

Pasadena ISD Science

Highlights

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TAKS Time... Strategies Time!

It's TAKS time! We are happy to continue working with you to serve the students in Pasadena ISD, and to be keeping the focus on high-quality instruction in the classroom while improving performance on the state assessments. Remember that we welcome your phone calls and e-mails at any time.

As we continue in the second semester, TAKS preparations are well underway. TAKS scores reflect the extra effort put in by everyone. We know that both students and staff have worked very hard and are confident that assessment results will be the proof of that!

In this issue of ScienceE Rocks, we focus on resources that supplement your instruction and TAKS preparation. Thanks always for working so hard for the sake of our students and community.

We know that our students and staff have worked very hard!



Left to right: Aldo Prado, Darlene McCorvey, John Elmer, Alena Grinstead, Nancy Fredrickson, Denise Ridgway



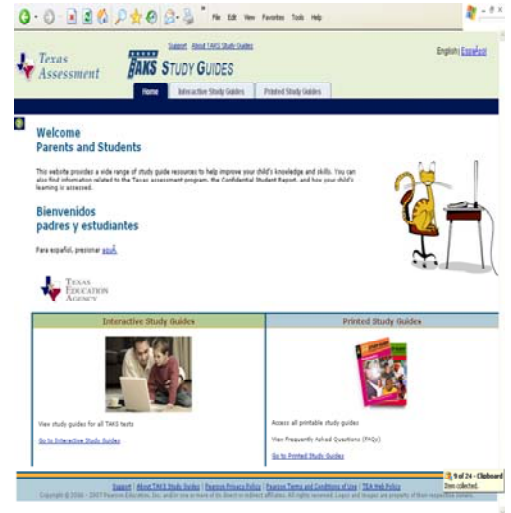
Share this link with your students:

http://perspective.pearsonaccess.com/perspective/appmanager/tx/family/?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=p2_home_page

Grades 3-11

TEA offers this versatile tool for review across all TAKS grade levels. With versions in Spanish and English for 3rd to 6th grade, this study guide is an interactive way to review the Science objectives in TAKS format. There is feedback for each answer choice explaining the reasons why the answer is right or wrong. This is a great option for practice at home, during the Spring Break, for tutoring and in workstations or learning centers.

With versions in Spanish and English for 3rd to 6th grade!

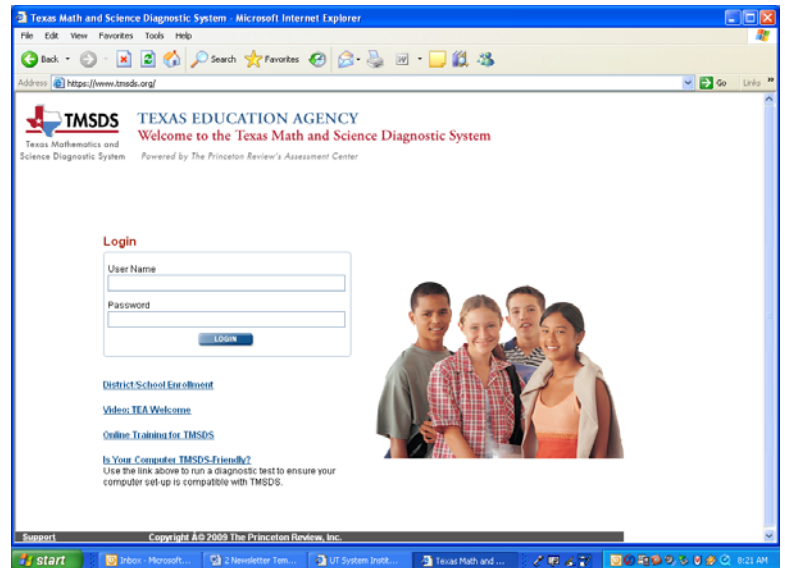


TMSDS

Grades 3-12

<https://www.tmsds.org/>

You can create quizzes and benchmark tests by TEKS. Please request a password to your instructional specialist or your Tech liaison at your



UPCOMING STAFF DEVELOPMENT OFFERINGS (Eduphoria)

Elementary

Super Science for Super Teachers - Session 4

Flipchart Workshop for Elementary Session 2

4/15/2009 at 4:00 PM

BrainPop Jr. for the K-3 Classroom

4/22/2009 at 4:00 PM

Atomic Learning for the Elementary Classroom (Day 1)

4/29/2009 at 4:00 PM

Atomic Learning for the Elementary Classroom (Day 2)

