WATER MODULE
Explore Sahithi’s Investigation

LESSONS
1. Sahithi’s Story, and the Process of Science
2. What’s Happening to Our Water?
3. Modeling Eutrophication with Understanding Global Change
4. Citizen Science: Water Data from Our Community
5. Connecting Water & Air: Sources of Pollution

AIR MODULE
Join José, Jesús, and Fernando

LESSONS
1. José, Jesús, and Fernando’s Story, and the Process of Science
2. What’s Happening to Our Air?
3. Modeling Air Pollution with Understanding Global Change
4. Citizen Science: Air Quality Data from Our Community
5. Connecting Air & Water: Pollution in Our Waterways
These resources were designed to...

- Engage students in collaborative work, even during distance learning
- Allow students to observe young scientists at work and reflect on the nature of science
- Support the exploration of local environmental problems and participate in citizen science projects
- Develop student’s ability to think about the Earth as an interconnected system
Next Generation Science Standards

These modules were designed to address the three dimensions of the middle and high school Next Generation Science Standards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science and Engineering Practices</th>
<th>Disciplinary Core Ideas</th>
<th>Crosscutting Concepts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Middle School:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>L5.2.a: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems</td>
<td>• Organisms, and populations of organisms, are dependent on their environmental interactions both with other living things and with nonliving factors.</td>
<td><strong>Cause and Effect</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• In any ecosystem, organisms and populations with similar requirements for food, water, oxygen, or other resources may compete with each other for limited resources, access to which consequently constrains their growth and reproduction.</td>
<td>• Students will use cause-and-effect relationships to explain and predict phenomena in Earth systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Growth of organisms and population increases are limited by access to resources.</td>
<td><strong>Systems and System Models</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS3.3: Human Impacts on Earth Systems</td>
<td>• Human activities have significantly altered the biosphere, sometimes damaging or destroying natural habitats and causing the extinction of other species. But changes to Earth’s environments can have different impacts (negative and positive) for different living things.</td>
<td>• Students will use models to represent systems and their interactions—such as inputs, processes, and outputs.</td>
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<td><strong>High School:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>L5.2.c: Ecosystem Dynamics, Functioning, and Resilience</td>
<td>• A complex set of interactions within an ecosystem can keep its numbers and types of organisms relatively constant over long periods of time under stable conditions. If a modest biological or physical disturbance to an ecosystem occurs, it may return to its more or less original status (i.e., the ecosystem is resilient), as opposed to becoming a very different ecosystem. Extreme fluctuations in conditions or the size of any population, however, can challenge the functioning of ecosystems in terms of resources and habitat availability.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESS2.a: Earth Materials and Systems</td>
<td>• Earth’s systems, being dynamic and interacting, cause feedback effects that can increase or decrease the original changes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESS3.c: Human Impacts on Earth Systems</td>
<td>• The sustainability of human societies and the biodiversity that supports them requires responsible management of natural resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Scientists and engineers can make major contributions by developing technologies that produce less pollution and waste and that preclude ecosystem degradation.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How can we engage students in the **NGSS Science and Engineering Practices** during distance learning and social distancing?

Which practices are you currently using? Which practices are most challenging to address?

1. Asking questions and defining problems
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 and designing solutions
7. Engaging in argument from evidence
8. Obtaining, evaluating and communicating information

Please type responses in the chat!
What is an anchoring phenomenon?

A puzzling event or process whose full explanation requires a wide range of science ideas to be coordinated with one another and with evidence.

We can focus on learning about local environmental phenomena and understanding how to solve problems in our community.
In Traditional Group Tasks...

• Group gets assignment

• Group divides up tasks

• After each member of the group completes their parts, the group comes back together

• If a group grade will be assigned, most of the work is sometimes done by one person to make sure it is complete
Group *Worthy* Tasks

- Provide lots of opportunities for extensions and explorations
- Are 3-dimensional – (integrate SEPs, DCIs, CCCs)
- Require complex problem-solving
- Can not be completed without the contributions of all group members
- Both the entire group and individuals are accountable for the products
Tools for enhancing learning during social distancing

We will use these tools to explain **local environmental issues** and how to **solve problems** in our community.
LESSON 1
Sahithi’s Story, and the Process of Science

**Activity A**

Investigating the Water in Your Community

*Timing:* 45 minutes

*Purpose:* Students examine evidence of changes (algal blooms) in their local fresh water environments using photos (or videos, news articles, or data, if available).

**Activity B**

Observing How Science Works: Sahithi’s Journey

*Timing:* 45 minutes

*Purpose:* Students watch the short film about Sahithi’s research and discuss the aspects of the scientific process they observe in the film.

**Activity C**

The Real Nature of Science

*Timing:* 45 minutes

*Purpose:* Students compare their models of the process of science to the Understanding Science, How Science Works Flowchart, and use the flowchart to document Sahithi’s work.

