

2026-27 BOCES 4 Science Catalog

Grade-Level Kits and Investigations Supply Kits

Taking Science from Experiment to Experience



Specifically Designed for the State

BOCES 4 Science is a premier science curriculum provider in the state that offers:

- rigorous, standards-aligned materials,
- teacher and student resources,
- interactive science experiences and
- virtual and in-person training opportunities.

Efficiency from Expertise

The experienced team at BOCES 4 Science minimizes educators' burdens by researching, vetting, sourcing and preparing comprehensive science curriculum materials, supplies and supporting resources.

State Aid Eligible

Districts receive an average 75% return through BOCES state aid, providing high-quality curriculum and supplies at a fraction of the cost.

Inside a BOCES 4 Science Kit

Opening a BOCES 4 Science kit unleashes authentic, interactive science experiences for students! High-quality materials for engaging lessons will be at your fingertips with minimal need for additional items.

Vetted by NY Educators and Students

BOCES 4 Science kits are in nearly 120 districts across the state of New York.

Data-Proven Results

Thanks to rigorous alignment to the New York State Science Learning Standards (NYSSLS), districts that implement BOCES 4 Science kits with fidelity show have higher results on state assessments.

Check out the data at [boces4science.org/results](https://www.boces4science.org/results)

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BOCES 4 Science Curriculum Kits

For more than 50 years, science education experts in Rochester, New York have developed engaging, hands-on science experiences and curriculum aligned specifically to New York State Education Department standards. From its start as the Elementary Science Program to the current configuration as a four-BOCES collaboration, BOCES 4

Science is dedicated to supporting educators across the state as they work diligently to increase student engagement with science and build their confidence with science and engineering practices to understand phenomena they encounter.. The grade-level kits are known statewide for their reliability, quality and value.

KINDERGARTEN KITS

Pushes and Pulls

Playing with toys is a fun way for the youngest scientists to explore the forces of pushes and pulls. Students are challenged with describing the motion of objects and how forces affect them during a visit to the playground. They experiment with how tracks at different heights change the distance cars travel and enjoy the interactions in a lively kickball game.

6 weeks 12 sessions Forces and Interactions: Pushes and Pulls

Weather for Kindergarten

Using weather tools and looking at patterns, students will learn about local weather, seasons and how the sun impacts Earth's surfaces. Students will begin to understand how forecasts help people prepare and respond to severe weather events. Using what they've learned, students will design solutions to keep playgrounds cool during hot, sunny conditions.

17 weeks 16-18+ sessions Weather and Climate: Matter and Its Interactions

Worm Scouts

A rainy day leads to piles of worms that are evenly spaced along the center of a road. Relying on natural curiosity and science practices, students investigate this phenomenon while observing a classroom compost bin of red worms. Guided by fictional character Scout the Worm, students examine the interdependent relationships within the worms' ecosystem.

9 weeks 18 sessions Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems: Animals, Plants, and Their Environment

KINDERGARTEN SUGGESTED PATHWAYS

- A Pushes and Pulls → Worm Scouts → Weather for Kindergarten
- B Weather for Kindergarten → Pushes and Pulls → Worm Scouts

For detailed rationale about the kindergarten suggested pathways, visit [boces4science.org/k](https://www.boces4science.org/k)

GRADE 1 KITS

**A Bunny's Life**

Students act as scientists as they make observations of young rabbits and how they are similar and different from their parents. Students study how animal behavior and the structure and function of body parts can help animals and offspring survive. These observations lead students to design a solution to a human problem that mimics animal features or behaviors.

📅 10 weeks

📅 20 sessions

📌 Structure, Function and Information Processing

**Sending Messages with Light and Sound**

Opening a treasure box full of objects is the start of this unit in which students explore sound and light. They learn about the connection between sound and vibrations. A shadow puppet play is used to explore light interactions with objects. Working as engineers, students design and build a device that can send a message using light, sound or both.

📅 14 weeks

📅 28 sessions

📌 Waves: Light and Sound

**Sky Patterns**

This kit is out of this world! Students are assigned missions as skywatchers, sunwatchers, moonwatchers and starwatchers. They build an instrument to track the sun without looking directly at it and learn why the sun sets. Further exploration includes seasonal patterns of daylight, phases of the moon and star patterns called constellations.

📅 8 weeks

📅 16 sessions

📌 Space Systems: Patterns and Cycles

GRADE 1 SUGGESTED PATHWAYS

A Sky Patterns → Sending Messages with Light and Sound → A Bunny's Life

B A Bunny's Life → Sending Messages with Light and Sound → Sky Patterns



For detailed rationale about the Grade 1 suggested pathways, visit boces4science.org/grade1

GRADE 2 KITS

**Earth's Features**

Students work to help Tina, a world traveler, decide where to live in the United States. Students receive postcards from Tina's family members, describing different land and water features that can affect Earth's surfaces at different rates. A design task asks students to create a solution that will slow or prevent wind or water hazards that can affect the landscape.

📅 13 weeks

📅 25 sessions

📌 Earth's Systems: Processes that Shape the Earth

**Made of Matter**

Students explore matter, its properties and uses through Ada and her friends, who make instruments from trash. Students learn that matter has mass, takes up space and can be solid or liquid. Students classify matter, analyze data to find the best materials for specific purposes and investigate how heating and cooling cause changes.

