

# Feb. Grade 7 Unit 2D: Characteristics & Properties of Waves

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **February**  
Length: **3 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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Energy can be transmitted in either transverse or longitudinal waves. This concept will introduce you to the characteristics and properties of both types of waves.

## Enduring Understandings

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### Lesson Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- Explain how waves travel and carry energy.
- Compare and contrast transverse and longitudinal waves.
- Describe parts of waves and characteristics of waves, including frequency, wavelength, and amplitude.

## Essential Questions

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- **Overarching Question**

- How are waves used to transfer energy and information?

- **Focus Question**

- What are the characteristic properties and behaviors of waves?

- **Lesson Questions**

- How do waves travel and carry energy?
- How do transverse and longitudinal waves in matter differ from one another?
- What are the characteristics and parts of a wave?
- How do waves interact with each other?

- **Can You Explain?**

- How are waves different, and how do their differences affect their characteristics?

## **Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities**

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### **DISCOVERY TECHBOOK LESSONS:**

#### The Five Es

- [The Five E Instructional Model](#)

Science Techbook follows the 5E instructional model. As you plan your lesson, the provided Model Lesson includes strategies for each of the 5Es.

- [Engage \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students are presented with examples of waves and their characteristics as well as the differences between different waves. Students begin to formulate ideas around the Can You Explain? (CYE) question.

- [Explore \(135 minutes\)](#)

Students investigate different types of waves, how they interact, and how they transmit energy by using evidence from text and media assets. Students complete a Hands-On Activity, Exploration, and model different types of waves.

- [Explain \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students construct scientific explanations to the CYE question by including evidence of how differences in waves, such as transversal and longitudinal waves, affect their characteristics.

- [Elaborate with STEM \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students apply their understanding of different types of waves as they learn about shoreline erosion, investigate how bats use sound to find their prey, and distinguish between AM and FM radio waves.

- [Evaluate \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students are evaluated on the state science standards, as well as Standards in ELA/Literacy and Standards in Math standards, using Board Builder and the provided concept summative assessments.

- Teacher-made labs using scientific instrumentation
- Online simulations
- Group project

## **Integration of Career Exploration, Life Literacies and Key Skills**

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During the Tower Project students will demonstrate 21st Century Themes and Skills by working as a team of engineers and using the engineering and design process to build a toothpick tower that can handle earthquakes. The team will be given a budget and monitor cost, waste, time, supplies, design and testing. They will also collect data and present that data.

CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP3	Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP10	Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

## **Technology and Design Integration**

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The students will use:

- Google Chrome Books and Google applications
- Online simulations
- Gizmo
- Nearpod
- BrainPop
- Craft materials
- Wave table

TECH.8.1.8.A	Technology Operations and Concepts: Students demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems and operations.
TECH.8.1.8.A.2	Create a document (e.g., newsletter, reports, personalized learning plan, business letters or flyers) using one or more digital applications to be critiqued by professionals for usability.

TECH.8.1.8.A.3	Use and/or develop a simulation that provides an environment to solve a real world problem or theory.
TECH.8.1.8.B.CS1	Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
TECH.8.1.8.B.CS2	Create original works as a means of personal or group expression.
TECH.8.1.8.C.CS2	Communicate information and ideas to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats.
TECH.8.1.8.C.CS4	Contribute to project teams to produce original works or solve problems.
TECH.8.1.8.E.1	Effectively use a variety of search tools and filters in professional public databases to find information to solve a real world problem.
TECH.8.1.8.E.CS2	Locate, organize, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and ethically use information from a variety of sources and media.
TECH.8.1.8.E.CS4	Process data and report results.
TECH.8.2.8.D.1	Design and create a product that addresses a real world problem using a design process under specific constraints.
TECH.8.2.8.D.2	Identify the design constraints and trade-offs involved in designing a prototype (e.g., how the prototype might fail and how it might be improved) by completing a design problem and reporting results in a multimedia presentation, design portfolio or engineering notebook.
TECH.8.2.8.D.3	Build a prototype that meets a STEM-based design challenge using science, engineering, and math principles that validate a solution.
TECH.8.2.8.D.CS1	Apply the design process.

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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LA.RST.6-8.1	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts.
LA.RST.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
LA.RST.6-8.3	Follow precisely a multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks.
LA.RST.6-8.4	Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to grades 6-8 texts and topics.
LA.RST.6-8.5	Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to an understanding of the topic.
LA.RST.6-8.6	Analyze the author's purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text.
LA.RST.6-8.7	Integrate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text with a version of that information expressed visually (e.g., in a flowchart, diagram, model, graph, or table).
LA.RST.6-8.8	Distinguish among facts, reasoned judgment based on research findings, and speculation in a text.
LA.RST.6-8.9	Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.
LA.RST.6-8.10	By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend science/technical texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
LA.WHST.6-8.1	Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.

LA.WHST.6-8.2	Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.
LA.WHST.6-8.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.WHST.6-8.5	With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
LA.WHST.6-8.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.
LA.WHST.6-8.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
LA.WHST.6-8.8	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
LA.WHST.6-8.9	Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
MA.7.EE.B	Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations.

## Differentiation

See differentiation suggestions in the above lessons.

### Struggling Students

1. As students complete, the [Hands-On Activity “Exploring Light Energy,”](#) circulate to help struggling students with math questions in analysis and conclusion.
2. Look over students’ work as they complete their designs in the [Hands-On Activity “Make a Musical Instrument.”](#) Help students to identify the variables that affect volume and pitch

### ELL

1. Assist students in identifying familiar prefixes and/or words within words (e.g., “composition” within *decomposition*) for each term.

