

SCIENCE RESOURCES



Collins

AQA KS3 Science Student Books and Teaching Guides



AT A GLANCE

- A solid suite of expert-led resources for teaching the KS3 science syllabus
- Aligned to AQA's big ideas and enquiry processes
- Broad, balanced and high quality content
- Provides a clear path of progression
- Tailored assessment and intervention matching to each chapter

REVIEW BY JOHN DABELL



Taking a long-term view, for students to secure good outcomes at GCSE then KS3 has to be 'doing its job' - and with so many content changes in the science specifications, your provision for this phase might need some serious rethinking.

A new collection of resources that aims to provide effective coverage comes from Collins. The publisher's AQA KS3 Science resources cover the cornerstone concepts students need to know; they embed investigative thinking and working scientifically, and arm students with the appropriate scientific language essential for answering questions, debating and justifying their ideas.

There are two Student books on offer and two accompanying Teacher guides. Student Book Part 1 covers the first chunk of the syllabus and Part 2 the second. Both student books begin with 'Ideas you have met before' and 'In this chapter you will find out', providing a clean and clear-cut context for linking ideas together.

What follows are chapters organised by topic and these have a three-part structure, covering what students need to know, how they can apply their knowledge and then a section on taking knowledge and understanding further. This three-part

progression encompasses the AQA mastery statements of know, apply and extend.

Questions are dotted throughout each topic to test, nudge, push and challenge and there are some interesting facts boxes to pique interest. Key vocabulary is clearly indicated and there is a search phrase included to signpost students towards independent research using the internet. At the end of each chapter students will find self-check questions so they can gauge how well they have understood ideas and how well they can apply and extend. A comprehensive and accessible glossary is included too.

All the student pages benefit from the use of bold, bright and engaging real-world photographs that add visual power and meaning to the concepts covered.

These resources are a clever mix of conceptual challenge and cognitive complexity that support students to think about science in a creative and sophisticated fashion. One of the dangers at KS3 is that some pupils can permanently 'switch off' from science unless they see how the subject relates to real life, and they have some sense of enjoyment and progress in their lessons. From a resource point of view, Collins AQA KS3 Science can help keep students switched on and clued in.

teach SECONDARY

VERDICT

- ✓ Provides a solid foundation for GCSE readiness
- ✓ Gives students a sound grasp of key concepts and how to investigate
- ✓ Enriches vocabulary and command of scientific language
- ✓ Engaging, creative and stimulating content
- ✓ Helps teachers consider the architecture of particular concepts

UPGRADE IF...

You are looking for a rich and organised two-year framework to help you and your students meet and surpass AQA's mastery goals and guide you through the AQA 10 big ideas.

Find out more at www.collins.co.uk/SecondaryScience, email education@harpercollins.co.uk