# **Literacy Across the Disciplines: Science**

## **Course Companion Literacy Academy on Demand**

The Course Companion is designed to allow participants to capture notes, reflections and action steps as they work through the course. Additionally, the Course Companion contains a list of all extra resources listed in the course. Each section of the Course Companion is linked to a corresponding section of the course.

### **CONSIDER THIS SCENARIO**

Ms. Sanderson is an 8th grade science teacher at Jefferson Middle School. Her students are currently working on a unit on the ways that external fields such as magnetic or gravitational fields impact objects. This has allowed the students to conduct a number of exciting experiments. Ms. Sanderson would like for her students to learn to read and write "lab reports" that outline the theory of how a field will impact an object, how the experiment was conducted, and the results of the experiment. She has noticed that many students struggle to read through example lab reports. They get caught up on the vocabulary and often come away without an understanding of the key concepts from the report. She also notices that many struggle to write out their own lab reports. She wants to provide some tools and strategies to support students' comprehension and writing, but she is unsure of what would work best for her students.

Can you relate to the above scenario? In what ways are your challenges in literacy instruction similar or different?

**Supporting Science Literacy – Video Presentation with Dr. Joshua Lawrence**

**Notes:**

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**Reflection Question:** Consider some components of the Simple View of Reading identified by Dr. Lawrence that impact reading in Science (Background, reasoning, academic language & vocab, searching & sources, literacy knowledge, perspective taking) - Which of these elements of effective reading do you commonly draw on in your classroom? What elements might you begin to employ to more effectively teach your students?

### **COURSE REFLECTION**

Which of the tools and strategies from the video and handout can you incorporate into your current instruction? What steps do you need to take to do this successfully?

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### **RESOURCES LISTED IN THE COURSE**

[Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects, 6-12](https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/English-Language-Art/English-Language-Arts-Standards/ELA-Learning-Standards-2017.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US#page=63)

[Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects 6-12](https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/English-Language-Art/English-Language-Arts-Standards/ELA-Learning-Standards-2017.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US#page=67)