

Conversation!

Grades 6-8

18 one-week in-depth units

Designed to address topics teachers identified as lacking high quality treatments in other curricula

Developed by teams of researchers and practitioners

Tested in a broad range of classrooms

Now being expanded in collaboration with teachers in NYC and San Francisco

Interdisciplinary Program to Support Academic Literacy and Practices

Inspired by the original Word Generation program, Science Generation (SciGen) goes in-depth on science topics commonly taught to 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. These curricular materials can be used in place of the standard curriculum materials, or as a supplement. They provide opportunities to read, write, discuss, and build arguments about basic questions in science.

Each week-long unit is comprised of 40-50 minute science lessons each day and highlights 5–10 academic words. There are also supplementary activities for other content areas to continue the cross-disciplinary benefits of Word Generation. All activities relate to the central question or topic of the week, build relevant knowledge, and provide opportunities to encounter the new academic vocabulary in multiple semantic contexts. By bringing the scientific knowledge closer to students' lives, they are equipped with both the background knowledge and the tools to engage in scientific argumentation.

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES IN EACH UNIT:

- Reader's Theater
- Speaking Scientifically
- In the Lab
- Discussion/Debate
- Writing
- Brief activities in ELA, math, and social studies

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Scientific Thinking
- Preparing a Scientific Investigation
- Measurement
- Life Science
- Energy
- Introductory Chemistry Concepts

ALL MATERIALS AND TEACHER SUPPORTS FREELY AVAILABLE!

wordgen.serpmedia.org

also available: WordGen Weekly | SoGen | Elementary

Development of Word Generation was led by Catherine Snow (Harvard University) through a SERP collaboration with the Boston Public Schools and other districts in Massachusetts and Maryland.

SCIENCE CAN YOU REALLY
CLAIM THAT?

SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

SCIENCE AC