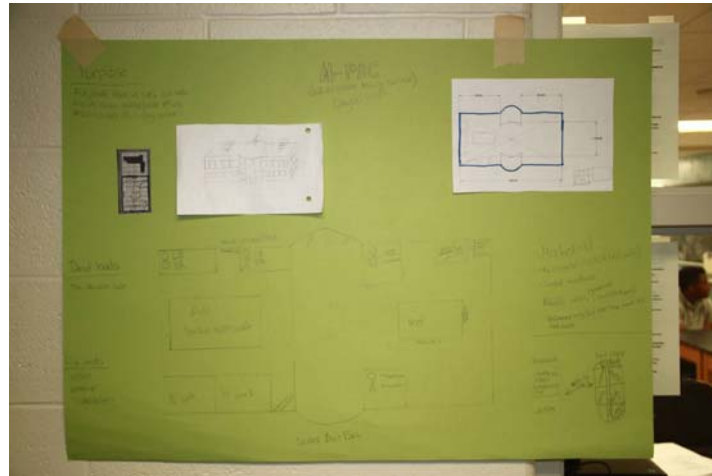
# 8th Street Outlet



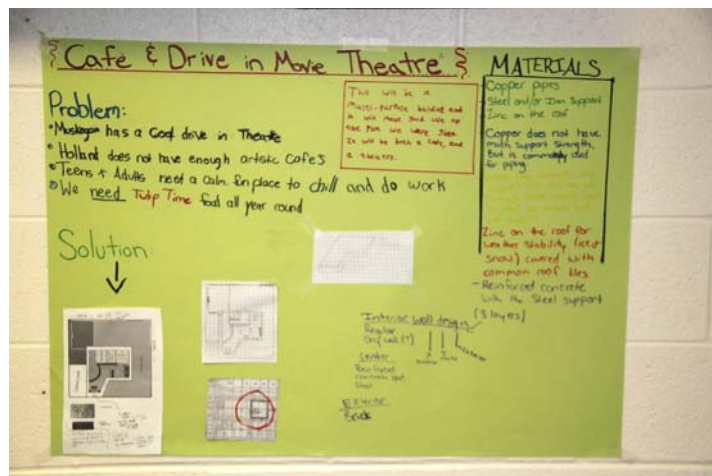




## M-Pac



## Cafa & Drive In Movie Theatre



Thank you!



Support NGSS for All Michigan Students



@Sci4MIKids

Have Your Photo Taken Today!  
Look for the Volunteers with this Poster



## Engineering and Technology Education Resources (1 of 4)

- A brief list of some of the curriculum programs and internet resources available.
- A starting point for you to explore options for getting your students involved in engineering activities

### **Elementary**

- Engineering is Elementary <http://www.mos.org/eie/>
- Children's Engineering <http://www.childrengineering.com/index.htm>
- Invention-Innovation-Inquiry: Units for Technological Literacy, Grades 5-6  
<http://www.iteaconnect.org/i3/index.htm>
- Project Lead The Way Launch <https://www.pltw.org/our-programs/pltw-launch>
- Partnerships Implementing Engineering Education  
<http://www.wpi.edu/Academics/PIEE/Resources/lessons.html>
- Curious George – PBS <http://www.pbs.org/parents/curiousgeorge/activities/>



## Engineering and Technology Education Resources (2 of 4)

### **Middle School**

- Building Math <http://walch.com/Building-Math-for-Common-Core-State-Standards-3-Book-Series.html>
- Project Lead the Way Gateway <https://www.pltw.org/our-programs/pltw-gateway>
- Learning by Design™ <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/projects/lbd/home.html>
- Fetch! – PBS <http://www.pbs.org/parents/fetch/index.html>



## Engineering and Technology Education Resources (3 of 4)

### High School

- Engineering the Future <http://www.mos.org/etf/>
- Engineering Projects In Community Service-learning (EPICS) – High School <http://epics-high.ecn.purdue.edu/>
- Project Lead the Way Engineering <https://www.pltw.org/our-programs/pltw-engineering>
- Design Squad PBS <http://pbskids.org/designsquad/parentseducators/index.html>
- Rube Goldberg Machine Contests <http://www.anl.gov/Careers/Education/rube/>



## Engineering and Technology Education Resources (4 of 4)

### More Information/Resources

- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL) Assessment <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/tel/moreabout.aspx#framework>
- American Society for Engineering Education <http://teachers.egfi-k12.org/>
- National Science Digital Library <https://nsdl.oercommons.org/>
- National Center for Technological Literacy <http://www.mos.org/nctl/>
- International Technology and Engineering Educators Association <http://www.iteaconnect.org/>
- Teacher's Domain-Engineering <http://www.teachersdomain.org/sci/engin/index.html>
- PBS Learning Media: Engineering Design [http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/search/?q=&selected\\_facets=supplemental\\_curriculum\\_hierarchy\\_nodes%3A270&selected\\_facets=](http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/search/?q=&selected_facets=supplemental_curriculum_hierarchy_nodes%3A270&selected_facets=)
- Engineering in K-12 Education: Understanding the Status and Improving the Prospects [http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12635](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12635)
- NASA Endeavor Certificate in STEM Education <http://www.us-satellite.net/endeavor/index.cfm>



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*Note: The second author, W. Harwood published a version of this model in the January 2004 issue of The Science Teacher. [An Activity Model for Scientific Inquiry](#), pp. 44 – 46.*
- Ziker, C. (2014). [\*A Content Comparison Analysis of the Next Generation Science Standards and the Michigan Science Standards\*](#). Menlo Park, CA: SRI International.

