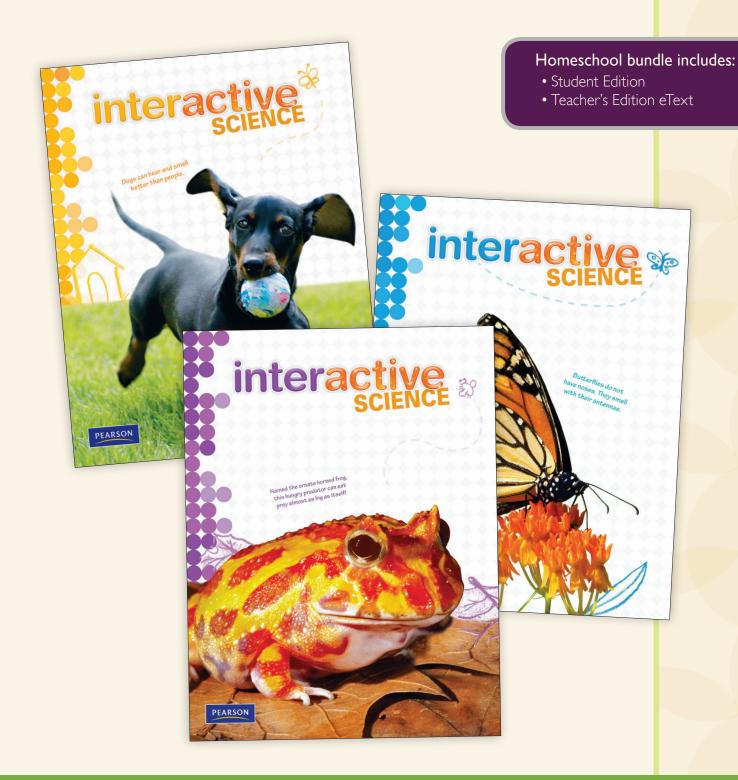
# PARENT GUIDE

## Interactive Science



# Because You Know What Matters Most

Thank you for choosing Pearson to help you on your homeschool journey. Making the right decision about homeschooling can set your child on an exciting path to a lifetime of learning and success. Pearson makes it easy for you to inspire a joy of learning with flexible programs to fit your child's unique learning style. This built-in flexibility lets you set the schedule and the pace that works for you and your child. As you read through this guide and review the included materials, you'll experience how easy it is to personalize the curriculum to match your child's learning style and ensure success with our engaging programs.

Plus, you can rest assured that all of the fundamentals for success are included. The homeschool curriculum you have chosen has been thoughtfully developed and tested by seasoned professionals, to make sure your child receives the finest education.

Welcome to Pearson Homeschool!

## Preparation

It is always an exciting time when you get to open the box with your new curriculum. All of the books and materials are colorful, the pages are crisp and they are filled with the possibilities of the coming year. The anticipation of using the books and teaching your child is new and fresh. Like the air after a spring shower, it is invigorating. You can't wait until you can get started.

Open the bundle of materials, flip through the pages of each book, take in how they look and feel. Get familiar with all of the components. Let your child share in the excitement and catch the enthusiasm you have for starting this new adventure. These will be your companions over the course of the next year.

Once you get familiar with the material, you may experience the overwhelming feeling that is common to homeschool parents: "How will I ever cover all of this material?" You may be flooded with insecurities that you don't know or remember the subject or content. All of these are normal thoughts and experiences for anyone who has homeschooled.

Remember the value of the journey you are on. Focus on the reasons you chose to homeschool in the first place, the daily interaction with your child, and teaching them how to learn. As the tutor, you as the parent don't have to know all of the material. It's fine to learn it with your child as you go through the material together. You are the guide for your child as you journey with them through the learning process.



### Overview

Your Interactive Science Homeschool bundle includes the following components:

- Student Edition
- Teacher's Edition eText

Interactive Science engages students and gives you the tools you need to capture your child's interest and keep them involved in learning science. Organized into two distinct pathways, reading and inquiry, Interactive Science makes learning and teaching science personal, relevant and engaging for both your child and you.

