Electron Jumper Activity: Electron Transport in Photosynthesis

High School (NGSS Aligned) Teacher Guide

Overview

This guide supports implementation of the Electron Jumper Activity: Electron Transport in Photosynthesis using the 5E instructional model.

Learning Objectives

- Students will model the flow of electrons in photosynthesis
- Students will identify energy inputs and outputs
- · Students will explain how light energy becomes chemical energy

Standards Alignment

- HS-LS1-5: Use a model to illustrate how photosynthesis transforms light energy into stored chemical energy
- SEP: Developing and Using Models
- DCI: LS1.C: Organization for Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms
- CCC: Energy and Matter

Prerequisites

- Basic understanding of photosynthesis
- Energy transformations

Time Estimate

25 minutes

Materials Needed

- Computer with internet access
- Student Activity Sheet

Teaching Tips by Phase

Phase 1: ENGAGE (5-10 minutes)

- Start with the phenomenon or problem presented
- Elicit student predictions and prior knowledge
- Create cognitive dissonance if possible
- Build excitement for investigation

Phase 2: EXPLORE (15-20 minutes)

- · Allow students to investigate with minimal guidance
- Circulate and ask probing questions
- Encourage systematic data collection
- Note common discoveries and difficulties

Phase 3: EXPLAIN (10-15 minutes)

- Have students share their findings first
- Build on their observations to introduce concepts
- Address misconceptions directly
- Connect to broader biological principles

Phase 4: ELABORATE (10 minutes)

- Apply knowledge to new scenarios
- Make real-world connections
- Encourage deeper investigation
- Support transfer of learning

Phase 5: EVALUATE (5-10 minutes)

- Use varied assessment strategies
- Focus on conceptual understanding
- Provide immediate feedback
- Plan follow-up based on results

NGSS Three-Dimensional Learning

- Science Practices: Developing and using models, analyzing data, constructing explanations
- Crosscutting Concepts: Patterns, cause and effect, systems thinking
- Disciplinary Core Ideas: See standards alignment above

Remember:

The goal is student discovery through guided inquiry. Resist the urge to explain concepts before students have explored them!

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