



Overall Claim and Measurement Targets

Grade 11 Overall Claim

Students demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of the core ideas and applications of practices and crosscutting concepts in the disciplines of science.

Explanatory Statement

Students integrate disciplinary core ideas and crosscutting concepts with scientific practices to investigate and explain how and why phenomena occur, and to design and refine solutions to problems.

Explanatory Statement

Students connect knowledge across the disciplines of science to ask questions, plan and carry out investigations, and analyze and interpret data to support an argument about phenomena in a variety of contexts.

Measurement Target 1 (Topic 1 Bundle): Students are able to evaluate evidence and apply scientific reasoning related to Earth’s geologic processes and the dynamic feedback between the biosphere and other Earth systems to support an argument about the continual co-evolution of Earth’s systems and life on Earth.

- HS-ESS1-5. Evaluate evidence of the past and current movements of continental and oceanic crust and the theory of plate tectonics to explain the ages of crustal rocks.
- HS-ESS1-6. Apply scientific reasoning and evidence from ancient Earth materials, meteorites, and other planetary surfaces to construct an account of Earth’s formation and early history.
- HS-ESS2-7. Construct an argument based on evidence about the simultaneous coevolution of Earth’s systems and life on Earth.

Measurement Target 2 (Topic 2 Bundle): Students are able to use models and conduct investigations to explain how organisms obtain and use matter and energy in both aerobic and anaerobic conditions, explain the role of photosynthesis and cellular respiration in the carbon cycle, describe how feedback mechanisms maintain living systems and mediate behaviors, and provide evidence to describe the complex structural organization of organisms from the microscopic to the macroscopic.

- HS-LS1-2. Develop and use a model to illustrate the hierarchical organization of interacting systems that provide specific functions within multicellular organisms.
- HS-LS1-3. Plan and conduct an investigation to provide evidence that feedback mechanisms maintain homeostasis.
- HS-LS1-5. Use a model to illustrate how photosynthesis transforms light energy into stored chemical energy.
- HS-LS1-6. Construct and revise an explanation based on evidence for how carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen from sugar molecules may combine with other elements to form amino acids and/or other large carbon-based molecules.
- HS-LS1-7. Use a model to illustrate that cellular respiration is a chemical process whereby the bonds of food molecules and oxygen molecules are broken and the bonds in new compounds are formed resulting in a net transfer of energy.
- HS-LS2-3. Construct and revise an explanation based on evidence for the cycling of matter and flow of energy in aerobic and anaerobic conditions.
- HS-LS2-5. Develop a model to illustrate the role of photosynthesis and cellular respiration in the cycling of carbon among the biosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and geosphere.

Measurement Target 3 (Topic 3 Bundle): Students are able to use models and apply statistics and probability concepts as evidence to explain how genes affect traits and the evolution of populations and describe the mechanisms by which variation among individuals of the same species can be attributed to both genetic and environmental factors.

- HS-LS1-1. Construct an explanation based on evidence for how the structure of DNA determines the structure of proteins which carry out the essential functions of life through systems of specialized cells.
- HS-LS1-4. Use a model to illustrate the role of cellular division (mitosis) and differentiation in producing and maintaining complex organisms.
- HS-LS3-1. Ask questions to clarify relationships about the role of DNA and chromosomes in coding the instructions for characteristic traits passed from parents to offspring.
- HS-LS3-2. Make and defend a claim based on evidence that inheritable genetic variations may result from: (1) new genetic combinations through meiosis, (2) viable errors occurring during replication, and/or (3) mutations caused by environmental factors.
- HS-LS3-3. Apply concepts of statistics and probability to explain the variation and distribution of expressed traits in a population.
- HS-LS4-1. Communicate scientific information that common ancestry and biological evolution are supported by multiple lines of empirical evidence.
- HS-LS4-2. Construct an explanation based on evidence that the process of evolution primarily results from four factors: (1) the potential for a species to increase in number, (2) the heritable genetic variation of individuals in a species due to mutation and sexual reproduction, (3) competition for limited resources, and (4) the proliferation of those organisms that are better able to survive and reproduce in the environment.

Measurement Target 4 (Topic 4 Bundle): Students are able to evaluate evidence and apply statistics and probability concepts to construct explanations of how genetic variation among organisms and environmental conditions affect survival and reproduction, and apply scientific evidence to explain the concept of biological evolution and the role of natural selection in that process.

- HS-LS4-2. Construct an explanation based on evidence that the process of evolution primarily results from four factors: (1) the potential for a species to increase in number, (2) the heritable genetic variation of individuals in a species due to mutation and sexual reproduction, (3) competition for limited resources, and (4) the proliferation of those organisms that are better able to survive and reproduce in the environment.
- HS-LS4-3. Apply concepts of statistics and probability to support explanations that organisms with an advantageous heritable trait tend to increase in proportion to organisms lacking this trait.
- HS-LS4-4. Construct an explanation based on evidence for how natural selection leads to adaptation of populations.
- HS-LS4-5. Evaluate the evidence supporting claims that changes in environmental conditions may result in: (1) increases in the number of individuals of some species, (2) the emergence of new species over time, and (3) the extinction of other species.

Measurement Target 5 (Topic 5 Bundle): Students are able to evaluate evidence and use mathematical representations to explain how the environment influences populations of organisms over multiple generations, describe the relationship between population size and carrying capacity, and describe the continuous flow of energy and the recycling of matter and nutrients within a system.

- HS-LS2-1. Use mathematical and/or computational representations to support explanations of factors that affect carrying capacity of ecosystems at different scales.
- HS-LS2-2. Use mathematical representations to support and revise explanations based on evidence about factors affecting biodiversity and populations in ecosystems of different scales.
- HS-LS2-4. Use mathematical representations to support claims for the cycling of matter and flow of energy among organisms in an ecosystem.
- HS-LS2-6. Evaluate the claims, evidence, and reasoning that the complex interactions in ecosystems maintain relatively consistent numbers and types of organisms in stable conditions, but changing conditions may result in a new ecosystem.
- HS-LS2-8. Evaluate the evidence for the role of group behavior on individual and species' chances to survive and reproduce.
- HS-LS4-3. Apply concepts of statistics and probability to support explanations that organisms with an advantageous heritable trait tend to increase in proportion to organisms lacking this trait.
- HS-LS4-5. Evaluate the evidence supporting claims that changes in environmental conditions may result in: (1) increases in the number of individuals of some species, (2) the emergence of new species over time, and (3) the extinction of other species.

Measurement Target 6 (Topic 6 Bundle): Students are able to construct evidence-based explanations for the influence of natural resource availability, occurrence of natural hazards, and climate change on human activity; design and evaluate solutions that address relationships among natural resource management, sustainability of human populations, and biodiversity; and create and use simulations to test solutions.

- HS-LS2-7. Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.
- HS-LS4-6. Create or revise a simulation to test a solution to mitigate adverse impacts of human activity on biodiversity.
- HS-ESS3-1. Construct an explanation based on evidence for how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity.
- HS-ESS3-3. Create a computational simulation to illustrate the relationships among management of natural resources, the sustainability of human populations, and biodiversity.