### Accelerated Students

1. Have students compare and contrast light, sound, and ocean waves.
2. Give students ultraviolet, infrared, and other frequencies and have students predict the visibility of these frequencies of light.
3. Using their previous knowledge of waves, ask students to brainstorm S.T.E.M. connections to other disciplines.

[Differentiation in science](#) can be accomplished in several ways. Once you have given a pre-test to students, you know what information has already been mastered and what they still need to work on. Next, you design activities, discussions, lectures, and so on to teach information to students. The best way is to have two or

three groups of students divided by ability level.

While you are instructing one group, the other groups are working on activities to further their knowledge of the concepts. For example, while you are helping one group learn the planet names in order, another group is researching climate, size, and distance from the moon of each planet. Then the groups switch, and you instruct the second group on another objective from the space unit. The first group practices writing the order of the planets and drawing a diagram of them.

Here are some ideas for the classroom when you are using differentiation in science:

- Create a tic-tac-toe board that lists different activities at different ability levels. When students aren't involved in direct instruction with you, they can work on activities from their tic-tac-toe board. These boards have nine squares, like a tic-tac-toe board; and each square lists an activity that corresponds with the science unit. For example, one solar system activity for advanced science students might be to create a power point presentation about eclipses. For beginning students, an activity might be to make a poster for one of the planets and include important data such as size, order from the sun, whether it has moons, and so on.
- Find websites on the current science unit that students can explore on their own.
- Allow students to work in small groups to create a project throughout the entire unit. For example, one group might create a solar system model to scale. Another group might write a play about the solar system. This is an activity these groups can work on while they are not working directly with you.

Differentiation in science gets students excited to learn because it challenges them to expand their knowledge and skills, instead of teaching the whole group concepts they have already mastered.

## **Modifications & Accommodations**

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Refer to QSAC EXCEL SMALL SPED ACCOMMODATIONS spreadsheet in this discipline.

### **Modifications and Accommodations used in this unit:**

In addition to differentiated instruction, IEP's and 504 accommodations will be utilized.

## **Benchmark Assessments**

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**Benchmark Assessments** are given periodically (e.g., at the end of every quarter or as frequently as once per month) throughout a school year to establish baseline achievement data and measure progress toward a standard or set of academic standards and goals.

### **Schoolwide Benchmark assessments:**

Aimsweb benchmarks 3X a year

Linkit Benchmarks 3X a year

### **Additional Benchmarks used in this unit:**

Benchmark Assessments given December and June.

### **Formative Assessments**

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Assessment allows both instructor and student to monitor progress towards achieving learning objectives, and can be approached in a variety of ways. **Formative assessment** refers to tools that identify misconceptions, struggles, and learning gaps along the way and assess how to close those gaps. It includes effective tools for helping to shape learning, and can even bolster students' abilities to take ownership of their learning when they understand that the goal is to improve learning, not apply final marks (Trumbull and Lash, 2013). It can include students assessing themselves, peers, or even the instructor, through writing, quizzes, conversation, and more. In short, formative assessment occurs throughout a class or course, and seeks to improve student achievement of learning objectives through approaches that can support specific student needs (Theal and Franklin, 2010, p. 151).

### **Formative Assessments used in this unit:**

See assessments located in the unit link above

### **Summative Assessments**

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**Summative assessments** evaluate student learning, knowledge, proficiency, or success at the conclusion of an instructional period, like a unit, course, or program. Summative assessments are almost always formally graded and often heavily weighted (though they do not need to be). Summative assessment can be used to great effect in conjunction and alignment with formative assessment, and instructors can consider a variety of ways to combine these approaches.

### **Summative assessments for this unit:**

See assessments located in the unit link above

## Instructional Materials

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See materials located in Unit above.

Discovery Techbook

Teacher made materials

Additional labs available through NJCTL on line curriculum

## Standards

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SCI.MS.PS4.A	Wave Properties
SCI.MS.PS4.B	Electromagnetic Radiation
SCI.MS-PS4-1	Use mathematical representations to describe a simple model for waves that includes how the amplitude of a wave is related to the energy in a wave.
SCI.MS-PS4-1	Use mathematical representations to describe a simple model for waves that includes how the amplitude of a wave is related to the energy in a wave.
SCI.MS-PS4	Waves and Their Applications in Technologies for Information Transfer
SCI.MS-PS4-2	<p>Develop and use a model to describe that waves are reflected, absorbed, or transmitted through various materials.</p> <p>Emphasis is on both light and mechanical waves. Examples of models could include drawings, simulations, and written descriptions.</p> <p>Developing and Using Models</p> <p>The path that light travels can be traced as straight lines, except at surfaces between different transparent materials (e.g., air and water, air and glass) where the light path bends.</p> <p>Structure and Function</p> <p>Assessment is limited to qualitative applications pertaining to light and mechanical waves.</p> <p>Mathematical and computational thinking at the 6–8 builds on K–5 and progresses to identifying patterns in large data sets and using mathematical concepts to support explanations and arguments.</p> <p>When light shines on an object, it is reflected, absorbed, or transmitted through the object, depending on the object’s material and the frequency (color) of the light.</p> <p>Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to developing, using, and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems.</p> <p>However, because light can travel through space, it cannot be a matter wave, like sound or water waves.</p> <p>A sound wave needs a medium through which it is transmitted.</p> <p>Use mathematical representations to describe and/or support scientific.</p> <p>A wave model of light is useful for explaining brightness, color, and the frequency-</p>



dependent bending of light at a surface between media.

Emphasis is on describing waves with both qualitative and quantitative thinking.

Develop and use a model to describe phenomena.

Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking