SCILLSS Classroom Science Assessment Workshop

# Task Specifications Tool Template

| Element | Description |
| --- | --- |
| Performance Expectation   * Indicate the PE from the instructional sequence to be assessed. |  |
| Knowledge, Skills, & Abilities (KSAs)   * Develop statements which specify what is expected of students to demonstrate (i.e., knowledge, skills, and abilities) to provide evidence that they have learned one or more aspects of a PE. |  |
| Student Demonstration of Learning   * List what students should be able to do to demonstrate that they have met the KSA(s). * Define qualities of student performance that constitute student evidence. |  |
| Work Product   * Determine the “vehicles” (i.e., work products) that are intended to contain observable evidence (e.g., a model, an argument, a description, a graph, a chart). |  |
| Task Features   * List the task features from which the task writer selects to develop an assessment task. * Reference the “Clarification Statement” in the NGSS for the PE as appropriate. * Note: A single question/task may not represent all the features listed. |  |
| Aspects of an assessment task that can be varied to shift complexity or focus   * Allows for a range of tasks to be developed of varying complexity. * Allows for development of tasks that focus on various skills related to the PE. * Allows the task developer to match features of the task with the characteristics of students such as their interests, familiarity, and provided instruction. |  |
| Assessment Boundaries   * List information that is NOT assessed (i.e., related above grade-level ideas and skills). * Reference the “Assessment Boundary” in the NGSS for the PE as appropriate. |  |

This task specifications tool template was developed with funding from the US Department of Education under Enhanced Assessment Grants Program CFDA 84.368A. The contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the US Department of Education, and no assumption of endorsement by the Federal government should be made.   
  
All rights reserved. Any or all portions of this document may be reproduced and distributed without prior permission, provided the source is cited as: Strengthening Claims-based Interpretations and Uses of Local and Large-scale Science Assessment Scores Project (SCILLSS). (2020). *SCILLSS Classroom Science Assessment Workshop: Task Specifications Tool Template*. Lincoln, NE: Nebraska Department of Education.