

PBS LearningMedia Setup Checklist

Video and primary-source library — fills the science gap

Sign up	https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/accounts/signup
Home	https://www.pbslearningmedia.org
Cost	Free for parents, teachers, and students.

Before you start

PBS LearningMedia is a content library, not a curriculum — you select and integrate. Most NOVA content targets grades 6–12, so preview before assigning. PBS will not auto-grade or track mastery; use the built-in Quiz Maker or assess qualitatively.

Setup checklist

- ☐ **Step 1.** Sign up for a free educator account at [pbslearningmedia.org](https://www.pbslearningmedia.org).
- ☐ **Step 2.** Choose the Teacher role (homeschoolers can select any state and 'Other' for school).
- ☐ **Step 3.** Set your grade band to 3–5 to filter the library.
- ☐ **Step 4.** Add your child as a student in your class for the Student Portal.
- ☐ **Step 5.** Bookmark the NOVA, NASA, American Experience, and Ken Burns collection pages.

Science unit launch workflow

- ☐ **1.** Open the GD lesson plan for the day.
- ☐ **2.** Find a NOVA or NASA phenomenon video aligned to the standard.
- ☐ **3.** Use Lesson Builder to bundle the video + a short reading + Quiz Maker check.
- ☐ **4.** Assign the lesson via the Focus View URL — student sees only the resource.
- ☐ **5.** Discuss; child writes a short reflection in the GD notebook (Template 2E).
- ☐ **6.** Log on GD Standards Coverage Matrix as 'I' (introduced) or 'P' (practiced).

Quarter-by-quarter plays

- ☐ **Quarter 1:** Properties of Matter — NOVA states-of-matter clips; Latino Americans Ep. 1 for the Foundations unit.
- ☐ **Quarter 2:** Ecosystems & Energy Flow — NOVA food-web interactives; American Experience excerpts on exploration.
- ☐ **Quarter 3:** Earth's Systems — 'Making North America' geology series; Ken Burns excerpts on government and economics.
- ☐ **Quarter 4:** Space Systems — NASA-funded sun/moon/orbits; America from Scratch civics shorts for the modern Americas.

Where it fits in your toolkit

GD = the spine. Khan = practice and mastery. PBS = engaging visual content for the WHY and the WOW — strongest for science and social studies.

Notes
