

# **Astronomy Learning According to the Basic Education Core Curriculum of Thailand: Challenges and Concerns**

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The Basic Education Core Curriculum of Thailand establishes astronomy as one of the science subjects taught from primary through secondary school. The goals of astronomy education differ across grade levels. For example, primary school students focus on fundamental scientific investigations to explore astronomical phenomena in their surroundings. In lower secondary school, the objectives shift to understanding more complex astronomical phenomena and applying knowledge from other scientific disciplines to explain these phenomena through scientific investigation. For high school students, the aim is to comprehend even more intricate phenomena using scientific knowledge and reasoning, enabling them to lead informed and safe lives.

To effectively implement the national curriculum at the school level, it is essential to develop various resources for both students and teachers, including activity materials, textbooks, and teacher training programs.

Unlike other areas of science, astronomy often faces a shortage of teachers with foundational knowledge, which can lead to a lack of confidence in teaching the subject. Additionally, the limited career opportunities in astronomy may cause teachers to prioritize other sciences over it.

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