LESSON 2
Sahithi’s Investigation: What’s happening to our water?

**Activity A**

Connecting Sahithi’s research to a local phenomenon

*Timing:* 45 minutes

*Purpose:* Reintroduce the phenomenon of algal blooms (eutrophication) and have students will make an initial model of how and why this change in the environment occurs.

**Activity B**

Why does our water look like this? How do we solve this problem?

*Timing:* 45-90 minutes

*Purpose:* Students will learn about the causes and effects of, and solutions to, eutrophication and algal blooms in various parts of the United States, and compare this information to what they know about local waterways.
LESSON 3
Modeling Eutrophication with Understanding Global Change

**Activity A**
The Understanding Global Change Framework: Organizing Our Ideas for Model Revisions

**Timing:** 45 minutes
**Purpose:** Students will revisit their models and organize their ideas for revisions using the Understanding Global Change Framework.

**Activity B**
Constructing Models Using Understanding Global Change: Identifying Causes and Solutions

**Timing:** 45 minutes
**Purpose:** Students will revise their models using the Understanding Global Change modeling tools, and think about additional Earth system cause-and-effect relationships.

LESSON 4 (EXTENSION)
Citizen Science: Water Data from Our Community

**Activity A**
Collecting and Analyzing Water Data (with Sahithi’s WaterInsights program or similar water testing-kits)

**Timing:** 45–120 minutes (the WaterInsights lessons are expected to take around 120 minutes)
**Purpose:** Students collect their own water samples and/or analyze existing datasets.

**Activity B**
Exploring Citizen Science Projects

**Timing:** 90 minutes or more
**Purpose:** Students will explore citizen science programs and construct an Earth system model that represents their understanding of the project. Students can then share their models with classmates and other community members to create awareness about a local environmental issue.
LESSON 5 (EXTENSION)
Connecting Water and Air: Sources of Pollution

Activity A
Sources of Water Pollution

Timing: 45 minutes
Purpose: Students will analyze charts that show sources of nitrogen pollution in major bodies of water (Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico, etc.) and discuss sources of atmospheric pollution.

Activity B
Introducing José, Jesús, and Fernando: Designing solutions to reduce air pollution in Monterrey, Mexico

Timing: 45 minutes
Purpose: Students watch the short film about José, Jesús, and Fernando's research and discuss the dimensions of the scientific process they observe in the film, and add new information to their Understanding Global Change models.
AIR MODULE OVERVIEW
LESSON 1
José, Jesús, and Fernando's Story, and the Process of Science

**Activity A**
Investigating the Air Quality in Your Community

**Timing:** 45 minutes  
**Purpose:** Students examine evidence of changes in air quality (smog) in their local environment using photos (or videos, news articles, or data, if available).

**Activity B**
Observing How Science Works: José, Jesús, and Fernando's Journey

**Timing:** 45 minutes  
**Purpose:** Students watch the short film about José, Jesus, and Fernando's research and discuss the aspects of the scientific process they observe in the film.

**Activity C**
The Real Nature of Science

**Timing:** 45 minutes

**Purpose:** Students compare their models of the process of science to the Understanding Science, How Science Works flowchart, and use the flowchart to document José, Jesús, and Fernando's work.
LESSON 2
José, Jesús, and Fernando’s Investigation:
What’s happening to our air?

**Activity A**
Connecting José, Jesús, and Fernando’s research
to a local phenomenon

**Timing:** 45 minutes
**Purpose:** Reinroduce the phenomenon of smog, and students will make an initial model about how and why this change in the environment occurs.

**Activity B**
What’s in our air?

**Purpose:** Students will be introduced to the major components of air pollution through a jigsaw activity and identify the sources and effects of various pollutants (including smog, acid rain, global warming, health/disease).

**Activity C**
Why is the world warming?

**Purpose:** Students will learn about how greenhouse gases re-radiate heat and how various factors (including aerosols, greenhouse gases, tropospheric ozone) influence Earth’s average temperature.
INVENTING TOMORROW
THE FUTURE IS BRIGHTER THAN YOU THINK

LESSON 3
Modeling Air Pollution with Understanding Global Change

Activity A
The Understanding Global Change Framework: Organizing Our Ideas for Model Revisions

Timing: 45 minutes
Purpose: Students will revisit their models and organize their ideas for revisions using the Understanding Global Change framework.

Activity B
Constructing Models Using Understanding Global Change: Identifying Causes and Solutions

Timing: 45 minutes
Purpose: Students will revise their models using the Understanding Global Change modeling tools, and think about additional Earth system cause-and-effect relationships.

LESSON 4 (EXTENSION)
Citizen Science: Air Quality Data from Our Community

Activity A
Collecting and Analyzing Air Quality Data

Timing: 45-120 minutes or more
Purpose: Students collect their own data and/or analyze existing datasets.