5/6/2009 at 4:00 PM

Learning for Tomorrow - Habitats Studies (Grades 4-8)

5/16/2009 at 8:30 AM

Middle

Super Science for Super Teachers - Session 4

Strategies to Reduce Test Anxiety

4/8/2009 at 4:30 PM

Secondary Science - Using Promethean Boards in the Science Classroom

5/6/2009 at 4:30 PM

ESL Academy #15 Four DAY Workshop (05/07,05/08,05/21,05/22)

5/7/2009 at 8:00 AM

Active Learning Strategies for the Content Areas

5/9/2009 at 8:30 AM

Foldables for Secondary Science

5/13/2009 at 4:30 PM

Learning for Tomorrow - Habitats Studies (Grades 4-8)

5/16/2009 at 8:30 AM

Secondary Science New Teacher Meeting #7

5/19/2009 at 4:30 PM

Vertical Team Meeting PreAP Science Teachers, Grades 6-8

5/19/2009 at 4:30 PM

Intermediate

Using the 5 E Model in the Middle and Intermediate Science Classroom

Strategies to Reduce Test Anxiety

4/8/2009 at 4:30 PM

Intermediate Science Department Head Meeting

5/5/2009 at 4:30 PM

Secondary Science - Using Promethean Boards in the Science Classroom

5/6/2009 at 4:30 PM

ESL Academy #15 Four DAY Workshop (05/07,05/08,05/21,05/22)

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Active Learning Strategies for the Content Areas

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Secondary Science New Teacher Meeting #7

5/19/2009 at 4:30 PM

Vertical Team Meeting PreAP Science Teachers, Grades 6-8

5/19/2009 at 4:30 PM

High School

Teaching Vocabulary to ELL Students

4/6/2009 at 4:30 PM

Strategies to Reduce Test Anxiety

4/8/2009 at 4:30 PM

Secondary Science - Using Promethean Boards in the Science Classroom

5/6/2009 at 4:30 PM

ESL Academy #15 Four DAY Workshop (05/07,05/08,05/21,05/22)

5/7/2009 at 8:00 AM

Active Learning Strategies for the Content Areas

5/9/2009 at 8:30 AM

Foldables for Secondary Science

5/13/2009 at 4:30 PM

Vertical Team Meeting PreAP and AP Science Teachers, Grades 9-12

5/19/2009 at 3:30 PM

Festivals and Celebrations

Earth Day Celebration

Armand Bayou will celebrate Earth Day, Saturday, April 25, 2009, from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. The day will be filled with guided trail and prairie tours, pontoon boat tours, wagon, rides and children's activities.

ADMISSION IS FREE!

There is also the Armand Bayou Watershed Festival on the same date/at the same time at the Pasadena Rodeo Grounds. There will be music and entertainment, give-aways, a native plant sale, children's activities, fishing lessons, green living products and demonstrations, electronics recycling and MORE! Visit www.pasadenabeautiful.com for more information.

SCIENCE MATERIALS PURCHASES

If your department is interested in acquiring Science Materials through established contracts for Pasadena ISD, here is the link to a current purchase agreement for that purpose:

<http://www.pasadenaisd.org/purchasing/Bid%20Schedule%20Page/Renewal/2008/08-013%20Renewal%20YR%202.pdf>

The agreement lists the awarded vendors, contract period (January 1, 2009-December 31, 2009), catalog discounts, freight terms, exclusions, etc. Employees/instructors needing science materials and equipment should use this when requesting pricing on items that fall into this category.

