

5E inquiry lesson plan

Plan a connected sequence of Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, and Evaluate.

TEACHER _____	DATE _____	CLASS _____
SUBJECT _____	TOPIC _____	MINUTES _____

Inquiry question

What question or phenomenon will students investigate?

Learning goals and evidence

What understanding should develop? What would count as evidence?

Prior ideas and likely misconceptions

How will you surface students' starting explanations?

Investigation and resources

Prepare materials, recording methods, group roles, and any necessary setup.

Safety and access

Check local procedures, supervision, equipment, and accessible participation.

02 The five learning phases

The sequence may span more than one lesson. Adjust the timings to suit your class.

PHASE AND TIME	LEARNING EXPERIENCE	EVIDENCE AND TEACHER PROMPTS
Engage [min]	[Introduce a question or surprising observation]	[What do learners think now?]
Explore [min]	[Learners investigate and record what happens]	[What patterns or questions emerge?]
Explain [min]	[Learners explain; introduce useful concepts]	[What evidence supports the explanation?]
Elaborate [min]	[Apply the idea in a new situation]	[Can learners transfer the understanding?]
Evaluate [min]	[Assess progress toward the learning goals]	[What changed in learners' thinking?]

Support and extension

Scaffolds, alternative ways to record, and a deeper investigation.

REFLECT AND CONTINUE

What evidence informs your next teaching decision?