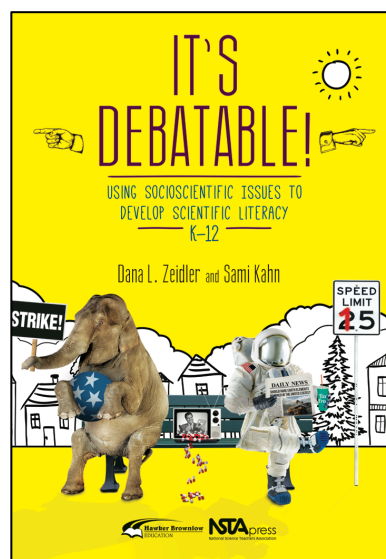


It's Debatable! Using Socioscientific Issues to Develop Scientific Literacy, K–12

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Key Learning Area: Science



Summary

This book encourages scientific literacy by showing you how to teach the understanding and thinking skills your students need to explore real-world questions like these:

- Should school charge a “fat tax” to discourage kids from eating unhealthy foods?
- Should local governments lower speed limits to reduce traffic fatalities?
- Should pharmaceutical companies be allowed to advertise prescription drugs directly to consumers?

At the core of the exploration is the Socioscientific Issues Framework. The framework gives students practice in the research, analysis and argumentation necessary to grapple with difficult questions and build scientific literacy. After introducing the concept of the framework and explaining how it aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards, the book shows you how to implement it through seven units targeted to the primary, middle years and secondary school levels. You even find out how to develop your own socioscientific issues curriculum.

Both practical and content-rich, *It's Debatable!* doesn't shy away from controversy. Instead, the authors encourage you and your students to confront just how messy the questions raised by science (and pseudoscience) can be. After all, as the authors note, “The only way for our students to be prepared for participation in societal discourse is to have practice in their school years, and what better place than the science classroom?”

Other Resources

- *Clones, Cats, and Chemicals: Thinking Scientifically About Controversial Issues* (NST0812)
- *Teaching Argumentation: Activities and Games for the Classroom* (MRL3998)
- *Academic Conversations: Classroom Talk That Fosters Critical Thinking and Content Understandings* (SHP6760)
- *To Look Closely: Science and Literacy in the Natural World* (SHP7781)