If any additional information is needed concerning this agreement please contact

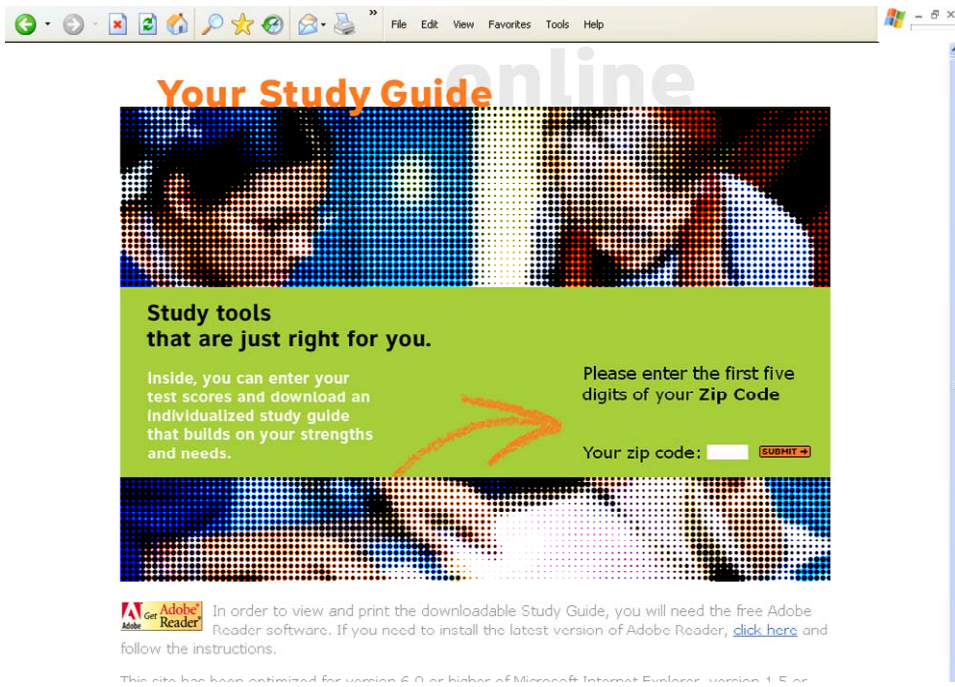
Mary N. Charles Pasadena I. S. D. Purchasing Dept. PH: 713.740.0193 mcharles@pasadenaisd.org

Your Study Guide: Online

Grades 9, 10 and Exit

<http://www.yourstudyguide.com/ysg/home.html>

Anyone can download a customized Study Guide, in PDF form, through the link above. You create it with a student's *Confidential Student Report (CSR)* information **OR** by using an approximate scale score and individual objective information. You get a customized version of **Your Study Guide** that can be printed or saved. Selected pages may be printed. This is an ideal option for creating a personalized study guide that can be used before subsequent TAKS administrations, in summer school, **AND** with released TAKS data.



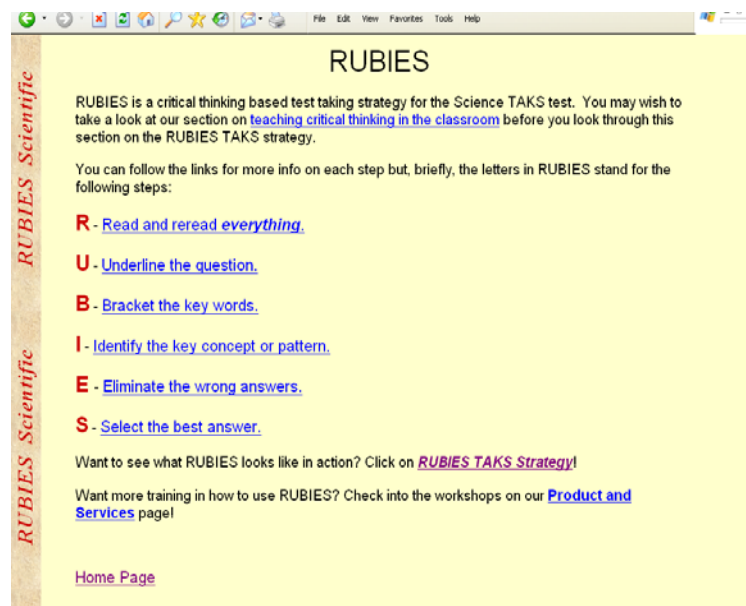
RUBIES Scientific All Grades

RUBIES is a critical thinking-based test taking strategy for the Science TAKS test.

Check out the *Websites for Students* link on their homepage: www.rubies-scientific.com

Recommended: Phases of the Moon and Extreme Weather

http://www.rubies-scientific.com/company_info/rubies_info/rubies.htm



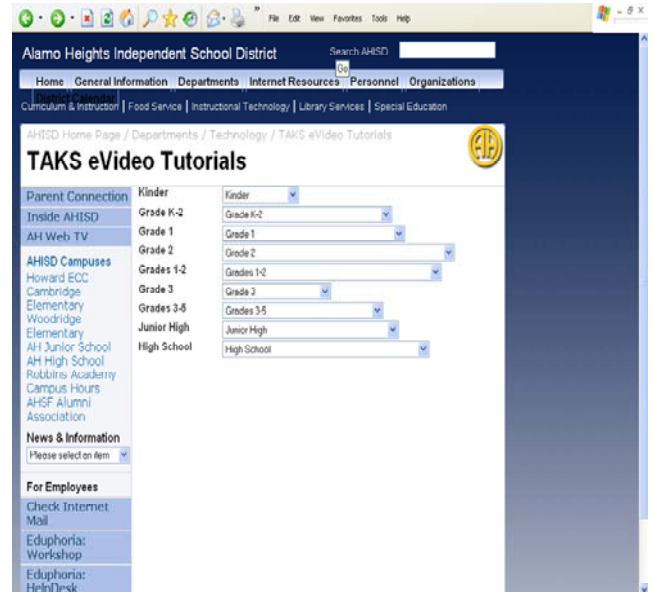
Science Rocks!

