

## For Immediate Release

### **STEMscopes NGSS by Accelerate Learning Helps States and Educators Transition Smoothly to the Next Generation Science Standards**

*Instructional materials, new NGSS customization services and free guides make STEMscopes NGSS a one-stop resource for NGSS support*

Houston, TX – Oct. 5, 2015 – Instead of having students go to one class for chemistry, another for physics and so on, NGSS-aligned teaching uses disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts to encourage students to think of science as a process rather than a set of discrete facts. For schools and teachers accustomed to the traditional model of “siloes” classes, the transition to the NGSS is complex and problematic, but science curriculum company [Accelerate Learning](#) is helping them to better understand the NGSS and to quickly, easily and effectively put solutions into place.

The company has published two free guides, “Understanding the NGSS: A Brief on Structure and Purpose” and “Designing NGSS Scope and Sequences,” which are available at [acceleratelearning.com/ngssguides](http://acceleratelearning.com/ngssguides). “Understanding the NGSS” is a five-page PDF that explains the nature of the NGSS, including the standards’ focus on inquiry and the use of performance expectations rather than multiple choice testing. The guide provides a list of key terminology to enable educators to understand what is being required of them.

Developed by Accelerate Learning’s pedagogical experts, “Designing NGSS Scope and Sequences” is a 15-page PDF that contains a series of scope documents that provide options for schools looking to implement the NGSS. From traditional four-year models to conceptual progression models, these options provide a framework for structuring classrooms and grade levels as they transition to using the NGSS.

Accelerate Learning’s [STEMscopes™ NGSS](#) preK-12 curriculum, developed in conjunction with Rice University, is based on a proprietary IDEA model — illuminate, do, expand, and assess — that empowers teachers to make sense of the disciplinary core idea. From hands-on, inquiry-based investigations to rigorous claim-evidence-reasoning assessments, STEMscopes NGSS takes the guesswork out of teaching the NGSS.

“Our STEMscopes NGSS is the only program of its kind to have been built from the ground up to address and demystify the NGSS,” said Vernon Johnson, president and CEO of Accelerate Learning. “We didn’t take pre-existing content and then alter or edit it to fit the new standards. This solution was developed specifically for the NGSS, so educators know they are getting something that truly fits their needs.”



The leader in PreK - 12 STEM education.



For states that are adopting the NGSS but then tailoring them to their specific needs, Accelerate Learning has developed customized versions of STEMscopes NGSS. “We have already provided state-specific versions for Oregon, Kentucky, California and Massachusetts,” said Johnson. “Most recently, after a cumulative 3,800 hours of evidence-based analysis and investigation, STEMscopes NGSS has been recommended for Maine schools.”

Johnson continued, “Whether it’s due to a lack of time, resources or an in-depth understanding, some educators are struggling to transition their instruction to meet the NGSS. Accelerate Learning aims to be the leading resource for helping educators understand what the NGSS are all about.”

**About Accelerate Learning, Inc.:** Accelerate Learning, in conjunction with Rice University, is focused on becoming the most effective digital preK-12 STEM resource used by teachers, students, and parents. With over 1.5 million student users and growing, Accelerate Learning has grown from a single product, STEMscopes in 2007, to a brand that now offers a variety of curriculum and professional development solutions which support early learning, NGSS, and state-aligned curriculum. Accelerate Learning has earned recognition in *District Administration’s* Top 100 Products, SIIA Innovation Incubator, and *EdTech Digest’s* Cool Tool Awards.

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