

Project Overview

The science education community in partnership with Dr. David Wiley from Brigham Young University and funding from a Hewlett Foundation grant has embarked on a statewide scaling for open education resource development for science grades 3-12. Building upon previous collaborations with educators in Nebo School district reaching back to 2009, the project reached out to engage educators from across the state on teams to build state textbooks for secondary science courses in 2012 and elementary science courses in 2013. Twenty three districts and 7 charter schools had teacher representation in the writing groups that pulled together the textbook from open education resources such as CK12.org and Siyavula's [Thunderbolt Kids](http://ThunderboltKids.com). The final textbooks are available in a digital PDF format for free under a creative commons license.

The project will continue with supported implementation efforts for teachers, along with a commitment to continue to update the materials each year using community feedback and data. This will be a continual process that provides a sustainable and cost effective solution to supporting student reference materials that are adaptable to changes in the Utah Core and science content knowledge.

This teacher resource aligns with the texts for grades 3-6, and supports the text structures identified in those resources to help Utah students and teachers achieve standards for both science and English language arts.

