Connections to Standards in PLTW Launch

PLTW curriculum is designed to empower students to thrive in an evolving world. As a part of the design process when developing and updating our curriculum, we focus on connections to a variety of standards. This PLTW Launch module connects to standards in the following:

- Next Generation Science Standards
- International Society for Technology in Education Standards for Students
- Common Core State Standards English Language Arts - Fourth Grade
- Common Core State Standards Mathematics - Fourth Grade
Next Generation Science Standards

Energy

4-PS3-2
Make observations to provide evidence that energy can be transferred from place to place by sound, light, heat, and electric currents.

4-PS3-4
Apply scientific ideas to design, test, and refine a device that converts energy from one form to another.

Engineering Design

3-5-ETS1-1
Define a simple design problem reflecting a need or a want that includes specified criteria for success and constraints on materials, time, or cost.

3-5-ETS1-2
Generate and compare multiple possible solutions to a problem based on how well each is likely to meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.

3-5-ETS1-3
Plan and carry out fair tests in which variables are controlled and failure points are considered to identify aspects of a model or prototype that can be improved.

Science and Engineering Practices: Asking Questions and Defining Problems
Asking questions and defining problems in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to specifying qualitative relationships.

Science and Engineering Practices: Developing and Using Models
Modeling in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to building and revising simple models and using models to represent events and design solutions.

Science and Engineering Practices: Planning and Carrying Out Investigations
Planning and carrying out investigations to answer questions or test solutions to problems in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to include investigations that control variables and provide evidence to support explanations or design solutions.

Science and Engineering Practices: Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions
Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to the use of evidence in constructing explanations that specify variables that describe and predict phenomena and in designing multiple solutions to design problems.

Science and Engineering Practices: Engaging in Argument from Evidence
Engaging in argument from evidence in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to critiquing the scientific explanations or solutions proposed by peers by citing relevant evidence about the natural and designed world(s).
Science and Engineering Practices: Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information

Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to evaluating the merit and accuracy of ideas and methods.

Disciplinary Core Ideas (3-5)

Physical Science

PS3.A Definitions of Energy

• Energy can be moved from place to place by moving objects or through sound, light, or electrical currents.

PS3.B Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer

• Energy is present whenever there are moving objects, sound, light, or heat. When objects collide, energy can be transferred from one object to another, thereby changing their motion. In such collisions, some energy is typically also transferred to the surrounding air; as a result, the air gets heated and sound is produced.

PS3.B Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer

• Light also transfers energy from place to place.

PS3.B Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer

• Energy can also be transferred from place to place by electric currents, which can then be used locally to produce motion, sound, heat, or light. The currents may have been produced to begin with by transforming the energy of motion into electrical energy.

PS3.D Energy in Chemical Processes and Everyday Life

• The expression "produce energy" typically refers to the conversion of stored energy into a desired form for practical use.

Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science

ETS1.A Defining and Delimiting Engineering Problems

• Possible solutions to a problem are limited by available materials and resources (constraints). The success of a designed solution is determined by considering the desired features of a solution (criteria). Different proposals for solutions can be compared on the basis of how well each one meets the specified criteria for success or how well each takes the constraints into account.

ETS1.B Developing Possible Solutions

• Research on a problem should be carried out before beginning to design a solution.

ETS1.B Developing Possible Solutions

• At whatever stage, communicating with peers about proposed solutions is an important part of the design process, and shared ideas can lead to improved designs.

ETS1.B Developing Possible Solutions

• Tests are often designed to identify failure points or difficulties, which suggest the elements of the design that need to be improved.
ETS1.C Optimizing the Design Solution

• Different solutions need to be tested in order to determine which of them best solves the problem, given the criteria and the constraints.

Crosscutting Concepts (3-5)
Patterns – Observed patterns in nature guide organization and classification and prompt questions about relationships and causes underlying them.

• Similarities and differences in patterns can be used to sort, classify, communicate and analyze simple rates of change for natural phenomena and designed products.

• Patterns of change can be used to make predictions.

• Patterns can be used as evidence to support an explanation.

Cause and Effect: Mechanism and Prediction – Events have causes, sometimes simple, sometimes multifaceted. Deciphering causal relationships, and the mechanisms by which they are mediated, is a major activity of science and engineering.

• Cause and effect relationships are routinely identified, tested, and used to explain change.

Energy and Matter: Flows, Cycles, and Conservation – Tracking energy and matter flows, into, out of, and within systems helps one understand their system's behavior.

• Energy can be transferred in various ways and between objects.

Connections to Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science (3-5)
Influence of Science, Engineering, and Technology on Society and the Natural World

• Engineers improve existing technologies or develop new ones to increase their benefits, to decrease known risks, and to meet societal demands.

Connections to the Nature of Science (3-5)
Science is a Human Endeavor

• Most scientists and engineers work in teams.

• Science affects everyday life.
Knowledge Constructor

3a
Students plan and employ effective research strategies to locate information and other resources for their intellectual or creative pursuits.

3d
Students build knowledge by actively exploring real-world issues and problems, developing ideas and theories and pursuing answers and solutions.

Innovative Designer

4a
Students know and use a deliberate design process for generating ideas, testing theories, creating innovative artifacts or solving authentic problems.

4b
Students select and use digital tools to plan and manage a design process that considers design constraints and calculated risks.

4c
Students develop, test and refine prototypes as part of a cyclical design process.

4d
Students exhibit a tolerance for ambiguity, perseverance and the capacity to work with open-ended problems.

Computational Thinker

5c
Students break problems into component parts, extract key information, and develop descriptive models to understand complex systems or facilitate problem-solving.

Creative Communicator

6a
Students choose the appropriate platforms and tools for meeting the desired objectives of their creation or communication.

6b
Students create original works or responsibly repurpose or remix digital resources into new creations.

6c
Students communicate complex ideas clearly and effectively by creating or using a variety of digital objects such as visualizations, models or simulations.

6d
Students publish or present content that customizes the message and medium for their intended audiences.
Global Collaborator

7a
Students use digital tools to connect with learners from a variety of backgrounds and cultures, engaging with them in ways that broaden mutual understanding and learning.

7b
Students use collaborative technologies to work with others, including peers, experts or community members, to examine issues and problems from multiple viewpoints.

7c
Students contribute constructively to project teams, assuming various roles and responsibilities to work effectively toward a common goal.

7d
Students explore local and global issues and use collaborative technologies to work with others to investigate solutions.
Common Core State Standards English Language Arts - Fourth Grade

Reading Informational Text Standards

Key Ideas and Details

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.1
Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

Key Ideas and Details

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.3
Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.9
Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.10
By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4-5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

Writing Standards

Text Types and Purposes

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2
Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.7
Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.8
Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.

Speaking and Listening Standards

Comprehension and Collaboration

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1
Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.3
Identify the reasons and evidence a speaker provides to support particular points.
Mathematical Practices

CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP2
Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP4
Model with mathematics.

CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP5
Use appropriate tools strategically.

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References