Activity B
Exploring Citizen Science Projects

Timing: 90 minutes or more
Purpose: Students will explore citizen science programs and construct an Earth system model that represents their understanding of the project. Students can then share their models with classmates and other community members to create awareness about a local environmental issue.
LESSON 5 (EXTENSION)
Connecting Air and Water: Sources of Pollution

Activity A
Sources of Water Pollution

Timing: 45 minutes
Purpose: Students will analyze charts that show sources of nitrogen pollution in major bodies of water (Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico, etc.) and discuss sources of water pollution.

Activity B
Introducing Sahithi Pingali: Protecting Our Water

Timing: 45 minutes
Purpose: Students watch the short film about Sahithi’s research and discuss the dimensions of the scientific process they observe in the film, and add new information to their Understanding Global Change models.
Lesson 1: Sahithi’s Story and Process of Science

• Activity A: Investigating the Water in Your Community
  Purpose: Students examine evidence of changes (algal blooms) in their local freshwater environments using photos (or videos, or data, if available).

• Activity B: Observing How Science Works: Sahithi’s Journey
  Purpose: Students watch the short film about Sahithi’s research and discuss the aspects of the scientific process they observe in the film.

• Activity C: The Real Nature of Science
  Purpose: Students compare their models of the process of science to the Understanding Science “How Science Works” flowchart, and use the flowchart to document Sahithi’s work.
Lesson 1: Activity A
Investigating Water in Our Community
Now, you will make your ideas public on the Jamboard!

First, we need to learn how to use Jamboard…
During these lessons, we will become familiar with Jamboard, a digital whiteboard.

Jamboard allows you to:

- Collaborate with your classmates
- Share your work
- Save your work as images or pdfs
This is what a blank Jamboard looks like!
These are the tools...
In this activity, we will make sticky notes.

- Pen tool
- Eraser
- Select
- Sticky note
- Add Image
- Shapes
- Text box
- Laser pointer
Investigating Water in Our Community
Make your ideas public in the table (5 min)

• Use sticky notes to add your ideas under each question.
• There are no wrong answers!
• If you see a sticky with an idea similar to yours, try to place your sticky near that one.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What do you notice about this image?</th>
<th>What do you wonder about this image?</th>
<th>What does this image remind you of? Explain.</th>
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Investigating Water in Our Community
Make your ideas public on the Jamboard (10 min)

- Use sticky notes to add your ideas under each question.
- There are no wrong answers!
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</tbody>
</table>

Click here to make a sticky note.
Type in the box to share your ideas and hit “Save.”

Sticky note

The water is green!

Cancel  Save
Click “Cancel” to go back to the Jamboard.
Investigating Water in Our Community
Make your ideas public on the Jamboard (10 min)
- Use sticky notes to add your ideas under each question.
- There are no wrong answers!
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Investigating Water in Our Community
Let’s review our poster and have a class discussion (3 min)

- Did you have any similar ideas? Are they grouped together on the poster?
- Are any of the ideas shared surprising? Why?

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</table>
We will watch a short film about a young scientist, Sahithi Pingali, working to understand a similar problem in her community. Note: If your students will also be participating in collecting data for, or interpreting data from WaterInsights, share this with your students!
Lesson 1: Activity C
How can science help us explain and respond to what is happening to our water?

What are the parts of the process of science?

On your own paper, write down your ideas (2 min)
“The Scientific Method”

Scientific Method (1 serving)

1. Ask a question.
2. Formulate a hypothesis.
3. Perform experiment.
4. Collect data.
5. Draw conclusions.

Bake until thoroughly cooked.
Garnish with additional observations.

https://undsci.berkeley.edu/article/0_0_0/howscienceworks_01
Let’s see how our models compare to another diagram of the process of science!
How Science Works

Exploration & Discovery

- Making observations
- Asking questions
- Sharing data and ideas
- Reading about science discoveries

Practical problem
Curiosity

New observation or idea
Pure chance
Testing Ideas

- Coming up with an explanation
- Gathering data
- Interpreting observations
- Revising what I thought after more observations
Community Analysis and Feedback

- Feedback and peer review
- Discussion with classmates
- Listening to classmates
- Repeating the investigation
- Coming up with new questions/ideas
Benefits and Outcomes

- Learn more
- Satisfy curiosity
- Answer questions
- Solve everyday problems
We are going to further our thinking about the process of science by observing the work of high school scientist, Sahithi Pingali!

As you follow Sahithi’s story, note the parts of the scientific process that you observe in the film.
Working in breakout rooms

Group 1 - How Science Works

Identify what parts of the process of science we saw Sahithi engage in during the film.

Use stickies to explain each step you identify.

