Developing and Using Models to Construct Scientific Knowledge

Overview: Modeling is a core practice for scientists as they use a variety of models to develop, refine, and communicate their ideas. In this workshop, participants will actively engage in a Pre-AP model lesson with an attention to modeling. They will examine how the Pre-AP shared principles and science areas of focus support student engagement in science practices such as modeling and scientific argumentation. Participants will then consider how they can apply new learning within their own classroom context to support students in constructing and then modifying their own scientific knowledge as new information becomes available.

Teachers will:

- Connect the Pre-AP science area of focus, attention to modeling, to student engagement in constructing and modifying scientific knowledge.
- Plan to support student construction of scientific knowledge through attention to modeling and incorporation of the Pre-AP shared principles.

Agenda at a Glance (In-Person)

Welcome and Opening

Establish a collaborative learning environment and introduce, at a high level, the Pre-AP Program.

45 minutes

Why Modeling?

Connect personal experience to the process of modeling through professional reading and dialogue.

45 minutes

Zooming In - Pre-AP Science Areas of Focus and Shared Principles

Examine Pre-AP science areas of focus and shared principles to determine how they support student construction of scientific knowledge through modeling.

60 minutes

Attention to Modeling in Action

Experience a Pre-AP model lesson from a student perspective and analyze evidence of how the development and revision of models support student construction of scientific knowledge.

120 minutes

Attention to Modeling in Your Classroom

Connect attention to modeling and the Pre-AP shared principles to the participant's own classroom instruction.

40 minutes

Reflection and Closing

Synthesize the day's learning to connect best practices and support participant action steps.

20 minutes

Agenda at a Glance: One-Day Model (Virtual)

Below is a sample agenda of a Pre-AP Readiness Workshop scheduled for one day. One-day workshops are 6 hours total (5 hours of instructional time, 1 hour of break time). There is a maximum of 28 participants per workshop.

Day One Schedule – 6 hours			
Segment 1	Welcome and Introduction to Pre-AP		
Segment 2	Exploring the Pre-AP Shared Principles and Areas of Focus		
Segment 3	Model Lesson and Classroom Application		
	Lunch		
Segment 4	Model Lesson and Classroom Application		
Segment 5	Collaborative Planning		
Segment 6	Group Share		
Segment 7	Reflection and Next Steps		

Agenda at a Glance: Two-Class Model (Virtual)

Below is a sample agenda of a Pre-AP Readiness Workshop scheduled across two classes. Participants meet twice within two weeks for 2 hours 30 min each class. There is a maximum of 28 participants per workshop.

Class One Schedule – 2.5 hours		Class Two Schedule – 2.5 hours	
Segment 1	Welcome and Introduction to Pre-AP	Segment 4	Welcome Back
		Segment 5	Model Lesson and Classroom Application
Segment 2	Exploring the Pre-AP Shared Principles and Areas of Focus	Segment 6	Collaborative Planning
Segment 3	Model Lesson and Classroom Application	Segment 7	Group Share
		Segment 8	Reflection and Next Steps