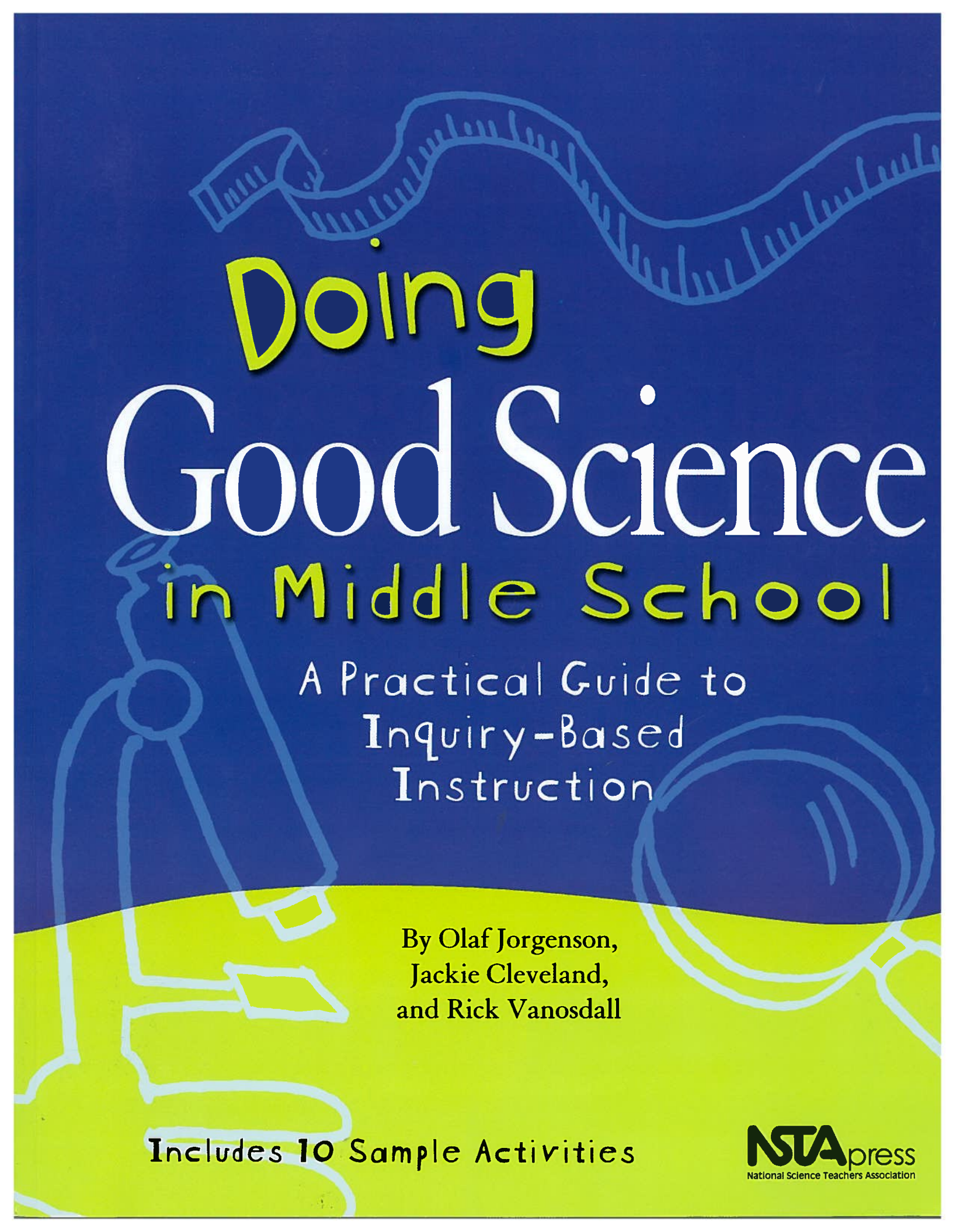




Doing Good Science in Middle School

A Practical Guide to
Inquiry-Based
Instruction

By Olaf Jorgenson,
Jackie Cleveland,
and Rick Vanosdall

Includes 10 Sample Activities

NSTApress
National Science Teachers Association

Doing Good Science in Middle School

A Practical Guide to Inquiry-Based Instruction

"A middle school science classroom was once described to us as 'a nuclear reaction about to happen, on an hourly basis.'... We propose opportunities for learning and teaching amidst the sound and fury of a different sort of explosive (but productive) middle school science classroom. In our experience, good science—by which we mean inquiry-based science instruction—promotes the unexpected and delightful development of adolescent middle school students."

—from the preface to *Doing Good Science in Middle School*

Middle school is the ideal environment in which to spark a vital connection between students and science. This guidebook combines practical information about adolescent learners with advice from master science teachers on moving from drill-and-kill instruction to inquiry-based investigations.

At the book's core are 10 must-do activities—developmentally appropriate, Standards-based lessons useful to teachers at all experience levels. The book also offers abundant additional guidance, including

- Insights into the psychology of the middle school learner
- A rationale for making inquiry and collaboration the cornerstones of good science
- Methods for integrating science, literacy, math, and technology
- Techniques for classroom management and safety

Doing Good Science in Middle School combines all these features with a lively mix of humor and true stories from three professional educators making a solid case for inquiry in the real world of middle school.

Grades 6–8

NSTApress
National Science Teachers Association

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