



California Department of Education

Science: It's Elementary!

Science contest for teachers of grades K through five

Eligibility and Submission Requirements

No entry fee is necessary to participate or win. The contest is void where prohibited by law, regulation, statute, or other appropriate legal authority.

Purpose

To showcase the importance using formative assessment practices to support learning, and as part of a statewide effort to raise awareness about the importance of science education starting in the early primary grades, the California Department of Education (CDE) is pleased to announce a new contest, *Science: It's Elementary!* Open to kindergarten through grade five California public school teachers, the CDE is calling for submissions demonstrating the use of the formative assessment process in the study of science. The contest seeks to feature classrooms where the formative assessment process is used to guide the study of science phenomena based on the California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS).

Access the Formative Assessment Process at <http://portal.smarterbalanced.org/library/en/formative-assessment-process.pdf> to find out more about how to support all students in meeting learning goals. Access the Elementary Science Standards at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/sc/ngssstandards.asp> to learn more about the disciplinary core ideas and grade level topics.

Finalists will be interviewed and a video produced that will be used for public voting. Finalists also will be invited to attend the first annual California Assessment Conference, October 16–18, 2019, where the winner will be announced. The winner will receive up to \$1,000 in prize money for science resources for their classroom. The winning submission may be posted to the CDE website, any of the educational partner websites, or social media platforms, and may be used free of charge by the CDE, schools, and/or districts.

Eligibility

1. This contest is open to all California public school teachers in kindergarten through grade five with a valid county-district-school (CDS) code furnished by the CDE.
2. At least one teacher must work with students on this submission.
3. To be eligible for the prize, all submissions must be complete and include the following elements:
 - a. A complete and accurate Entry Form submitted by March 22, 2019.

Contest Requirements

1. All entries must demonstrate the use of the formative assessment process.
2. All entries must be aligned with the CA NGSS. All submissions **must include**:
 - a. A title and grade level (K–5)
 - b. California Next Generation Science Standard addressed in the learning event or activity
 - c. A description of the event or activity using the formative assessment process
 - i. Clarify intended learning
 - ii. Elicit evidence
 - iii. Interpret evidence
 - iv. Act on evidence
 - d. Resources attached to the submission
3. All submissions will be judged by a panel of science education and assessment experts who will select three finalists. The finalists will be invited to attend the 2019 California Assessment Conference free of charge.
4. All finalists will be featured in a video promoting the investigation of science phenomena using the formative assessment process that will be recorded by a professional video production company:
 - a. in the classroom or on school property;
 - b. at no cost to the teacher, students, school or district;
 - c. with participation of the teacher and students who submit appropriate Video Release Forms in advance of filming;
 - d. at a mutually agreed upon date and time; and
 - e. before the end of the 2018–19 school year.
5. Finalist videos will be submitted to a public vote from August 15, 2019 to September 13, 2019.
6. All entries must comply with the local student privacy policies and requirements.

How to Enter

1. The following must be submitted by email to kfaughn@scoe.net in order for the submission to be accepted. Submissions that do not include these components will be disqualified.
 - a. Completed Entry Form
 - b. Attached evidence of classroom formative assessment activities associated with the science investigation
2. All contest materials can be found on the CAASPP *Science: It's Elementary* web page: <http://caaspp.org/ta-resources/science-its-elementary.html>
3. Mailed or faxed submissions will not be accepted.
4. Entries must be submitted electronically by **March 22, 2019**. No late entries will be accepted.

Contest Timeline

1. Submissions are due by March 22, 2019.
2. Committee review and finalist selection will be completed by March 29, 2019.
3. Finalists will be contacted to set-up a promotional video taping time and day by April 5, 2019.
4. Videotaping of promotional videos will be concluded by June 5, 2019.
5. Public voting will open on August 15, 2019 and conclude by September 13, 2019.
6. Contest winner will be announced on October 16, 2019.

Prizes

The winner will be awarded up to \$1,000. The CDE reserves the right to select more than one winner.

Resources

The following online resources may be helpful in developing your submission for the contest:

1. CA NGSS
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/sc/ngssstandards.asp>
2. Formative Assessment Process
<https://portal.smarterbalanced.org/library/en/formative-assessment-process.pdf>
3. Formative Assessment in Action Video Series
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tq/sa/fainaction.asp>
4. California Science Framework
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/sc/cf/cascienceframework2016.asp>
5. Project Phenomenon
<https://sites.google.com/site/sciencephenomena/>

Additional Information

Questions about this contest can be submitted via email to kfaughn@scoe.net.