



FALL 2026 – Impact Study

Looking for strategies to better engage your students in the learning of science?

Interested in using a video game to teach science?

Want to teach Scientific Argumentation?

Intrigued by the call to focus science teaching on big ideas like Earth's water system?



If you find yourself saying “YES” to any of these questions, you should consider partnering with the Mission HydroSci team!

Mission HydroSci (MHS) is a video game project being developed at the University of Missouri to help middle school students learn about the science of water and scientific argumentation.

MHS can serve as a replacement unit for middle school science units that cover water systems topics (including **water cycle, watersheds, groundwater and atmospheric water**). The curriculum is aligned with Missouri Learning Standards for Middle School Science.¹ Ask us about alignment with your state standards.

You will be asked to:

- 1) help us achieve assent from students and to disseminate parent notification letters to parents;
- 2) participate in an online training to prepare you to teach MHS (approximately 3 hours);
- 3) use Mission HydroSci (MHS) during your full-class period with your students for 7 days (days 2-8 of study) of classroom time (full study takes 9 class periods);
- 4) ask students to complete the assessment instruments during the first and final class periods of the study;
- 5) participate in an (approximately 30 minute) interview following the use of MHS with your classes.



Teachers and students have tested MHS with positive results.

Our evaluation report of MHS showed results which meet the What Works Clearinghouse standards without reservations. We are now looking for a larger

group of teachers to partner with us for exploring how well a new web-based version of MHS that can be played on Chromebooks and iPads supports target learning outcomes. These learning outcomes include student content knowledge about water systems and argumentation practices. **Our partner teachers will receive support and training for using MHS with their students, reports of student progress and learning, and a \$1,000 stipend.**

You can view an intro video for MHS online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EoU69Dyo1y0>

If you have questions and wish to learn more about MHS, email LaffeyJ@missouri.edu

To join the impact study, follow the link and complete the form under "Impact Study"
<https://mhs.missouri.edu/>

¹ Specific standards addressed by the curriculum include 6-8.ESS2.C.1; 6-8.ESS3.A; 6-8.ESS3.C.1; 6-8.ESS3.C.2; and 6-8.ETS1.A.