

Incorporating Vermont PBS Into Your Classroom

Program: *Nature*

Grade(s): PreK-12

Ways to watch: [Series website](#), Vermont PBS broadcast stations, [streaming](#), [VTPBS live broadcast](#)

About: *Nature* is one of the most watched documentary film series on public television, delivering the best in original natural history films to audiences nationwide for almost 40 seasons. Over the years, *Nature* has brought the beauty and wonder of the natural world into American homes, becoming in the process the benchmark of natural history programs on American television. The series has won more than 700 honors from the television industry, the international wildlife film community, parent groups, and environmental organizations – including 18 Emmy Awards, three Peabody Awards, and the first honor ever given to a program by the Sierra Club. This document connects *Nature* to the PreK through Grade 3 Vermont Early Learning Standards (VELS) which are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS); it also connects *Nature* to the NGSS for Grades 4 through 12.

[This collection](#) of science videos and media-enhanced lesson plans draws upon the powerful documentaries of public television’s award-winning natural history series, *Nature*. The video segments have been carefully selected to engage students with key curriculum concepts. The lesson plans incorporate hands-on activities, online resources, and video to interactively and creatively address topics and standards in Life Sciences and Earth and Space Science.

Primary Connection to the [Vermont Early Learning Standards](#) (VELS):

III. Learning About the World: Science

<i>Element</i>	<i>Goal</i>
2. <i>Life Sciences</i>	1. Children construct concepts about the characteristics of living organisms, their biology and ecosystems through exploration and investigations.

Additional VELs’ Sections and Domains to Explore with *Nature*: III. Learning About the World: Social Studies (*Element- 1. Inquiry*)

Primary Connections to the [Next Generation Science Standards](#) (NGSS):

<i>Domain</i>	<i>Disciplinary Core Ideas</i>
Life Science	LS1: Structure and Function, Growth and development of organisms, Information processing; LS2: Interdependent relationships in ecosystems, Ecosystem dynamics, functioning, and resilience Social interactions and group behavior;

<i>Domain</i>	<i>Disciplinary Core Ideas</i>
	LS3: Inheritance of traits, Variation of traits LS4: Evidence of common ancestry and diversity, Natural selection, Adaptation, Biodiversity and humans
Earth and Space Science	ESS1: The history of planet Earth ESS2: Earth materials and systems, Plate tectonics and large-scale system interactions, The role of water in Earth's surface processes, Weather and Climate, Biogeology ESS3: Natural resources, Human impacts on Earth systems, Global climate change

Resources: Use the following carefully curated resources to support teaching about the natural world with *Nature*.

For Educators:

- [PBS Learning Media collection](#)
- [Series website](#)
- [Nature - Programming and Resources](#)
- [COVID Related](#)
- [AOE Continuity of Learning](#)
- [PBS NATURE Blog](#)
- [PBS Nature Resources for Parents and Teachers](#)

For Families:

- [PBS NATURE website](#)
- [PBS Kids Wild Kratts](#)
- [PBS Nature Resources for Parents and Teachers](#)

Other PBS programs with connections to science:

1. NOVA
 - a. [PBS Learning Media collection](#)
 - b. [Series website](#)
 - c. [Incorporating NOVA into Your Classroom](#)
2. SciGirls
 - a. [Series Website](#)
 - b. [PBS Learning Media collection](#)
 - c. [PBS Kids](#)
3. Wild Kratts
 - a. [Incorporating Wild Kratts into Your Classroom](#)
4. Elinor Wonders Why
 - a. [Incorporating Elinor Wonders Why into Your Classroom](#)