📅 8 weeks

📅 12 sessions

📌 Structure and Properties of Matter

**Save the Bees!**

The buzz in this kit focuses on the environmental issue of declining bee populations. Dr. Seuss' book "The Lorax" launches the unit, followed by letters to encourage learning about plants, animals, their habitats and how they depend on each other. Students design a hand pollinator to do the work of bees and to save the many foods that require pollination.

📅 12 weeks

📅 35 sessions

📌 Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems

GRADE 2 SUGGESTED PATHWAYS

A Earth's Features → Made of Matter → Save the Bees!

B Save the Bees! → Earth's Features → Made of Matter



For detailed rationale about the Grade 2 suggested pathways, visit boces4science.org/grade2

BOCES 4 Science Curriculum Kits Key

📅 Suggested Kit Length

📅 Instructional Sessions

📌 New York State Science Learning Standard Alignment



Bundle and Save
More science, less money!

Districts can save up to 7.5% by purchasing a grade-level suite that includes each of the kits.

Each bundle includes all curriculum kits for a full grade level, complete with pre-assembled materials, teacher resources and rigorous New York State Science Learning Standards (NYSSLS) alignment built in. Bundling streamlines ordering and qualifies districts for NYS BOCES aid and additional cost savings.

This option is ideal for schools seeking to maximize value and instructional impact. BOCES 4 Science bundles bring consistent, high-quality science experiences to every classroom while maximizing instructional value. Check out the order form on page 7 to see the savings.

GRADE 3 KITS

**Generations of Butterflies**

Despite its long journey and short lifespan, a special generation of monarch butterflies migrates to Mexico and doesn't return north. Students observe butterflies and radish plants through their life stages—birth, growth, reproduction and death—and study how inherited traits help organisms survive, find mates and reproduce.

📅 9 weeks

📅 24 sessions

📌 *Inheritance and Variation of Traits: Life Cycles and Traits***Investigating Weather and Climate**

Students dive into the world of weather, exploring the water cycle, weather-related hazards and how climates vary across different regions of the world. Together, students use weather tools to plan and carry out investigations, while gathering data and making observations. To wrap up, students create a presentation about the weather and climate of a global location.

📅 13 weeks

📅 25 sessions

📌 *Weather and Climate***Invisible Forces**

Tug of war contests, ramps with cars, pendulums, magnets and static electricity are used to explore contact and non-contact forces. Students focus on balanced and unbalanced forces to understand and predict future motion. As engineers, students design and build a Rube Goldberg device incorporating the invisible forces learned throughout the kit experiences.

📅 7 weeks

📅 20 sessions

📌 *Forces and Interactions***Where are the Wolves?**

The reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone National Park changed its ecosystem; it's up to the students to find out how. They learn that wolves no longer live in the state and debate whether the species should return to Adirondack Park. Students study animal adaptations, group versus solitary behaviors and why certain organisms thrive in specific habitats.

📅 9 weeks

📅 25 sessions

📌 *Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems***GRADE 3 SUGGESTED PATHWAYS**

- A** Investigating Weather and Climate → Where are the Wolves? → Invisible Forces → Generations of Butterflies
- B** Generations of Butterflies → Invisible Forces → Investigating Weather and Climate → Where are the Wolves?



For detailed rationale about the Grade 3 suggested pathways, visit boces4science.org/grade3

GRADE 4 KITS

**A Walk in the Park**

Students model how animals in a park process sensory information and react. Emphasis is placed on sight as students develop models to understand how animals, including humans, see when light reflected from objects enters their eyes. Students investigate how structures support the survival, growth and reproduction of plants in the park.

📅 8 weeks

📅 16 sessions

📌 *Structure, Function, and Information Processing***Earth Processes in New York State**

Students investigate a mysterious bone found in local soil, sparking curiosity about its origins. They learn how rock formations and fossils show Earth's changing landscapes, analyze maps to uncover patterns and study weathering and erosion. Students are challenged to develop solutions that reduce the impact of Earth's natural processes on humans.

📅 13 weeks

📅 29 sessions

📌 *Earth's Systems: Processes that Shape the Earth***Powering Thru the Fair**

Students take a virtual field trip to the NYS Fair to investigate energy powering attractions. Following a map, they visit the roller coaster, ball toss and bumper cars while exploring speed, collisions and energy conversions. In the end, students design exhibits that propose eco-friendly improvements, with the fair offering entry tickets to winning exhibits.

📅 8 weeks

📅 16 sessions

📌 *Energy***Riding the Waves of Information**

Spring coils, spring toys and tubs of water are used to investigate wave properties of amplitude, wavelength and energy. Communication methods, including Morse code and binary code, are used to understand how information is transmitted using waves. As a final project, students solve puzzles that review this learning to unlock a lock box containing a surprise.

📅 7 weeks

📅 15 sessions

📌 *Waves: Waves and Information***GRADE 4 SUGGESTED PATHWAYS**

- A** A Walk in the Park → Riding the Waves of Information → Earth Processes in New York State → Powering Thru the Fair
- B** Powering Thru the Fair → Earth Processes in New York State → Riding the Waves of Information → A Walk in the Park



For detailed rationale about the Grade 4 suggested pathways, visit boces4science.org/grade4

GRADE 5 KITS

**Deer, Deer Everywhere!**

The phenomenon of deer overpopulation is used by students to explore matter and energy in organisms and ecosystems. Using their knowledge, students take on the role of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation researchers and are tasked with creating a public service announcement to raise awareness about this pressing issue.

