Australian Curriculum
SA Teachers & Leaders Resource

The essence of science – the essentials in science learning

The intent of this workshop is to think about the essence of the science curriculum. Professor Denis Goodrum, expert contributor to the Australian Curriculum: Science, describes the essentials in science learning.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Description	Time
1 | Let's begin – our initial thinking 1 Form a group of three. 2 Choose one person to record and one to time keep. 3 Share your initial thinking of what you think is essential in science learning. 4 Recorder: Present 3 ideas back to the whole group.	5 min
2 | Introduction In this workshop we hear from expert Professor Denis Goodrum who wrote the Australian Curriculum: Science shaping paper. We will discuss his thinking and analyse how this fits with our own.	2 min
3 | Learning process 1 Watch the video clip[1] of Professor Goodrum (1.50 min). 2 Personal reflection – While watching the clip reflect on the following: a) What are Professor Goodrum's main points? b) How does this connect with my current understanding of science? c) What was new for me? 3 Group discussion: • Pool your main points from a) and cluster them by theme. • How does the expert opinion fit with our individual and shared understandings of the 'essence' of science? • Share your c) responses and identify any patterns in this.	25 min
4 | Summary of learning What is our agreed position about the essence of science – the essentials in science learning? As a table group complete this statement: **The essence of science is:**	5 min

NOTES

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

[1] TLinSA.tì.cc/ScienceGoodrum

5 | Commitment to action

We know that science as a human endeavour is essential in science learning.

The one thing I will do to include a focus on science as a human endeavour when designing learning in science is:

.....

.....

by ..... **and I will check-in with** .....

Government of South Australia
Department for Education