Alamo Heights Independent School District

<http://www.ahisd.net/departments/technology/TAKSevideo.htm>

TAKS e-Video Tutorial

Grades 9, 10 and Exit

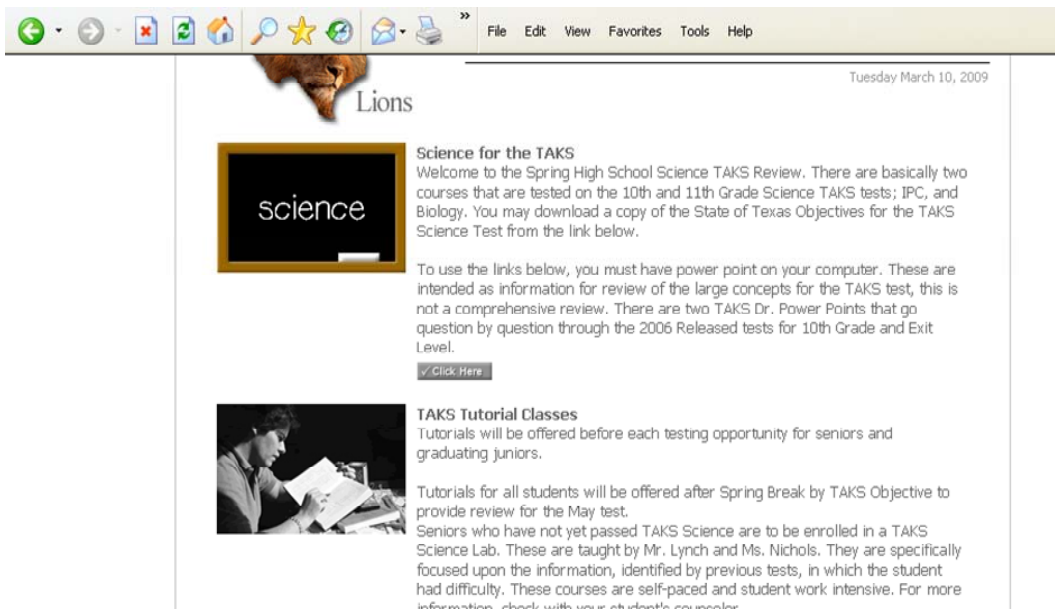


Spring High School

http://classroom.springisd.org/webs/nancyn/science_taks_information.htm

Science tutorials by objective - great tools!

Grades 9, 10 and Exit



**Send us your
comments and
ideas!**

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Self Check Quizzes: Glencoe Grade 9 Biology

http://www.glencoe.com/sec/science/biology/bio2004/self_check_quiz/scquiz.php?abrev=tx

Self Check Quizzes randomly generates a self-grading quiz correlated to each lesson in your Glencoe textbook. Hints are available if you need extra help. Immediate feedback includes specific page references allowing easy review of lesson skills.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Glencoe Biology website. The page title is "Science Biology: The Dynamics of Life 2004". The navigation menu includes "Science Home", "Product Info", "Site Map", "Search", and "Contact Us". The main content area is titled "Self Check Quizzes" and features a Texas state icon. Below the title, there is a brief description of the feature and a list of units and chapters available for selection. The units listed are:

- Unit 1: What is biology?
 - Chapter 1 - Biology: The Study of Life
- Unit 2: Ecology
 - Chapter 2 - Principles of Ecology
 - Chapter 3 - Communities and Biomes
 - Chapter 4 - Population Biology
 - Chapter 5 - Biological Diversity and Conservation
- Unit 3: The Life of a Cell
 - Chapter 6 - The Chemistry of Life
 - Chapter 7 - A View of the Cell
 - Chapter 8 - Cellular Transport and the Cell Cycle
 - Chapter 9 - Energy in a Cell
- Unit 4: Genetics
 - Chapter 10 - Mendel and Meiosis
 - Chapter 11 - DNA and Genes
 - Chapter 12 - Patterns of Heredity and Human Genetics
 - Chapter 13 - Genetic Technology