📅 8 weeks

📅 15 sessions

📍 Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems

**Earth and Space Explorers**

Students become Earth and space explorers, but they learn that their instructor is missing. Using clues and artifacts from the professor's lab, students are tasked with solving what happened. Students engage with questions related to the sun's brightness and gravity while analyzing data and patterns relating to shadows, day and night and seasonal changes in the night sky.

📅 9 weeks

📅 27 sessions

📍 Space Systems: Stars and the Solar System

**Got Water?**

The students are the next crop of interns at their local Got Water? facility. The Earth's systems are investigated as their first assignment. Students explore and model interactions among Earth's atmosphere, biosphere, geosphere and hydrosphere. For their final assessment, students apply what they've learned to clean up a water source polluted with various contaminants.

📅 7 weeks

📅 14 sessions

📍 Earth's Systems

**Toys Matter**

Students are welcomed into Toys Matter, a bustling toy company where creativity meets science. They explore and investigate a wide variety of materials, uncovering their properties and potential uses. The knowledge builds toward the students using their curiosity and engineering skills to take on an exciting final challenge: build a better bouncy ball.

📅 8 weeks

📅 16 sessions

📍 Structure and Properties of Matter

GRADE 5 SUGGESTED PATHWAYS

A Got Water? → Toys Matter → Earth and Space Explorers → Deer, Deer Everywhere!

B Deer, Deer Everywhere! → Got Water? → Toys Matter → Earth and Space Explorers



For detailed rationale about the Grade 5 suggested pathways, visit boces4science.org/grade5

MS KIT

**Waves and Electromagnetic Radiation**

Students create and refine models showing how light travels and how it is reflected, absorbed or transmitted. They explore wave properties—frequency, wavelength and energy—by comparing light from a laser, flashlight and bulb. Students support the claim that digitized signals are more reliable for encoding and transmitting information than analog signals.

📅 10 weeks

📅 25 sessions

📍 Waves and Electromagnetic Radiation

BOCES 4 Science Curriculum Kits Key

📅 Suggested Kit Length

📅 Instructional Sessions

📍 New York State Science Learning Standard Alignment

**Same Great Curriculum, Newly Enhanced Resources**

BOCES 4 Science recently released curricular enhancements to amplify your teaching while staying aligned with state standards.

**Unit Summary and Streamlining Guides**

Simplify your science instruction with the tools that offer practical recommendations for combining lessons or using them as enrichment opportunities, ensuring efficient, high-engagement instruction that aligns seamlessly with NYSSLS. With strategies to save time and promote interdisciplinary connections, these guides help you meet standards while balancing other instructional demands.

**Unit Management Guides**

Stay organized and confident with guides that provide detailed insights into lesson phenomena, activities and preparation needs. These quick-reference tools outline each lesson's focus, highlight advanced setup requirements and ensure you're ready for authentic, hands-on learning. With these guides, teaching NYSSLS-aligned science units becomes a streamlined and engaging experience.

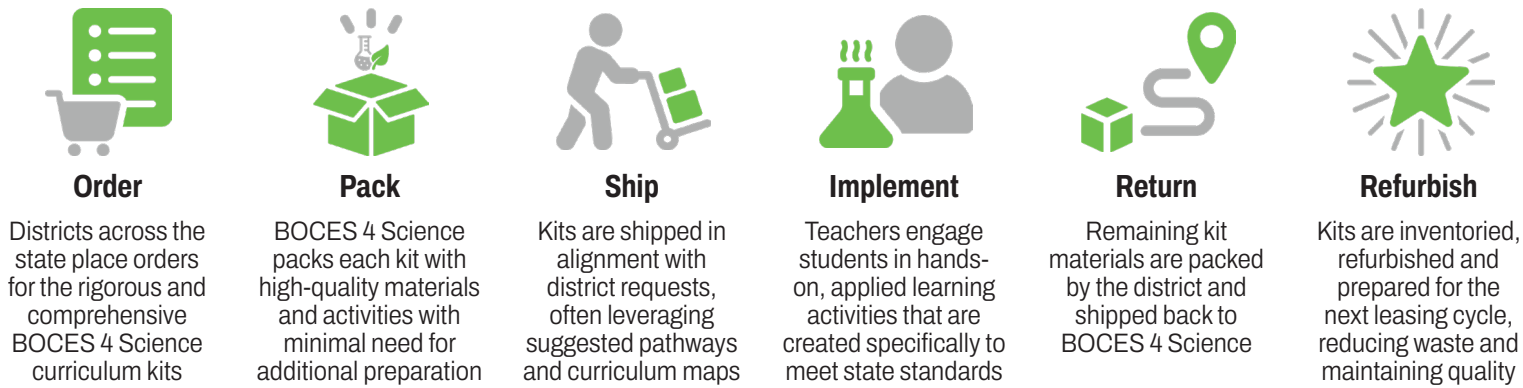
**Unit 3-D Summative Assessments**


Prepare your students for the science exams with assessments modeled after state tests. Designed to evaluate mastery of Performance Expectations, these assessments use storyline-based clusters to challenge students to apply their learning. Each assessment includes a comprehensive Rating Guide and 3-D Question Table, making it easier than ever to gauge progress and target instruction.

