

Mathematical Modeling Meets Fifth Grade

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This unit is intended for 4th-5th grade students. The unit, creates a systematic way for students to learn how to apply mathematical modeling to problems. Students will apply the process of using mathematical modeling starting with two simple problems. Subsequently, students will be guided through the modeling process with a more complex mathematical science problem. Finally, students will apply the modeling process to a problem from their STC science kit, Motion and Design, to more fully engage in the experiments with the vehicle they use. In addition to engaging in mathematical modeling, they will hopefully also improve the scientific applications that they get from the experiments from basic common sense to quantifiable, predictive mathematical data.