

Welcome to the *Natural Inquirer* Scientific Process Module!



The *Natural Inquirer* staff developed this scientific process module for middle school and high school educators in order to help support the teaching of the scientific process. All lessons are correlated to the National Science Education Standards and also support the North Carolina Science Curriculum. The ten lessons in this module are meant for use over the course of an entire school year; however, we do not specify a definite timeline so that you can decide how best to incorporate them into your schedule. Unit One contains three lessons that introduce the scientific process and science concepts. Unit Two contains five lessons that individually examine each part of the scientific process. Unit Three contains two lessons that review the scientific process and delineate the culminating activity. The culminating activity provides an opportunity for students to conduct their own research and then create a *Natural Inquirer* article. When students complete their own *Natural Inquirer* article, they can submit the article to the *Natural Inquirer* staff and we will post them on our web site.

This year long project incorporates science, reading, critical thinking, math, and a variety of other topics. It provides a perfect opportunity for a portfolio assessment for each of the students. From the first lesson to the last lesson, students should keep a three ring binder or folder of all the activities, notes, and research they complete. This portfolio can be used as a means of ongoing assessment and feedback as well as providing a valuable reference as the students conduct their own research. We hope that the scientific process module provides a valuable resource for teaching the scientific process. We look forward to assisting you in any way we can!