**Unit Investigations-Style Lessons**

Equip students for the NYS Elementary Level Science (ELS) Investigations with redesigned Grades 3-5 lessons. Written in the official ELS Investigations format, these lessons include teacher materials, student directions and answer packets. By mirroring the structure and look of state Investigations, these lessons build familiarity and confidence, ensuring students are well-prepared for future assessments.

BOCES 4 Science Kit Life Cycle





Kit Companion
Student Science Journals

BOCES 4 Science also offers kit companion student science journals. Curriculum developers recommend the student science journals to increase ease of implementation and further instructional impact. To allow districts the ability to customize journal quantities to meet their needs and reduce waste, student science journals are not included in the kit base cost.

Tip: Order 3-5 additional journals per classroom to allow for shifts in enrollment numbers.

Leasing BOCES 4 Science Kits

Kit and Journal Subtotal

1. Locate the BOCES 4 Science Kit Title(s) that you are ordering.
 2. Enter the number of requested kits.
 3. Multiply the quantity by the kit cost. Enter the amount in the Kit Subtotal box for that line.
 4. Enter the requested quantity of kit companion student science journals in the box for that line.
5. Multiply the quantity by journal cost. Enter the total in the Journal Subtotal box for that line.
 6. Add together the Kit Subtotal and the Journal Subtotal to get the Line Total (Kits + Journals).
 7. Add together all of the Line Totals to get the Kit and Journal Subtotal.

Additional Charges

8. Districts that are not Monroe 2-Orleans, Monroe One, Genesee Valley or Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES components: calculate administrative and shipping charges based on the Kit and Journal Subtotal, entering the value on the respective lines.

1	Kit Title (Grade Level)	Kit Quantity	Cost Per Kit	Kit Subtotal	Science Journal Quantity	Cost Per Journal	Journal Subtotal	Line Total (Kits + Journals)
	Pushes and Pulls (K)	5	x \$274	\$1,370	70	x \$2.60	\$182	\$1,552
	Weather for Kindergarten (K)	5	x \$409	\$2,045	70	x \$2.60	\$182	\$2,227
Kit and Journal Subtotal								\$3,779
Additional Charges for Non-Component Districts (Districts outside Monroe 2-Orleans, Monroe One, Genesee Valley or Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES)			Administrative Charge			5.2% of subtotal		\$196.51
			Initial and Return Shipping Charges			26% of subtotal		\$982.54
Lease Order Total								\$4,958.05

Order Total

9. Add the Kit and Journal Subtotal with any additional charges from step 8, if applicable, to get the Order Total. This is a minimum financial commitment to BOCES 4 Science as stated in the Billing Policy below.

Kit Leasing Policies

Billing and District Financial Commitment

Districts will be billed for the kit order total that is submitted to BOCES 4 Science on or after July 1. This includes costs of kits, student science journals, shipping and administrative fees.

Any adjustments above the initial total will be due upon scheduling via a modified service agreement or cross contract. Any adjustments below the initial total will not be refunded as the initial order dictates materials ordering and a financial cost to BOCES 4 Science.

Kit Assessment and Inventory

Districts are responsible for checking kit inventory and materials upon delivery. Any missing/damaged parts must be reported to BOCES 4 Science within two weeks of the delivery date.

Contact Us

BOCES 4 Science administrators are available to answer questions and discuss offerings.

BOCES 4 Science Director
Steven Montemarano
smontema@boces4science.org
585-617-2360

BOCES 4 Science Assistant Director
Lisa Zeznick
lzeznick@boces4science.org
585-617-2362

If you are looking for assistance with kit leasing, contact

BOCES 4 Science Administrative Assistant
Gina Vaccarella
gvaccare@boces4science.org
585-617-2363

Additionally, more information about BOCES 4 Science is available on the website 24/7 at boces4science.org.

2026-27 BOCES 4 Science Kit Lease Order Form

District _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Order Contact Name _____

Contact Title _____

Email _____

Affiliated BOCES _____

- Cross contracts must be submitted by districts outside Monroe 2-Orleans and Monroe One BOCES through the local school district's business office.
- There are no additional fees (administrative or shipping) for Monroe 2-Orleans, Monroe One, Genesee Valley or Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES districts.

Telephone _____

Fax _____

Kit Title (Grade Level)	Kit Quantity	Cost Per Kit	Kit Subtotal	Science Journal Quantity	Cost Per Journal	Journal Subtotal	Line Total (Kits + Journals)
Pushes and Pulls (K)		x \$274			x \$2.60		
Weather for Kindergarten (K)		x \$409			x \$2.60		
Worm Scouts (K)		x \$392			x \$2.60		
★ BUNDLE AND SAVE! ★ Kindergarten Suite		x \$989		specify by kit			
A Bunny's Life (Gr. 1)		x \$386			x \$2.60		
Sending Messages with Light and Sound (Gr. 1)		x \$371			x \$2.60		
Sky Patterns (Gr. 1)		x \$355			x \$2.60		
★ BUNDLE AND SAVE! ★ Grade 1 Suite		x \$1,025		specify by kit			
Earth's Features (Gr. 2)		x \$374			x \$2.60		
Made of Matter (Gr. 2)		x \$355			x \$2.60		
Save the Bees! (Gr. 2)		x \$428			x \$2.60		
★ BUNDLE AND SAVE! ★ Grade 2 Suite		x \$1,065		specify by kit			
Generations of Butterflies (Gr. 3)		x \$355			x \$2.60		
Investigating Weather and Climate (Gr. 3)		x \$336			x \$2.60		
Invisible Forces (Gr. 3)		x \$355			x \$2.60		
Where are the Wolves? (Gr. 3)		x \$292			x \$2.60		
★ BUNDLE AND SAVE! ★ Grade 3 Suite		x \$1,230		specify by kit			
A Walk in the Park (Gr. 4)		x \$355			x \$2.60		
Earth Processes in New York State (Gr. 4)		x \$380			x \$2.60		
Powering Thru the Fair (Gr. 4)		x \$355			x \$2.60		
Riding the Waves of Information (Gr. 4)		x \$332			x \$2.60		
★ BUNDLE AND SAVE! ★ Grade 4 Suite		x \$1,315		specify by kit			
Deer, Deer Everywhere! (Gr. 5)		x \$532			x \$2.60		
Earth and Space Explorers (Gr. 5)		x \$355			x \$2.60		
Got Water? (Gr. 5)		x \$350			x \$2.60		
Toys Matter (Gr. 5)		x \$450			x \$2.60		
★ BUNDLE AND SAVE! ★ Grade 5 Suite		x \$1,555		specify by kit			
Waves and Electromagnetic Radiation (MS)		x \$410			x \$2.60		
Kit and Journal Subtotal							

