

Course Description

Uncommonly Sensible Science®

Video Course Series by Seela Science Inc.

It's expensive and difficult to travel to college classes considering fuel prices and our present life style. *Uncommonly Sensible Science*® courses allow teachers to learn at their own pace, on their schedule, and most importantly AT HOME or in their OWN CLASSROOM! The goals are to bring “real-life” applied science into your classroom and let students use constructivist learning for real “hands-on” science. This course gives the professional educator choices in specific areas of their science understanding or their science curriculum they wish or need to improve. This is done by providing a wide range of concept or unit-related courses, each one developed to help the professional teacher with what is needed to enhance their natural teaching skills!

Each course is a complete set of “hands-on” activities centered around a single Conceptual Unit of Instruction, e.g. Simple Machines, Force and Motion, Plants, Animals, Human Body, etc. Included in the course manual are; course syllabus, assessment menu, scoring guide, student pages, teacher pages (with at least TEN extension idea for each activity), safety guidelines and helps, student assessments, and teacher assessments. In addition, ALL activities are correlated to the *National Science Content Standards*. These are arranged in a table that's easily accessed by the professional educator to help them identify and/or meet district or state standards.

By selecting and doing a specific course, the teacher can increase their science knowledge and improve their science curriculum at the same time! For the teacher to earn their credit, there's a flexible list of assessment options. Think of these like a “menu” of learning enhancements designed to help the teacher, and especially their students. The teacher can choose to complete any combination of assessments to amass the required points for their credit. Each assessment method allows the teacher to choose items that will enhance their own classroom performance and what areas of science they want to learn more about. This lets the professional take advantage of their personal learning skills and methods. But most importantly they can improve their student's performance in real science learning!

We highly encourage the trained professional to get their students involved in the research, the thinking, the learning, the experimentation, and especially the FUN of learning science in a “hands-on” approach! The teacher is ENCOURAGED to have their students become part of the process of science learning! Who best to report out on how well students have learned than you, a professional educator?

Rights to all materials in this course are reserved by the author and Seela Science Inc. Photocopying of activities is allowed for classroom use only and solely within the original purchaser's classroom specifically. DVD duplication, unauthorized copying, or any publishing is not allowed without express written permission of the author, Seela Science Inc. and The Science Connection.

Assessment Menu

Here's further detail of the assessment items you saw introduced on your DVD!

Reminder; Be sure to send in all your items printed!!

Remember you or your class can do any combination of any six assessment menu items to complete your desired number of points.

1. Teacher Assessments (Each assessment item has its own point value.)

Don't stop with just doing the fun activities! Learn more! These *Teacher Assessment* items allow you and your kids to get deeper into the activity's science content. Better yet, take your class on horizontal "field trips" into other curriculums by using the fun science they just learned.

These teacher assessments give you opportunities for; research, writing skills, Internet research, history extensions, math uses, and language arts connections!!

a) Each item has an assigned level of assessment point value. This value is the *total possible point value*. If the task is finished to a quality level, ALL points will be awarded.

b) These provide a wide range of learning opportunities both for teachers and their classes! When you complete any of these assessment items be sure to;

1) Identify the science activity from the course you're working on.

2) List the assessment item's potential value.

c) For these points, write a 1/2 to 1 full page summary **FOR EACH and EVERY** teacher assessment item you do. Use your teaching skills to report on what the kids learned and what they did! Remember to identify the activity you did, and list the point value for each teacher assessment item you've done!

2. Reformatting of your favorite science activities. (20 points each)

Select one of your favorite demonstrations or science activities. Rewrite it into the constructivist learning form just like you use in these course activities. To get your full 20 points you must;

a) Write and print a one-page Teacher's Guide in the same format as in the course.

b) Write and print a one-page Student Page in the same format as in the course.

c) Write and print a one-page, ten-point assessment quiz like the ones in this course.

3. Assign activities to Standards/Benchmarks/Testing Needs (2 points each)

Locate places in your existing Standards, Benchmarks, state requirements, district curriculum, or testing expectations that these activities can help you meet and/or report out on. Each activity you identify, use, or locate into any of these teaching requirements is worth 2 assessment points each. For these points, just list the standard, benchmark, or testing need you're meeting. Then beneath it list the name of each science activity in your DVD course which meets that standard, benchmark or testing requirements.

All assessment items must be printed or they will be returned before being graded.

Please send all assessment items in as a complete unit for grading.

IMPORTANT!!

Please be reminded graduate credit tuition and other fees are not included with your materials kit, activity manual, and DVD purchase price! Please refer to the NWMSU registration in your kit. Your acceptance to and registration for NWMSU is your responsibility. Tuition and fees will be billed separately directly from NWMSU and not from The Science Connection or Seela Science Inc.

Assessment Menu (continued)

Here's further detail of the assessment items you saw introduced on your DVD!

Reminder; Be sure to send in all your items printed!!

Remember you or your class can do any combination of any six assessment menu items to complete your desired number of points.

4. Customize Your Science Textbook Curriculum (2 points each)

Identify chapters or sections in your science textbook where these activities would help your teaching. Find places where they fit best to help you better teach science! Select places where you could possibly use these activities to strengthen student learning.

Supplement your book with activities chosen from this course!! (*Remember that you, the purchaser, own photocopy rights, but only for your personal classroom use!*) "Customize " your textbook to fit your teaching style and better meet district and state requirements! Each activity "custom fit" or placed into your textbook format is worth 2 assessment points. [*You don't have to do the activities now, just identify places where they could be used!!!*]

For these points, make a table of contents from your textbook. In it clearly identify where, in your professional opinion, you think each activity could best be utilized.

5. More and Bigger Views from the Teacher's Guide. (6 points each)

Select from any of this DVD courses' hundreds of extension lessons already in each lesson's Teacher's Guide. These include numerous horizontal curricular implementations (language arts, math, history, etc.) . With these you can extend the science activity with Internet uses, activity modifications, career connections, "real-life" science applications, or even science fair ideas! Each extension item you or your class does is worth 6 assessment points. Identify the lesson's title and the extension idea's number you're doing. For these points, report on your students' results of this extension with 1/2 to a full page of the results FOR EACH extension done!

6. Pre and Post Testing (5 points each)

In the activity manual you'll find a single page student assessment for each activity. Make classroom quantities of the assessment. Give the quiz as a pre and post test for each activity you do with your class. Grade each pre/post test and record data on the Assessment Check List.

You can use this pre/post test to collect data for a district's local or state needs, as well as assessing the lesson's student effectiveness! Each activity the class does and the teacher reports both pre/post test data results for is worth 5 assessment points.

The following is a suggestion.

It would be a good idea to photocopy all your work and keep the duplicates in case your items are lost in transit!! Keep these copies until your credit is awarded. All of us have learned in this computer age that it never hurts to have backups!