

Dear Students:

The staff at BSCS developed *Technology in Practice: Applications and Innovations* for students first. Not all of the programs you use are developed this way. But we feel that focusing on students is the only way to provide you with the best learning experience possible. As you look through the modules, you will see that this is not a passive approach to learning. You will not sit in lectures day after day. Instead, you will learn about technology through being actively involved.

BSCS cares about the quality of its programs because we care about students and teachers. We are a nonprofit organization where scientists and educators are dedicated to improving education. We think we have some ideas that make our programs better at helping students learn. When we define the word "better," we mean the following:

- more emphasis on big concepts and less emphasis on vocabulary words,
- more connections between the concepts you are learning and your life,
- more opportunities to conduct investigations and design products,
- more ways to gain an understanding of how technology works, and
- more learning strategies to help you get the most out of your work.

Technology in Practice: Applications and Innovations is the result of many people's work over many years. This work never ends as long as students and teachers continue to use the modules. If you have questions, comments, or suggestions about the modules, please email us at **info@bscs.org.** We will consider your comments when we revise the modules in the future.

We hope you enjoy learning about technology in this way. We enjoyed putting the modules together for you because learners are the most important people in schools.

Sincerely, The Project Staff

(See next page.)

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