Additional Charges for Non-Component Districts
(Districts outside Monroe 2-Orleans, Monroe One, Genesee Valley or Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES)

Administrative Charge

5.2% of subtotal

Initial and Return Shipping Charges

26% of subtotal

Lease Order Total

Submit completed forms in one of three easy ways:



Mail

BOCES 4 Science
Attn: Gina Vaccarella
771 Elm Grove Road
RTP Building 2
Rochester, NY 14624



Fax

585-352-1157



Email

gvaccare@boces4science.org



Fillable order form PDF available at boces4science.org/order

NYSED-Aligned Investigations Supply Kits

New York State Investigations

Spring 2024 marked the debut of the updated New York State Elementary- and Intermediate-Level Science Tests. These tests are designed to measure students’ understanding of science skills and concepts contained in the New York State Science Learning Standards (NYSSLS).


Prior to the written test, students are expected to participate in a series of Investigations. These hands-on, three-dimensional learning tasks are designed to be embedded into instruction and can be offered at any time in the school year.

Less Work for Educators Thanks to BOCES 4 Science


BOCES 4 Science Investigations Supply Kits are materials toolkits for educators administering Investigations at both the elementary and intermediate levels.

Each supply kit contains NYSED-specified materials or approved substitutes for the corresponding Investigation. These supply kits take the burden of sourcing materials off the plates of busy educators.

Teacher and student directions and answer packets are not provided with the supply kits. To download the state-created resources, districts need to access the NYSED Application Business Portal.




Inside the Investigations Supply Kits



NYSED-aligned Investigations materials for

- 30 students
- One (1) teacher

Tip: You may request to purchase additional materials separately to meet your district's specific needs.




NYSED Investigations teacher and student documents


Documents are solely available directly from the state through the NYSED Application Business Portal.


ELEMENTARY-LEVEL SCIENCE INVESTIGATIONS SUPPLY KITS

BOCES 4 Science Investigations Supply Kits Key  New York State Science Learning Standard Alignment  BOCES 4 Science Kit Alignment

Circle of Life


*Inheritance and Variation of Traits: Life Cycles and Traits*


*Generations of Butterflies (Gr. 3); Deer, Deer Everywhere! (Gr. 5)*




Item	Per Kit
Envelopes labeled BULLFROG	30
Envelopes labeled BEAN PLANT	30
Envelopes labeled EASTERN BLUEBIRD	30

Light It Up


*Energy*


*Powering Thru the Fair (Gr. 4)*




Item	Per Kit
D cell batteries	30
Plastic battery holders	30
Connector wires with alligator clips	150
#48 bulbs	55
Mini-bulb holders	45
Electrical switches	15

Cloud in a Bottle


*Weather and Climate*


*Investigating Weather and Climate (Gr. 3); Got Water? (Gr. 5)*




Item	Per Kit
1 liter bottle with temperature strip assembly	15
Insulated cups	35
50 mL graduated cylinder	15
Insulated containers	2
Boxes of matches	2
Blue permanent marker	1
Red permanent marker	1
Safety goggles	30
Pad of sticky notes	1
Roll of blue tape	1
2 liter or 1/2 gallon bottles	2
Package of paper towels	1
Safety goggles	30
Stopwatches	15

What's in the Bag?

*Structure and Properties of Matter*

*Toys Matter (Gr. 5)*



Item	Per Kit
Zip bags	15
Alka Seltzer tablets	24
Small plastic Petri dish sets	15
100 mL graduated cylinder	15
Plastic cups	15
Pad of sticky notes	1
Roll of blue tape	1
2 liter or 1/2 gallon bottles	2
Package of paper towels	1
Safety goggles	30
Stopwatches	15

INTERMEDIATE-LEVEL INVESTIGATIONS SUPPLY KITS

BOCES 4 Science Investigations Supply Kits Key New York State Science Learning Standard Alignment

All Mixed Up

Structure and Properties of Matter



Item	Per Kit
16 oz. clear container with lid labeled Mixture 1	1
16 oz. clear container with lid labeled Mixture 2	1
16 oz. clear container with lid labeled Mixture 3	1
16 oz. clear container with lid labeled Mixture 4	1
4 oz. clear container with lid labeled Mixture 1	4
4 oz. clear container with lid labeled Mixture 2	4
4 oz. clear container with lid labeled Mixture 3	4
4 oz. clear container with lid labeled Mixture 4	3
50 mL graduated cylinders	6
500 mL bottle of mineral oil	1
Large plastic Petri dish sets	45
Package of paper towels	1
Roll of blue tape	1
Plastic tweezers	10
Pipettes	10
Magnets	10
Plastic funnels	15
2" sieves	10
9 oz. plastic cups	10
30 cm metric rulers (approx. 12 inches)	10
Hand lenses	10
2 oz. dropper bottle	1
6 oz. dropper bottle	1

Cool It!

