

Session 2

Target Core Ideas

Goal for this session: *In this session, you analyze a short sequence of learning experiences within your curriculum through the lens of a Disciplinary Core Idea (DCI). You'll identify learning goals that build toward the target core idea, and eliminate learning goals and experiences that don't.*

Study Guide

Download [pdf version of this Study Guide](#).



Prepare - To prepare to analyze your classroom learning experiences, review an [Example Target Core Ideas Planning Tool](#) for Investigations 10-12 in the 5th grade curriculum *Investigating Water Transformations*.

- a. This curriculum focuses on the DCI Matter and Its Interactions. Use the [Example Planning Tool](#) to find which of the components of the DCI were identified as targets for the 3-investigation sequence. The components of the DCI addressed in grades 3-5 are listed in the NGSS under the [5th grade standards for Matter and Its Interactions](#).
- b. With the core idea targets in mind, the next step is to identify learning goals that contribute to students' understanding of the DCI-- and omit those that do not. On the [Example Planning Tool](#), find the learning goals that we found in the Teachers' Guide for Investigations 10-12.



Use the Planning Tool

1. Find the standards for the DCI that your curriculum addresses. (See the [NGSS](#).)
2. Complete the [Target Core Ideas Planning Tool \(docx\)](#).

Note: You can look at a single lesson, one or more sequences of learning experiences, or an entire curriculum unit through the lens of a DCI.



Discuss in Your PLC

With your colleagues, share your filled out *Target Core Ideas Planning Tool*.

Grapple with questions. Provide feedback and support. Plan your next steps.