Next Gen Science Standards focus on STEM Practices – behaviors, skills, and activities – that involve a range of social, learning, language, and physical skills that can challenge students with disabilities.

"DOING" SCIENCE SKILLS

1. Taking soil samples, water samples, conducting field work
2. Mixing chemicals and/or using lab equipment (pipettes, Bunsen burners, etc.)
3. Performing dissections or activities using sharp or difficult tools

THINK ABOUT

How might physical STEM tasks pose challenges for students with dysgraphia, poor motor control, emotional/behavioral disorders, orthopedic impairments, cognitive impairments, or visual impairments? How might you use assistive and instructional technology to improve access?

MAKE STEM MORE ACCESSIBLE

Use virtual tools and simulations for dissections, laboratory experiments, and activities

Explore ways to support students with virtual instruments and data collection tools (e.g., electronic probes)

Find software that allows the building of models, designs, and prototypes (particularly combined with speech-recognition software, if needed)