Interactive Quizzes: Glencoe Grade 9 Biology

<http://www.glencoe.com/sec/science/biology/bio2004/interactivetutor/index.php?abrev=t>

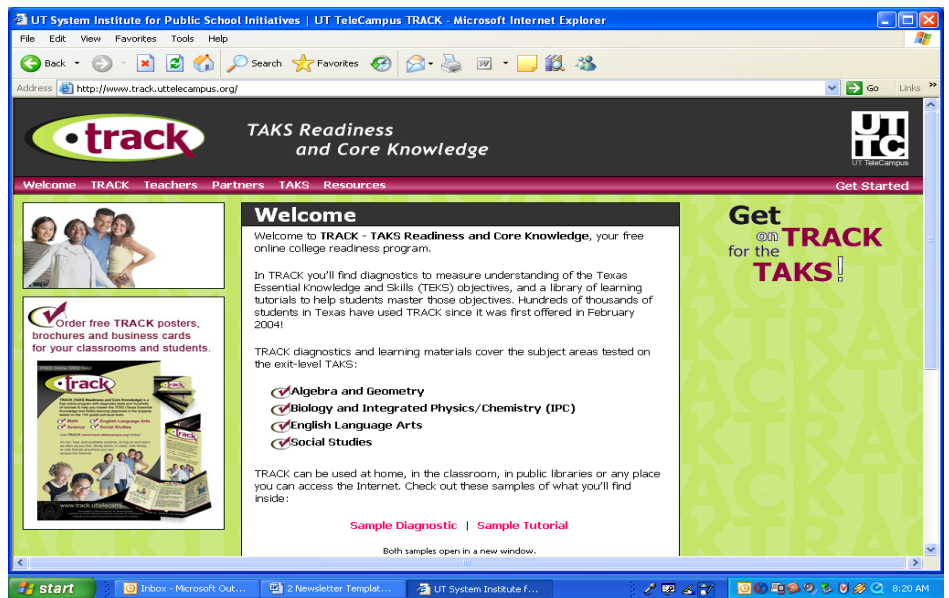
The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Glencoe Biology website. The page title is "Science Biology: The Dynamics of Life 2004". The navigation menu includes "Science Home", "Product Info", "Site Map", "Search", and "Contact Us". The main content area is titled "Interactive Tutor" and features a list of units and chapters available for selection. The units listed are:

- Unit 1: What is Biology?
 - Chapter 1: Biology: The Study of Life
- Unit 2: Ecology
 - Chapter 2: Principles of Ecology
 - Chapter 3: Communities and Biomes
 - Chapter 4: Population Biology
 - Chapter 5: Biological Diversity and Conservation
- Unit 3: The Life of a Cell
 - Chapter 6: The Chemistry of Life
 - Chapter 7: A View of the Cell
 - Chapter 8: Cellular Transport and the Cell Cycle
 - Chapter 9: Energy in a Cell
- Unit 4: Genetics
 - Chapter 10: Mendel and Meiosis
 - Chapter 11: DNA and Genes
 - Chapter 12: Patterns of Heredity and Human Genetics
 - Chapter 13: Genetic Technology
- Unit 5: Change Through Time
 - Chapter 14: The History of Life
 - Chapter 15: The Theory of Evolution
 - Chapter 16: Primate Evolution
 - Chapter 17: Organizing Life's Diversity
- Unit 6: Viruses, Bacteria, Protists, and Fungi
 - Chapter 18: Viruses and Bacteria
 - Chapter 19: Protists
 - Chapter 20: Fungi
- Unit 7: Plants
 - Chapter 21: What Is a Plant?
 - Chapter 22: The Diversity of Plants
 - Chapter 23: Plant Structure and Function
 - Chapter 24: Reproduction in Plants
- Unit 8: Invertebrates
 - Chapter 25: What Is an Animal?

TRACK Grades 9-11

<http://www.track.uttelecampus.org/>

In TRACK you'll find diagnostics to measure understanding of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) objectives, and a library of learning tutorials to help students master those objectives. Hundreds of thousands of students in Texas have used TRACK since it was first offered in February 2004!



Update on New Science TEKS:

- March 27, 2009:** The State Board of Education adopted the science TEKS (they will be posted in the coming weeks)
- Fall 2010:** Implementation of new TEKS
- Fall 2011-Spring 2012:** Selection of new textbooks (proposed)