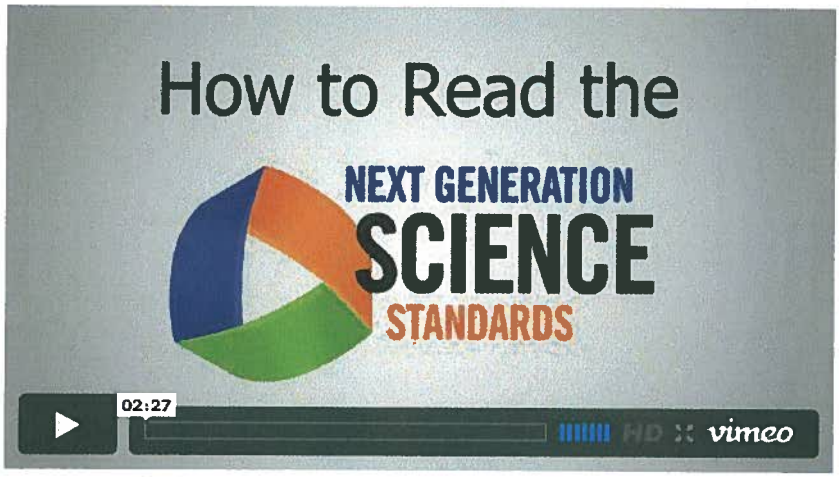
# How to Read the Next Generation Science Standards

The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) are distinct from prior science standards in that they integrate three dimensions within each standard and have intentional connections across standards. To provide guidance and clarification to all users of the standards, the writers have created a system architecture that highlights the NGSS as well as each of the three integral dimensions and connections to other grade bands and subjects. The standards are organized in a table with three main sections: 1) performance expectation(s), 2) the foundation boxes, and 3) the connection boxes.

In the figure below, from top to bottom are seen the title, the topic label row, the performance expectation(s) (the assessable component), the foundation boxes (containing Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas and Crosscutting Concepts), and the connection boxes. Detailed information about this architecture can be found online here.



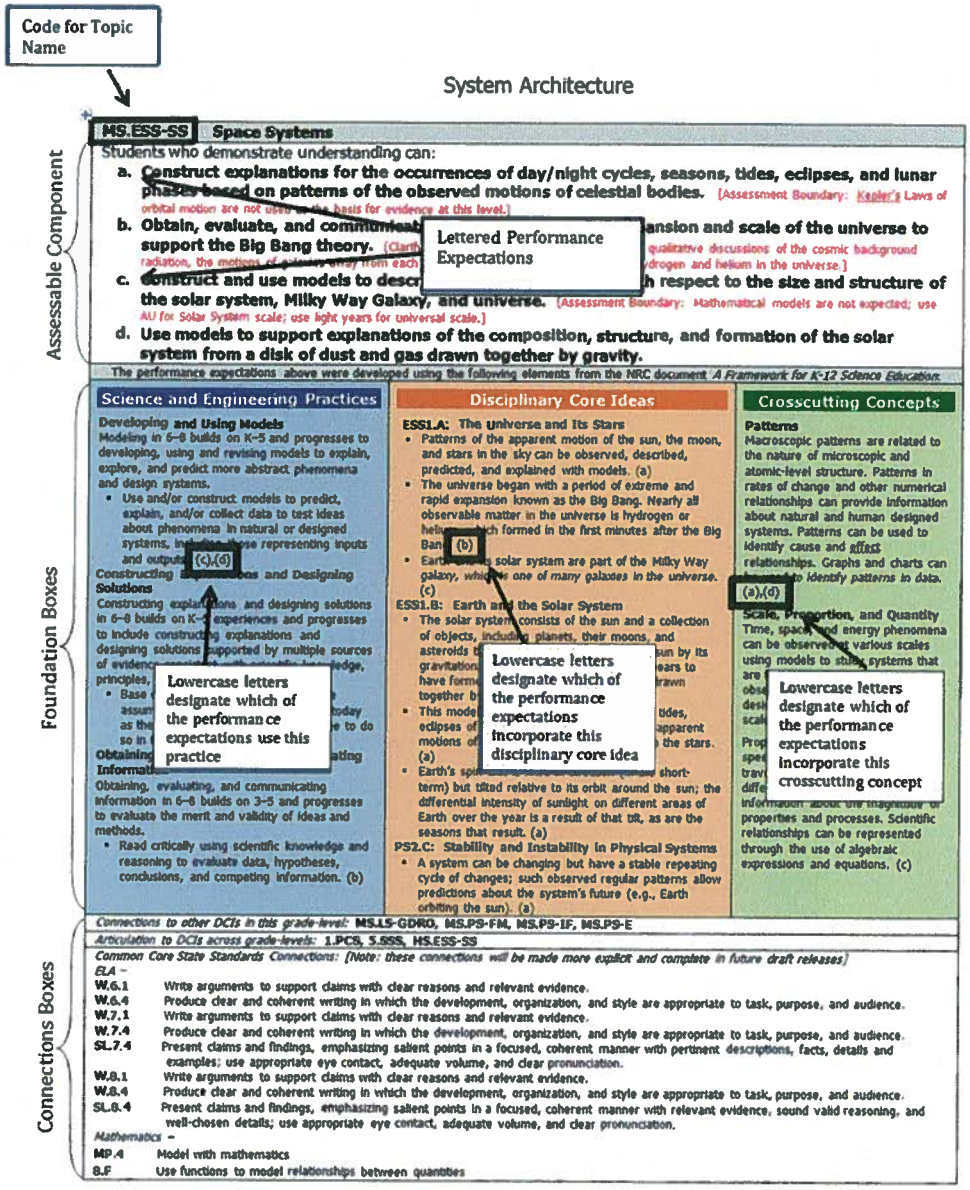

Related Content

**Detailed Information on How to Read the Standards** (PDF)

What's New?

**The First Public Draft is Ready for Review!**

*Click here to read and provide comments on the first of two public drafts of the NGSS*




Read the NGSS

Go to the NGSS survey

**Attachments:**

How to Read Next NGSSFINAL PUBLIC May Draft.pdf