

LaB-aids®

Proven Science Programs

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ASSESSMENT

The SEPUP Assessment System is a complete system for formative and summative assessment of students' progress. Assessments are designed to support classroom instruction while ensuring that students are provided with adequate opportunities to learn science in the ways laid out in the Framework and the NGSS. Teachers can use this evidence-based approach to interpreting students' work to guide their students to higher levels of performance. The System supports both three-dimensional learning and SEPUP's evidence-based approach to socioscientific issues.

Both teachers and students have found the SEPUP Assessment System to be a powerful tool for monitoring and facilitating student progress. The System has shifted the science classroom paradigm from what students know to how they are able to apply what they know in order to engage in sensemaking about scientific phenomena and engineering problems and to develop decisions about or solutions to socioscientific issues.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYSTEM

The SEPUP Assessment System is based on a system first developed by SEPUP and the Berkeley Evaluation and Assessment Research (BEAR) Group at the University of California, Berkeley, Graduate School of Education. Studies have shown that students in classrooms where the SEPUP Assessment System was used as part of a yearlong SEPUP middle school course scored better on post-assessments than did students in classrooms where the System was not used (Wilson, M., & Sloane, K., 2000). After extensive field-testing in hundreds of classrooms, the resulting System has been implemented in thousands more. As part of the Third Edition redesign process, additional assessment variables were developed to capture several NGSS science and engineering practices.