Energy



Item	Per Kit
Insulated cups with lids	15
100 mL graduated cylinder	15
Metal washers	150
2 liter plastic bottles	15
Tongs	4
Package of paper towels	1

It's Alive?

Structure, Function and Information Processing



Item	Per Kit
Microscope Slides	
Elodea	5
Euglena	5
Human Cheek Cell (squamous epithelial)	5
Human Hair	5
Human Nerve Cell (multipolar neuron)	5
Onion Bulb Epidermis (allium cepa)	5
Onion Root Tip (allium)	5
Paramecium	5
Sand	5
Thread	5
Yeast	5

Note: There is not a supply kit for intermediate Investigation titled How's the Weather Up There?



NYSED Resources

BOCES 4 Science is proud to relieve part of the lift as educators work diligently to meet New York State Education Department requirements and administer the science examinations and associated Investigations. For the most updated information about state assessments and Investigations, access the NYSED Application Business Portal.

NYSED Portal: portal.nysed.gov/abp Access and download teacher and student instructions for Investigations



Supporting Investigations Implementation

Imagine cutting hours of prep, eliminating supply hunts and stepping into Investigations feeling fully prepared and confident. That's the experience educators gain through BOCES 4 Science's support, Investigations Supply Kits and state-aligned expertise.

Investigations Supply Kits save valuable time and mental energy, along with reducing district costs tied to sourcing and organizing supplies. With the logistics handled, educators can focus on what they do best: creating meaningful learning experiences for students.

Expert-led BOCES 4 Science workshops build a deep understanding of Investigations expectations and classroom application. Teachers receive practical strategies, hands-on practice and the clarity needed to deliver Investigations with confidence. This added support empowers educators to maximize students' learning and state assessment performance.

Through materials and professional learning, BOCES 4 Science supports Investigations implementation across the state through time savings, cost efficiency and instructional support, reinforcing each district's quality science program.

**Purchase
Supply Kits and
Individual Items
on One Form**

To streamline purchasing and make ordering experiences more efficient, BOCES 4 Science has combined the ordering for Investigations Supply Kits and additional related items into one form.

Looking to order a full kit with items bundled into one? Use the first item under each Investigations title, labeled as Investigations Supply Kit. Each complete supply kit includes materials for 30 students and one teacher.

Need a hard-to-source item or want to supplement an Investigations Supply Kit? Order specific materials listed under each Investigations title, in the section labeled Individual Items. The Per Item price is for one of each material, allowing maximum customization based on what each class, school and district needs.

Note: Individual item requests are subject to material availability. Materials required for Investigations Supply Kits take priority over a la carte purchase requests.

Purchasing Investigations Supply Kits and Items

Investigations Subtotals

1. Locate the Investigations title(s) that of which you are looking to order either BOCES 4 Science Investigations Supply Kits or Individual Items.
2. For Investigations Supply Kits, enter the number of complete supply kits in the Qty column.
3. Multiply the quantity by the supply kit cost and enter in Subtotal box for Investigation Supply Kits.
4. For Individual Items, enter the number of each item you are looking to purchase in the # of Item column. Reminder: these are individual quantities, so if you are looking to order 30 additional of an item, enter 30 in the # of Item column.
5. Multiply the number of items by the item cost and enter each value in the Subtotal box for that item.
6. Add all of the subtotals together to get the subtotal for that specific Investigation, entering it in the final field of the Investigation.

Supply Kit and Item Total

7. Enter the subtotal for each Investigation on the respective line under Investigations Supply Kits and Items.
8. Add all of the Subtotals together to get the subtotal for that specific Investigation, entering the value in the Supply Kit and Item Subtotal.

Additional Charges

9. *Districts outside of Monroe 2-Orleans, Monroe One, Genesee Valley or Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES:* Calculate administrative and shipping charges based on the Supply Kit and Item Total (Step 8), entering the calculations on the respective lines, rounding to the nearest cent.

Purchase Total

10. Add the Supply Kit and Item Total with any additional charges from Step 9, if applicable, to get the Purchase Total.

Note: Investigations Supply Kits are a purchase and are not eligible for BOCES state aid.