# Where does a cow get food? 2 I will kno scientist use to about new this way to Kno observe.

The Five Senses

You have five senses

2. What did the cricket do? Record what ye

3. Tell what the cricket needs. Use your observations

What does a cricket need?

erve when you use your

## Using the Materials

#### **Student Edition**

Interactive Science's innovative write-in student edition allows your child to get all of the content, interactivity, and practice what they need between the covers of a single book. The write-in *Student Edition* nurtures the inquisitive side of your child and engages them in new and varied ways.

The beginning of the student book provides a review of the chapter organization and numerous activities. Each *Student Edition* has 8 to 12 chapters (depending on the grade) covering four distinct units:

- Unit A: Science Engineering and Technology
- Unit B: Life Science
- Unit C: Earth Science
- Unit D: Physical Science.

At the start of each chapter there will be two questions: an Engaging Question that allows your child to apply their existing knowledge and a Big Question for your child to consider throughout the chapter. Next, each chapter presents a Try It! activity that will set the foundation for the chapter.

The chapter lessons are presented next. Each lesson will include a number of engaging activities and questions that will challenge your child to think deeper about the material. Your child will complete

these while reading through the material. Lessons begin with the Explore It! lab that sets up the lesson. Throughout the lesson are additional quick lab activities that show the lesson in action. Kindergarten Edition has Investigate It! Try It! And Design It! activities that will captivate your child's attention and thinking. Finally, the lessons feature questions and activities that ensure your child understands the material before moving on.

Every chapter ends with an Investigate It! project that ties the lessons together. Additionally, there are vocabulary cards, games, a study guide, and chapter review questions at the end of the chapter.



#### Teacher's Edition eText

The Teacher's Edition is provided in an eText version through the access card included in your homeschool bundle. Simply follow the online registration instructions and enter your code to access all of the instruction materials.

Once you have accessed your eText, you will see a table of contents to your left. Here each chapter in your child's *Student Edition* is shown providing an overview listing the chapter and lesson subjects and activities in a clear outline. Click on the chapter and lesson links within this table of contents to access the material. Then navigate forward and backward by clicking on the left and right arrows in the upper left corner on the toolbar. You can use the magnifying glass icons to zoom in or out or simply select the "fit to page" icon.

Click the folder icon below each chapter's table of contents to expand the view to reveal the chapter's lessons, study guide and chapter review, and chapter test. Lesson plans with instruction notes are provided around a reduced copy of the *Student Edition*, annotated with answers. Lessons plans detail the time needed for each lesson and provide information to walk you through the material to engage your child, monitor their understanding, and provide extra support

where necessary. Look for the Content Refresher sections to provide you with background on the lesson's material. Finally, below all of the chapters, you will find the *Teacher's Program Guide and Unit Resources*. This section will guide you through the activities within the *t* with details about objectives, expectations, materials, time involved, discussion questions, and lab answers.

## Lesson Plans

Lesson plans are important to a successful homeschool environment. They help keep you on track, progress through the material and provide a steady structure for teaching your child. It is important to plan out your lessons, but remember lesson plans are a guide. You should leave room to adapt to your child and adjust the plan to ensure he or she understands the material. The objective is to have a tool you can use to watch your child progress and master the material you present over the school year.

Before you begin your lesson plan, review the materials to see how they are structured. There are a number of items to consider when preparing your plan. How many days per week will you have school? Do you plan to have extended breaks for the holidays or vacations? The number of children you have and their ages will affect how and what you can do as well.

Lesson plans in general should have certain vital components. A suggested list would include some or all of the following:

- The portion of text covered during the lesson
- Main ideas of the lesson
- Key concepts
- Questions to ask

- Activities to do
- Potential field trip ideas
- Assignments given
- Materials and resources needed

Lesson plans are provided within your *Teacher's Edition eText*. The detailed lesson plans are arranged around Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, and Evaluate sections. Each of these sections provides you with information and questions to instruct the lessons and engage your child in the material.