Connect the steps with arrows, but don't worry too much if you think they are out of order, just make sure you identify all the parts relevant to their story.
Identify what parts of the process of science we saw Sahithi engage in during the film.

Use stickies to explain each step you identify.

Connect the steps with arrows, but don't worry too much if you think they are out of order, just make sure you identify all the parts relevant to their story.
Follow-up Question

What inspired Sahithi’s work? Briefly summarize how her scientific journey started.
# How Science Works Interactive

## Example Project Name
Add a description here

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>PRACTICAL PROBLEM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>MAKING OBSERVATIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ACTUAL RESULTS/OBSERVATIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>NEW TECHNOLOGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>DISCUSSION WITH COLLEAGUES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This diagram illustrates the process of how science works, starting with a practical problem and moving through exploration and discovery, gathering data, interpreting data, testing ideas, and finally leading to community analysis and feedback. The process involves steps such as developing a hypothesis, collecting and analyzing data, and sharing results with the community.
WATER SUSTAINABILITY STARTS WITH YOU

Learn More
Introduction to our Classroom Kit

Thank you for your interest in testing your community’s water!

I created WaterInsights when I learned—and experienced firsthand in my own community—just how contaminated the world’s water is. For instance, 40% of lakes in the United States are too polluted for fishing, swimming, or aquatic life. And 80% of surface water in India, where I was raised, is contaminated, which leads to numerous health problems and a scarcity of drinking water.
Submit data using your WaterInsights Testing Kit.

Here's how it works:

Gather a water sample in a container you'd be comfortable drinking from. To test your water sample, you'll need to submerge the sample in water for about 1 second. Take it out, start a timer for 30 seconds (your watch or smart phone might have one), and place the sample in a safe place.

When the timer ends, you can use the enclosed analog color bar card to read the values for each of the 6 color blocks. This data will be automatically sent to our application. We'll analyze that data and tell you about your water quality. We'll also store your data with others, so we can study trends in water bodies worldwide. You will be contributing to a World Water Health Map!
Map of locations.

Below is a map of the data from other citizen scientists. Submit your own data and join the map!

These data are periodically vetted, but are publicly generated, and WaterInsights cannot verify the accuracy of the measurements and data reported.
Lesson 3: Air Pollution Modeling and Understanding Global Change

- **Activity A: The Understanding Global Change Framework: Organizing Our Ideas for Model Revisions**
  
  Purpose: Students will revisit their models and organize their ideas for revisions using the “Understanding Global Change” framework.

- **Activity B: Constructing Models Using Understanding Global Change: Identifying Causes and Solutions**
  
  Purpose: Students will revise their models using the Understanding Global Change modeling tools and think about additional Earth system cause and effect relationships.
Systems Thinking

As you work on your model, you are using systems thinking. You are identifying:

- **Components of the system** – the parts of the environment that help you explain air pollution and smog
- **Interactions** – how parts of the systems are connected
Construct a model to make your thinking visible

You will have 5 minutes to construct a model using the icons, arrows, and words that explains what you know about air pollution.

• Make sure all the icons are connected to at least one other icon

• You can draw arrows using the pen tool (hold the shift key down to draw a straight line)

• Provide and explanation for each of the connections using yellow sticky notes

• Write down any questions you have on pink sticky notes
Working in breakout rooms

You will have 5 minutes to construct a model using the icons, arrows, and words that explain what you know about air pollution.

- Make sure all the icons are connected to at least one other icon
- You can draw arrows using the pen tool (hold the shift key down to draw a straight line)
- Provide and explanation for each of the connections using yellow sticky notes
- Write down any questions you have on pink sticky notes
This diagram represents different parts of the Earth…
“Understanding Global Change” Framework

This graphic is divided into three primary categories:

- **Causes of Change** – reasons the Earth changes over time (e.g., human causes, such as pollution, and non-human, such as volcanism)

- **Earth System** – the big processes that shape the Earth over time, like the water cycle or the greenhouse effect

- **Measurable Changes** – the observable or measurable changes that occur within the Earth system (e.g., temperature, biodiversity, snow & ice cover)

- The **Earth System** and **Measurable Changes** are also divided into the four spheres (atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, and geosphere)
Understanding Global Change

CAUSES OF GLOBAL CHANGE

- Burning of fossil fuels
- Urbanization

HOW THE EARTH SYSTEM WORKS

- Greenhouse effect
- Airborne particles
- Air temperature
- Air quality

MEASURABLE CHANGES IN THE EARTH SYSTEM

- Atmosphere
- Biosphere
- Geosphere
- Hydrosphere

Health
“Understanding Global Change” Interactive

https://tinyurl.com/UGC-Interactive
INVENTING TOMORROW
THE FUTURE IS BRIGHTER THAN YOU THINK

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Reflection

Name one thing that you liked or learned today.

Please type responses in the chat!