Circle of Life			
Investigations Supply Kit	Qty	Per Kit	Subtotal
Circle of Life (Elementary)	5	x\$111	\$555
Individual Items			
	# of Item	Per Item	Subtotal
Envelopes labeled BULLFROG	10	x\$1.90	\$19
Envelopes labeled BEAN PLANT	3	x\$1.90	\$5.70
Envelopes labeled EASTERN BLUEBIRD	7	x\$1.90	\$13.30
Circle of Life Kit and Item Subtotal			\$593

Investigations Supply Kits and Items	
Circle of Life Subtotal	\$593
Cloud in a Bottle Subtotal	\$714
Light It Up Subtotal	\$1,989
What's in the Bag? Subtotal	\$20.25
All Mixed Up Subtotal	\$87.89
Cool It! Subtotal	\$1,313.13
It's Alive? Subtotal	\$537
Supply Kit and Item Total	\$5,254.27

Additional Charges for Non-Component Districts (Districts outside of Monroe 2-Orleans, Monroe One, Genesee Valley or Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES)		
Administrative Charge	5.2% of total	\$273.22
Shipping Charge	13% of total	\$683.06
Purchase Total		\$6,210.55

Purchase Policies

Payment Prior to Fulfillment Required

Investigations Supply Kits will not be shipped until a completed financial commitment from the district is received. This includes purchase orders, cross contracts and approved service agreements. BOCES 4 Science is unable to accept checks or credit cards.

Supply Kit Assessment and Inventory

Districts are responsible for checking supply kit inventory and materials upon delivery. Any missing/damaged parts must be reported to BOCES 4 Science within two weeks of the delivery date.

Pricing Commitment

Investigations Supply Kits information and pricing in this catalog are valid through Dec. 31, 2026. Orders received on Jan. 1, 2027 and later may be subject to potential price increases based on raw material market pricing.

Contact Us

BOCES 4 Science administrators are available to answer questions and discuss offerings.

BOCES 4 Science Director
Steven Montemarano
smontema@boces4science.org
585-617-2360

BOCES 4 Science Assistant Director
Lisa Zeznick
lzeznick@boces4science.org
585-617-2362

If you are looking for assistance with purchasing supply kits, contact

BOCES 4 Science Administrative Assistant
Gina Vaccarella
gvaccare@boces4science.org
585-617-2363

Additionally, more information about BOCES 4 Science is available on the website 24/7 at boces4science.org.

2026-27 Investigations Materials Purchase Form

District _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Order Contact Name _____

Email _____

Affiliated BOCES _____

- Cross contracts must be submitted by districts outside Monroe 2-Orleans and Monroe One BOCES through the district business office.
- There are no additional fees (administrative or shipping) for Monroe 2-Orleans, Monroe One, Genesee Valley or Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES districts.

Telephone _____

Fax _____

Circle of Life			
Investigations Supply Kit	Qty	Per Kit	Subtotal
Circle of Life (Elementary)		x\$111	
Individual Items	# of Item	Per Item	Subtotal
Envelopes labeled BULLFROG		x\$1.90	
Envelopes labeled BEAN PLANT		x\$1.90	
Envelopes labeled EASTERN BLUEBIRD		x\$1.90	
Circle of Life Kit and Item Subtotal			

Cloud in a Bottle			
Investigations Supply Kit	Qty	Per Kit	Subtotal
Cloud in a Bottle (Elementary)		x\$305	
Individual Items	# of Item	Per Item	Subtotal
1 liter bottle w temperature strip assembly		x\$4.91	
Insulated cups		x\$0.43	
50 mL graduated cylinder		x\$4.68	
Insulated containers		x\$17.77	
Boxes of matches		x\$0.28	
Blue permanent marker		x\$0.89	
Red permanent marker		x\$2.53	
Safety goggles		x\$1.95	
Cloud in a Bottle Kit and Item Subtotal			

Light It Up			
Investigations Supply Kit	Qty	Per Kit	Subtotal
Light It Up (Elementary)		x\$668	
Individual Items	# of Item	Per Item	Subtotal
D cell batteries		x\$1.48	
Plastic battery holders		x\$4.35	
Connector wires with alligator clips		x\$0.84	
#48 bulbs		x\$0.50	
Mini-bulb holders		x\$2.92	
Electrical switches		x\$2.59	
Stopwatches		x\$3.87	
Light It Up Kit and Item Subtotal			

What's in the Bag?			
Investigations Supply Kit	Qty	Per Kit	Subtotal
What's in the Bag? (Elementary)		x\$242	
Individual Items	# of Item	Per Item	Subtotal
Zip bags		x\$0.22	
Alka Seltzer tablets		x\$0.81	
Small plastic Petri dish sets		x\$0.36	
100 mL graduated cylinder		x\$5.46	
Plastic cups		x\$0.06	
Pad of sticky notes		x\$1.22	
Roll of blue tape		x\$2.67	
2 liter or 1/2 gallon bottles		x\$3.12	
Package of paper towels		x\$2.17	
Safety goggles		x\$1.95	
Stopwatches		x\$3.87	
What's in the Bag? Kit and Item Subtotal			

All Mixed Up			
Investigations Supply Kit	Qty	Per Kit	Subtotal
All Mixed Up (Intermediate)		x\$274	
Individual Items	# of Item	Per Item	Subtotal
16 oz. clear container labeled Mixture 1		x\$13.87	
16 oz. clear container labeled Mixture 2		x\$5.74	
16 oz. clear container labeled Mixture 3		x\$5.54	
16 oz. clear container labeled Mixture 4		x\$8.27	
4 oz. clear container labeled Mixture 1		x\$4.12	
4 oz. clear container labeled Mixture 2		x\$4.12	
4 oz. clear container labeled Mixture 3		x\$4.12	
4 oz. clear container labeled Mixture 4		x\$4.12	
50 mL graduated cylinders		x\$4.91	
500 mL bottle of mineral oil		x\$14.91	
Large plastic Petri dish sets		x\$0.36	
Package of paper towels		x\$2.14	
Roll of blue tape		x\$2.68	
Plastic tweezers		x\$0.41	
Pipettes		x\$0.87	
Magnets		x\$1.20	
Plastic funnels		x\$0.83	
2" sieves		x\$3.90	
9 oz. plastic cups		x\$0.05	
30 cm metric rulers (approx. 12 inches)		x\$0.61	
Hand lenses		x\$1.53	
2 oz. dropper bottle		x\$0.78	
6 oz. dropper bottle		x\$0.95	
All Mixed Up Kit and Item Subtotal			