The Teacher's Edition eText provides lesson plans around a reduced copy of the Student Edition annotated with answers so you can follow along with your child. Every chapter covered in the Teacher's Edition eText includes a Teacher Background section that will provide you with background on the material so you are prepared for the lessons. Additionally, throughout the lessons are Content Refreshers that provide you with more information about the lesson's content. Next, the chapter overview is presented and begins with a Read Aloud introduction and Predict question to stimulate your child to think about the lesson. Here you will also find the Big Question introduction to the chapter with each lesson's objectives. Read the text within this section to your child to set up the chapter's objective.

Next, the Inquiry lab will be covered. Each chapter begins with this activity to help your child build a framework of the practice of science. Detailed instructions are provided along with support questions and answers.

The lesson plans are then presented and detail out the time involved for each part of the lesson. Each lesson begins with an Engage section that is designed to activate your child's prior knowledge and stimulate thinking. Questions are provided to help guide you and engage your child. The Explore sections will provide information for your child to consider while reading the text. The Explain sections will begin the process of ensuring your child understands the material, providing ideas to apply their knowledge and help develop critical thinking skills. The Elaborate sections go beyond the text to challenge your child with additional activities. Finally the Evaluate section is an opportunity for your child to demonstrate their knowledge.

Click on the Teacher's Program Guide and Unit Resources section to find details about the numerous activities within the Student Edition. This part of your Teacher's Edition eText will walk you through the steps involved in the activities so you will be prepared to incorporate these activities into your lessons.

Finally, as you plan your lessons, be sure to familiarize yourself with any legal requirements you may have in your local area or state. The Pearson Homeschool website (PearsonHomeschool.com) has links to each state Department of Education so that you may review the laws and how to comply with them.

## Adapt the Curriculum

One of the great benefits of homeschooling is that you know the instruction is personal. Everything you teach will be personalized to fit your child. The Interactive Science program is designed so you can pace it to your child's individual needs. The lessons offer enrichment activities and additional support when necessary.

**Pacing Guide** 

Inquiry Activities

Inquiry Activities

Apply It! Labs
Performance-Based Assessn

#### **Pacing**

The Interactive Science program is presented across 8-12 topics that cover about 40-45 weeks. As you progress through the material you will find that your child grasps certain lessons with ease, while needing more time and practice on other sections. A detailed pacing guide is provided in the *Teacher's Edition eText* in the Teacher's Program Guide and Unit Resources section. Additionally, the lesson plans show estimated time involved for each lesson to help you plan your day.

#### **Teaching is Everywhere**

Another part of the homeschool benefit is that teaching can occur all of the time. When you are outside of "school" ask your child about concepts learned in previous lessons. Tie them into life situations and world events. Plan field trips and take your lessons into the field. Check your local museums for exhibits to enhance your teaching curriculum, and align your lesson plans to incorporate those events. Don't forget to use your own resources to complement the material, and tie the lessons into your child's interests.

#### **Conflicting Materials**

Any homeschool parent will be faced with the dilemma of what to do when you come across material in the curriculum you don't like or disagree with. While no curriculum will ever be able to satisfy all the beliefs, opinions or values held by each family, there are several approaches that you can take in these situations.

One approach is to skip over the material in question. Another suggestion would be to use this as an opportunity for a special teachable moment. Review the material with your child. Discuss your feelings about the material, idea or value presented. Take the opportunity to prepare your child for the diversity of thought/opinion in the world and the need to be discerning of principles and ideas that may challenge yours. There is a definite balance between having the freedom that homeschool brings and the responsibility you assume in education.

This curriculum has been modified specifically for homeschool families. At times, there may be references to print or digital components or activities that are not included within the homeschool bundle. This will not hinder your child's successful completion of the course.

# Thank you

As you progress along the journey, you will have moments of frustration and moments that make it all worthwhile. Remember to keep it in perspective. Homeschool parents live for those moments when their children are most teachable. You will know when those moments happen as you can see the light go on, they really get it. Cherish those times and use them as the fuel to motivate you through the tough times.

Thank you for choosing Pearson as a partner in your homeschool journey. We know the importance that you place in taking the time to teach your child and we appreciate your trust in us to help you and your child achieve the best education possible.

For additional programs to support your child's curriculum, please visit our website at: **www.PearsonHomeschool.com** 

For product related questions, please contact I-800-848-9500 or submit the Contact Us form available on our website.

