Due to prior engagements with school, I was not able to attend the last STEM online session (February 11, 20202). As I watched the online session, I seen that several different discussions were made. At the beginning of the session, the directions for our week 6 assignment was addressed. The educator directed the students to the rubric that is in the syllabus and gave specific instructions on using available resources to critic their own use of STEM in the classroom, along with future implications of STEM within the classroom. It was brought to the students' attention that each section of the assignment needed to be roughly one page in length and additional resources could be incorporated into the assignment.

After the assignment discussion, the educator redirected the conversation to begin discussing the NGSS science standards. NGSS is developed based on "three-dimensional learning". These dimensions include implementing practices, cross cutting concepts, and core science. As a science educator, I am very familiar with these standards and the "three-dimensional learning". However, I want to develop my teaching to more directly meet the needs of the standards.

A discussion of the "Nature of Science" was developed to address questions for our week 6 assignments. A comparison was made between the "traditional" scientific method and scientific inquiry. As a science educator, science needs to be taught as an inquiry. Science does not always follow certain steps in a order and students need to realize that science is more of a cycle and not a path. In addition to the scientific method, common student misconceptions and "Dead Words" in the science classroom was addressed. Students were then broken into groups to discuss how "Dead Words" can be replaced, to strengthen the idea of the "Nature of Science". As an educator, I have been known to use some of these "Dead Words" and did not realize the

affect that had on my students' ideas of science. Thus, I will be adjusting my vocabulary to match the "Nature of Science".

Lastly, the "Nature of Math" was discussed and how science and math are closely related. Thus, a basic knowledge of math is needed to fully understand science. At the very end of the session, several resources were shared. I really liked the "Medpage" website and would love to implement that into my STEM class. The "Medpage" is a wonderful tool that allows students to see real-world application around the world.