Cool It!			
Investigations Supply Kit	Qty	Per Kit	Subtotal
Cool It! (Intermediate)		x\$253	
Individual Items	# of Item	Per Item	Subtotal
Insulated cups with lids		x\$0.49	
100 mL graduated cylinder		x\$5.46	
Metal washers		x\$0.37	
2 liter plastic bottles		x\$3.12	
Tongs		x\$9.13	
Package of paper towels		x\$2.14	
Cool It! Kit and Item Subtotal			

It's Alive?			
Investigations Supply Kit	Qty	Per Kit	Subtotal
It's Alive? (Intermediate)		x\$537	
Individual Items	# of Item	Per Item	Subtotal
Microscope slides - Elodea		x\$3.63	
Microscope slides - Euglena		x\$3.64	
Microscope slides - Human Cheek Cell		x\$3.64	
Microscope slides - Human Hair		x\$21.20	
Microscope slides - Human Nerve Cell		x\$13.46	
Microscope slides - Onion Bulb Epidermis		x\$3.63	
Microscope slides - Onion Root Tim		x\$3.63	
Microscope slides - Paramecium		x\$3.63	
Microscope slides - Sand		x\$3.64	
Microscope slides - Thread		x\$3.64	
Microscope slides - Yeast		x\$3.64	
It's Alive? Kit and Item Subtotal			

Investigations Supply Kits and Items	
Circle of Life Subtotal	
Cloud in a Bottle Subtotal	
Light It Up Subtotal	
What's in the Bag? Subtotal	
All Mixed Up Subtotal	
Cool It! Subtotal	
It's Alive? Subtotal	
Supply Kit and Item Subtotal	

Additional Charges for Non-Component Districts (Districts outside Monroe 2-Orleans, Monroe One, Genesee Valley or Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES)		
Administrative Charge	5.2% of subtotal	
Shipping Charge	13% of subtotal	

Purchase Total	
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Submit completed forms in one of three easy ways:



Mail

BOCES 4 Science
Attn: Gina Vaccarella
771 Elmgrove Road
RTP Building 2
Rochester, NY 14624



Fax

585-352-1157



Email

gvaccare@boces4science.org



Fillable purchase form PDF available at
boces4science.org/order

**BOCES 4
Science**

Requests are subject to material availability. Materials required for Investigations Supply Kits take priority over a la carte purchase requests.

BOCES 4 Science at a Glance



What is BOCES 4 Science?

A New York State science curriculum service developed by science education experts from four BOCES: Monroe 2-Orleans, Monroe One, Genesee Valley and Wayne-Finger Lakes.



Features of BOCES 4 Science Curriculum Kits



Curriculum specifically aligned to rigorous New York State Science Learning Standards



High-quality activity materials with minimal need for additional items



Virtual and in-person learning to further teacher and student experiences



Hands-on, engaging science experiences for students to apply learning and skills



Detailed teacher resources for ease of implementation



Cost-saving options for districts through state aid and grade-level suites

Discover BOCES 4 Science's elementary and intermediate science kit offerings beginning on page 2.

BUNDLE AND SAVE! Grade-Level Kit Suites

Check out the Kit Order Form on Page 7 to see how to save up to 7.5% on kits!

★ **More Science,
Less Money!** ★

Partners in Investigations Preparation



BOCES 4 Science is ready to be your partner in success with ready-to-go supply kits for NYSED Investigations—solving the mystery of sourcing supplies so you can focus on implementation.

Investigations insight begins on page 8.

Ways to Connect



BOCES 4 Science Website
boces4science.org



Professional Learning Opportunities
boces4science.org/PL



Science News 4 You Newsletter
boces4science.org/newsletter



Email
B4SHelpDesk@boces4science.org



Become a Science Expert with BOCES 4 Science



Curriculum Unit Workshops

Educators gain the tools and strategies to bring each kit's three-dimensional curriculum to life. These sessions focus on the instructional shifts of the NYSSLS, helping educators confidently integrate hands-on, inquiry-based learning into their classrooms. Kit leases include access to workshops and supporting materials at no additional cost. Whether participating online or in person, individuals earn CTLE credits upon completion.



Investigations Workshops

Explore the NYS Science Investigations with expert guidance from science instructional specialists. These interactive workshops provide strategies for setup, implementation and classroom application at the elementary, intermediate and high school levels. Experience hands-on activities in person with other science professionals.



Additional Workshops

Engaging science workshops are available in various formats, including multi-day, one-day, half-day, in-person and online. Topics include administrator workshops, state standards and curriculum, lesson and assessment writing. Additionally, custom workshops can be tailored for districts upon request.



For a full list of BOCES 4 Science professional learning offerings and to see the current opportunities, visit

boces4science.org/PL

www.boces4science.org