How to decode the standards

**Standard**
A collection of several performance expectations describing what students should be able to do to master this standard.

**Foundation Box**
The practices, core disciplinary ideas, and crosscutting concepts from the *Framework for K-12 Science Education* that were used to form the performance expectations.

**Connection Box**
Other standards in the *Next Generation Science Standards* or in the *Common Core State Standards* that are related to this standard.

**Title and Code**
Two standards at different grade levels may use the same name of they focus on the same topic. The code, however, is a unique identifier for each standard based on the grade level, content area, and topic of the standard.

**Performance Expectation**
A statement that combines practices, core ideas, and crosscutting concepts into a single statement describing how students can show what they have learned.

**Scientific & Engineering Practices**
Practices are the activities that scientists and engineers engage in to either understand the world or solve a problem.

**Disciplinary Core Ideas**
Core Ideas are those concepts in science and engineering that have broad importance within and across disciplines as well as relevance in people’s lives.

**Crosscutting Concepts**
Crosscutting Concepts are those ideas, such as *Patterns* and *Cause and Effect*, which are not specific to any one discipline but cut across them all.

**Lowercase Letters**
Lowercase letters at the end of Practices, Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts designate which Performance Expectation incorporates them.