

Framework for K-12 Science  
&  
Next Generation Science Standards:  
*An Overview*

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**Slides from Helen Quinn  
(Stanford U. and NRC/NAS)**

# Background: K-12 Standards

- + US K-12 education: State and local control
- + “Common Core” Math and Language Arts:  
47+ states

Foundation for Standards  
(from US National Academy of Sciences)



THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES PRESS

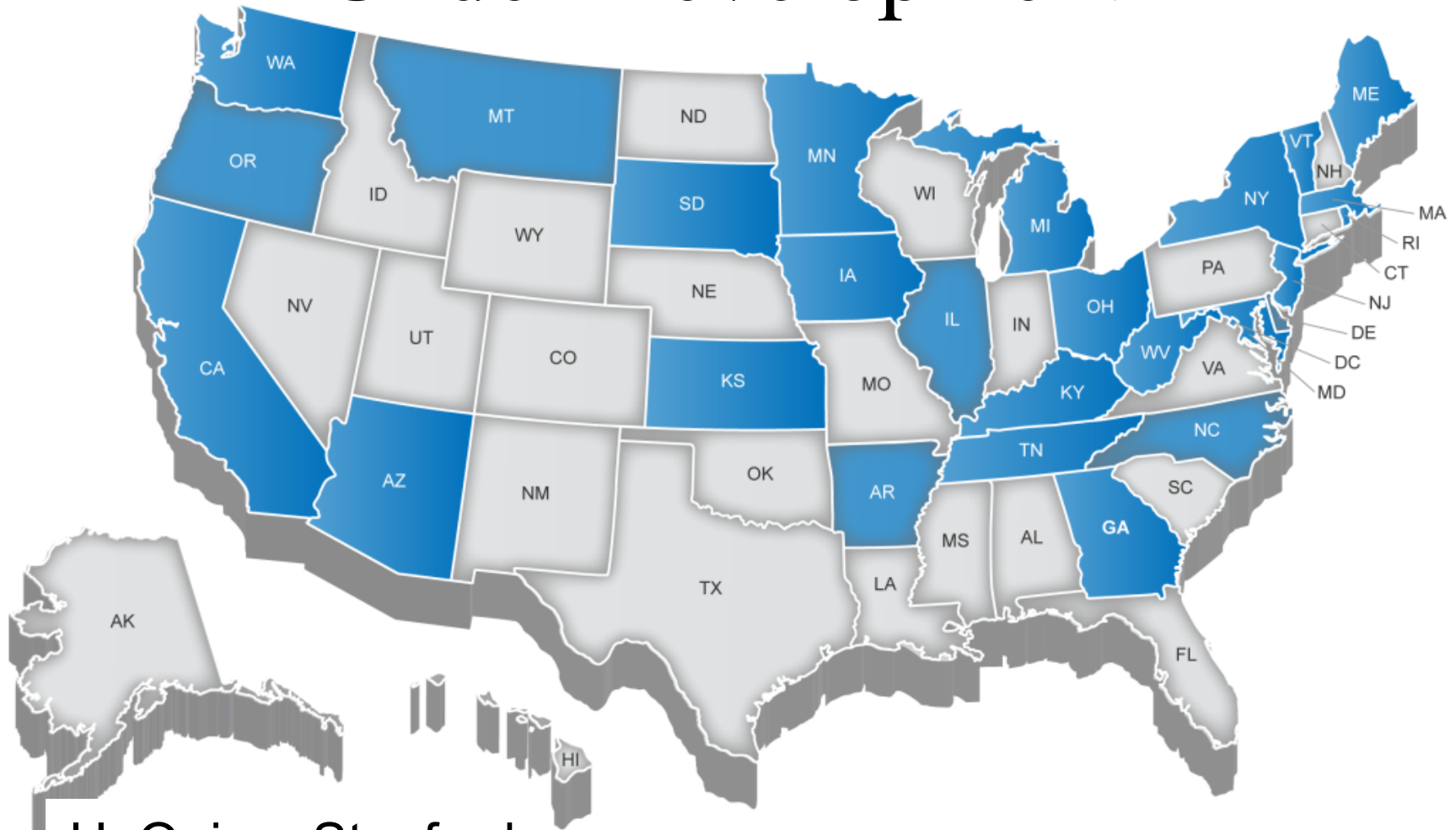
A FRAMEWORK FOR  
K-12 SCIENCE  
EDUCATION

Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Core Ideas

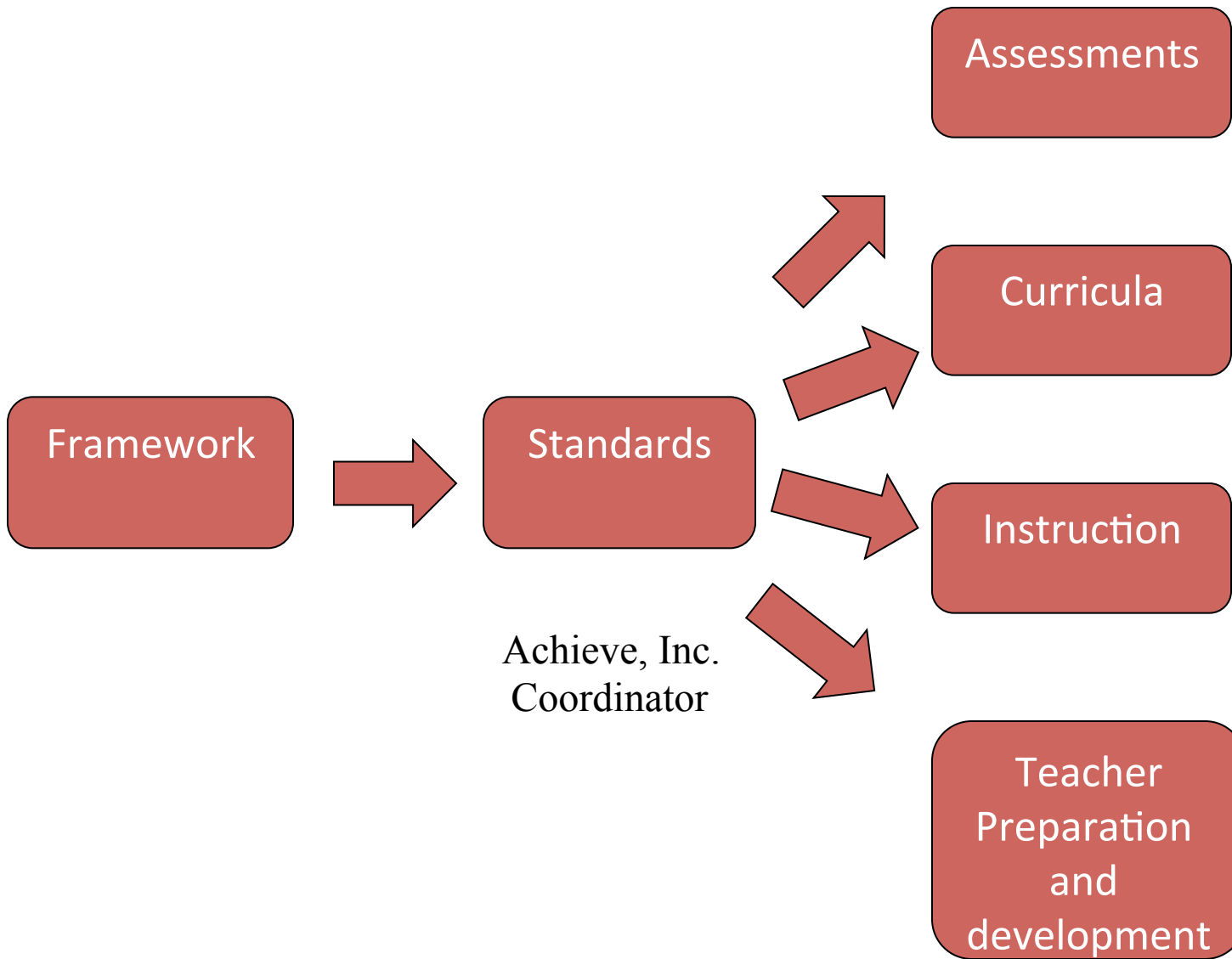
2012

NRC Board on  
Science Education

# U.S National Science Standards (Pre-college) Under Development



H. Quinn, Stanford



# Three Dimensions of Modern Science Education

+ Disciplinary core ideas

+ Crosscutting concepts

+ Scientific and engineering practices

# Disciplinary Core Ideas: Physical Sciences

- PS1 Matter and its interactions
- PS2 Motion and stability: Forces and interactions
- PS3 Energy
- PS4 Waves and their applications in technologies for information transfer

# AP Science Reform

- + Reduce Coverage (Emphasize core ideas)
- + Teach students to think like scientists (Inquiry)



