

# NGSS Journeys - Marlys Williamson - Video Transcript

Background music playing during introduction.

Voice-over Narration from Marlys Williamson as she interacts with students throughout video.

**Marlys Williamson:** I've been teaching science for about ten years in my classroom and at our school district we had an adopted curriculum that was very textbook based with very little hands on materials so I was always on a mission to find curriculum that I could use to get my kids using hands on materials. And I think the hardest part is getting the kids to experience the science rather than just teaching them the science. And the neat thing about science is even if you are a teacher that doesn't know a lot about science, that science can actually teach itself and it actually explains itself if you're letting your students do hands on materials and hands on inquiry they're actually learning the science themselves and so that's the best part about looking for more hands on activities where the kids are involved.

**Marlys Williamson:** When I first became aware of the NGSS, I started to figure out what was different from the old California state standards and the new NGSS standards so that's where I started doing a little research on my own and saw that a lot of things had been changed in terms of the content. But then the hardest part for me was looking at the new Science and Engineering Practices and the Crosscutting Concepts and so luckily I got to a trailblazer workshop for a period of time last year and got some new information and kinda ways to integrate that into my classroom. So that was really a neat neat place to start and with that workshop I was able to work with other teachers and science leaders and kind of get some new ideas on how to take NGSS and incorporate that into the classroom using the Science and Engineering Practices and the Crosscutting Concepts to actually teach the content and so that's been a new experience for me and the best part of it is really being able to use science notebooks and student talk and discourse to be able to kind of help students to guide their own science as the collect data and they use their notebooks to to experience the science too.

**Marlys Williamson:** So, some of the supports I've had for NGSS of course is going to the workshops, um talking to a lot of other teachers and sharing ideas, sharing ideas with lessons and other things that we can use in our classroom. Um, also a lot of research on notebooks has been the most helpful for me, looking at how can I incorporate notebooks, how would I be able to use notebooks with my English Language Learners, how can I use notebooks with my low achieving students and get them to be able to write um and write down their information so lots of support there and



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then just being able to look through more material about how to get those crosscutting concepts in and how to do those science and engineering practices has been the place where I've needed to kind of do a little more research in that area.

**Marlys Williamson:** Students now using the NGSS curriculum, they're a lot more excited about science. I notice that they're much critical, much more of a critical thinker and they really think like scientists. They talk like scientists, they write like scientists, and just overall they're able to accomplish any problem that I give them and they they don't give up very easily, they kind of can persevere through a lot of other things and they get excited about science. They don't ever want to stop, they want to keep going um and they want to keep finding more information and collecting more data. So I see students working a lot better as scientists which gives us you know hope for those future scientists that we are having in our classroom so that makes me very excited about that.

Background music playing during closing.