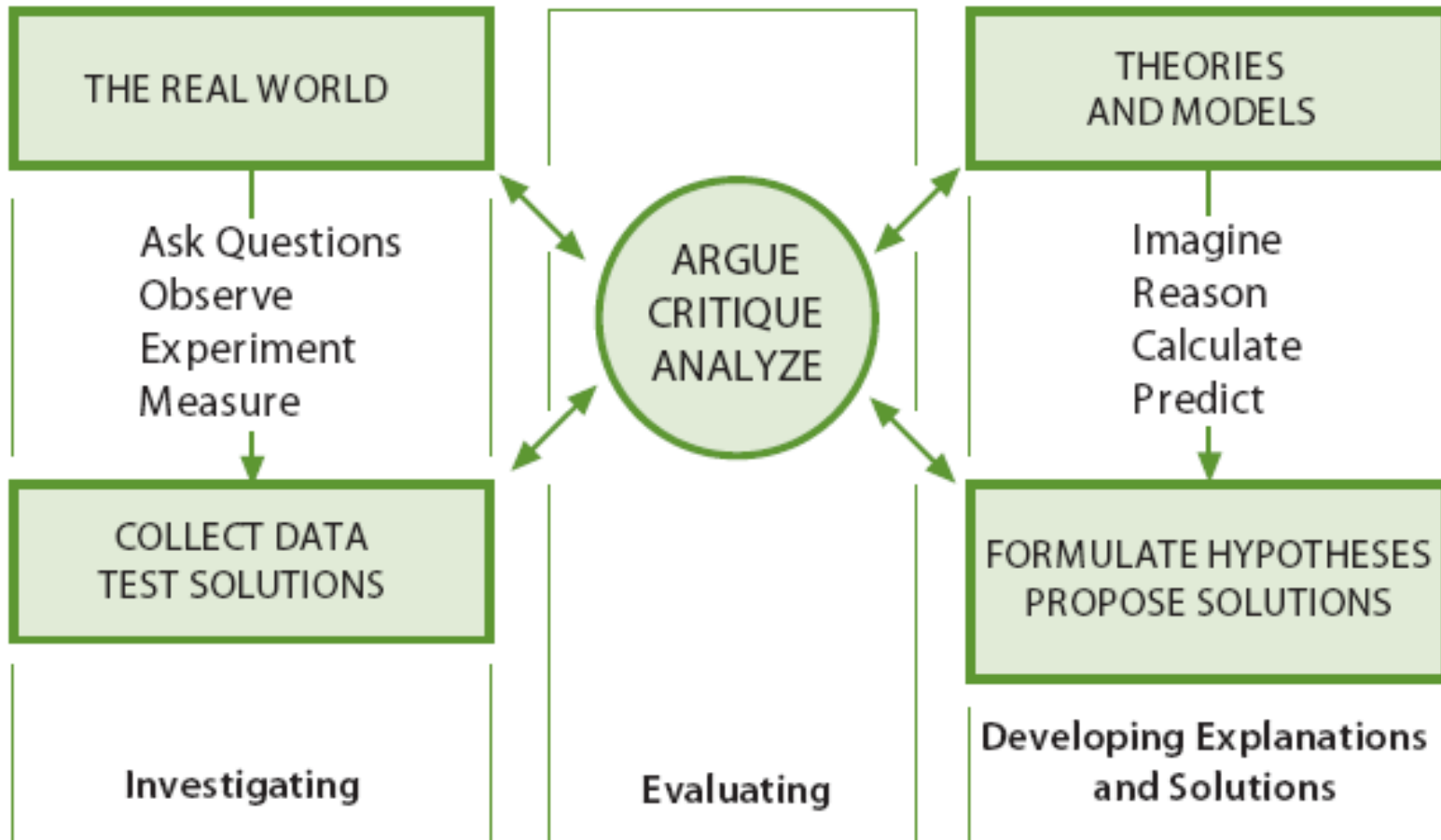
# Crosscutting Concepts

1. Patterns
2. Cause and effect: mechanism and explanation
3. Scale, proportion and quantity
4. Systems and system models
5. Energy and matter: flows, cycles and conservation
6. Structure and function
7. Stability and change

# Scientific and Engineering Practices

1. Asking questions and *defining problems*
2. *Developing and using models*
3. Planning and carrying out investigations
4. *Analyzing and interpreting data*
5. Using mathematics and *computational thinking*
6. Developing explanations and *designing solutions*
7. *Engaging in argument from evidence*
8. Obtaining, *evaluating*, and communicating information

# Integrating Practices



A Framework for

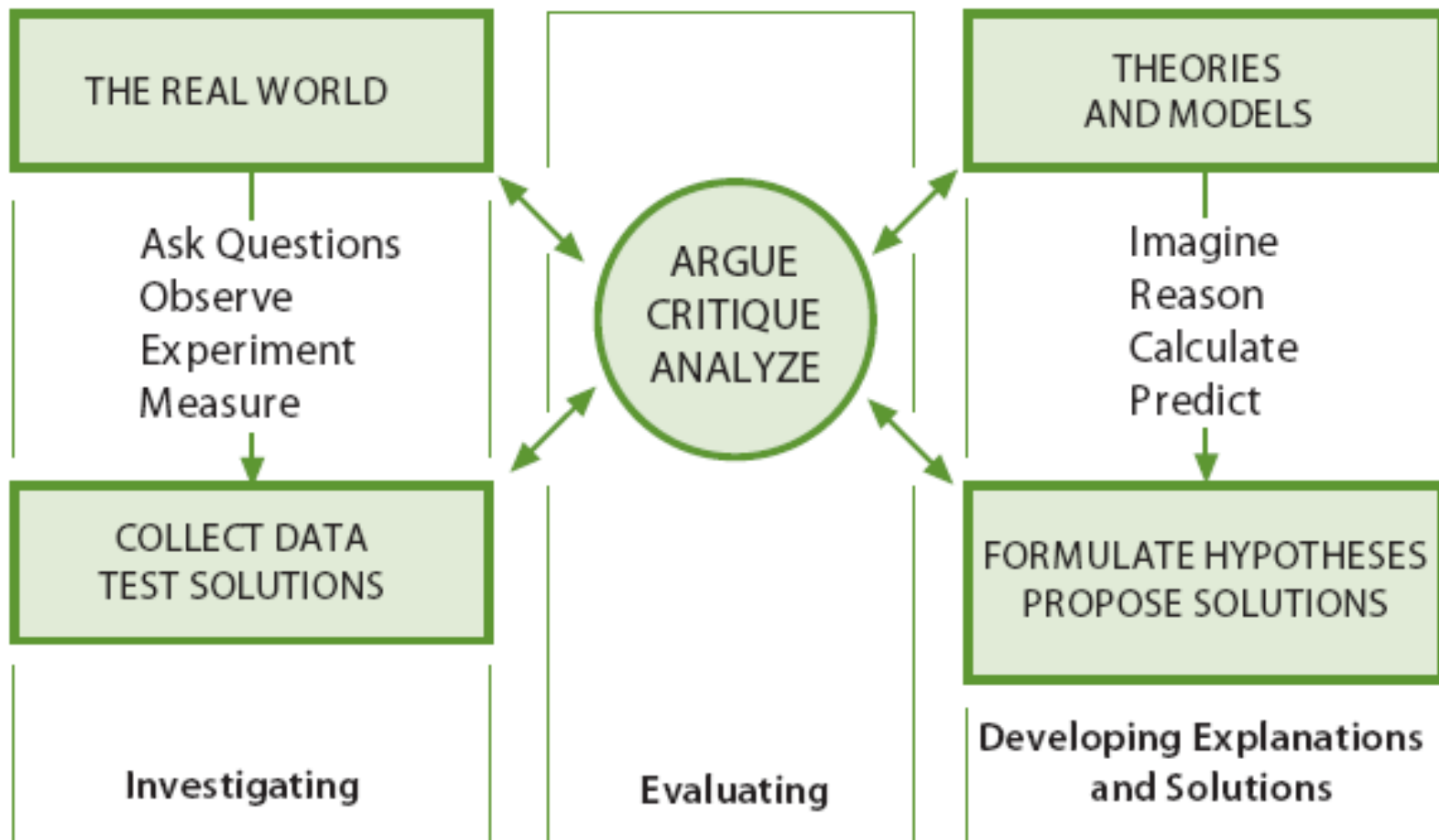
~~K-12~~

Undergraduate

Science

Education?

# Why don't GT Intro. Physics labs look like this?



# Example: Mechanics (Motion Prediction)

## PS2.A: Forces and Motion

- + Cognitive Principles (Reif)
- + Modeling Instruction (Hestenes)
- + Computational Thinking  
(Chabay & Sherwood)

# References

\* Framework: K-12 Science Standards:

[http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=13165](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13165)

\* Webinar by Helen Quinn on framework

<http://www.aps.org/careers/guidance/webinars/nextgen.cfm>

\* K-12 Standards Development

<http://www.nextgenscience.org/>