

# \*Unit 4 Human Impacts on Climate & Biodiversity

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s): **Biology CP, Biology Honors, STEM Biology Honors**  
Time Period: **December**  
Length: **~12 Blocks**  
Status: **Published**

## **Unit Summary**

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In this unit of study, mathematical models provide support for students' conceptual understanding of systems and students' ability to design, evaluate, and refine solutions for reducing the impact of human activities on the environment and maintaining biodiversity. Students create or revise a simulation to test solutions for mitigating adverse impacts of human activity on biodiversity. Crosscutting concepts of systems and system models play a central role in students' understanding of science and engineering practices and core ideas of ecosystems. Mathematical models also provide support for students' conceptual understanding of systems and their ability to develop design solutions for reducing the impact of human activities on the environment and maintaining biodiversity.

*Updated: 6.26.17*

## **Enduring Understandings**

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Humans are dependent on and affected by changes to biodiversity, but are also contributors to these changes.

## **Essential Questions**

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- What are the causes and consequences of a warming Earth?
- How can biological or physical disturbances, both natural or anthropogenic, affect the health of an ecosystem?
- How do humans help or hinder biodiversity in ecosystems?

## **Student Learning Objectives (PE, SEP, DCI, CCC) & Aligned Standards**

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### **Performance Expecations**

**Use mathematical representations to support and revise explanations based on evidence about factors affecting biodiversity and populations in ecosystems of different scales.** *[Clarification Statement: Examples of mathematical representations include finding the average, determining trends, and using graphical comparisons of multiple sets of data.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to provided*

*data.] (HS-LS2-2)*

**Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.** *[Clarification Statement: Examples of*

*human activities can include urbanization, building dams, and dissemination of invasive species.] (HS-LS2-7)*

**Create or revise a simulation to test a solution to mitigate adverse impacts of human activity on biodiversity.** *[Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on designing solutions for a proposed problem related to threatened or endangered species, or to genetic variation of organisms for multiple species.] (HS-LS4-6)*

**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.** *[Clarification Statement: Examples of key natural resources include access to fresh water (such as rivers, lakes, and groundwater), regions of fertile soils such as river deltas, and high concentrations of minerals and fossil fuels. Examples of natural hazards can be from interior processes (such as volcanic eruptions and earthquakes), surface processes (such as tsunamis, mass wasting and soil erosion), and severe weather (such as hurricanes, floods, and droughts). Examples of the results of changes in climate that can affect populations or drive mass migrations include changes to sea level, regional patterns of temperature and precipitation, and the types of crops and livestock that can be raised.] (HS-ESS3-1)*

**Create a computational simulation to illustrate the relationships among management of natural resources, the sustainability of human populations, and biodiversity.** *[Clarification Statement: Examples of factors that affect the management of natural resources include costs of resource extraction and waste management, per-capita consumption, and the development of new technologies. Examples of factors that affect human sustainability include agricultural efficiency, levels of conservation, and urban planning.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment for computational simulations is limited to using provided multi-parameter programs or constructing simplified spreadsheet calculations.] (HS-ESS3-3)*

**Evaluate or refine a technological solution that reduces impacts of human activities on natural systems.\*** *[Clarification Statement: Examples of data on the impacts of human activities could include the quantities and types of pollutants released, changes to biomass and species diversity, or real changes in land surface use (such as for urban development, agriculture and livestock, or surface mining). Examples for limiting future impacts could range from local efforts (such as reducing, reusing, and recycling resources) to large-scale geoengineering design solutions (such as altering global temperatures by making large changes to the atmosphere or ocean).] (HS-ESS3-4)*

**Analyze geoscience data and the results from global climate models to make an evidence-based forecast of the current rate of global or regional climate change and associated future impacts to Earth's systems.** *[Clarification Statement: Examples of evidence, for both data and climate model outputs, are for climate changes (such as precipitation and temperature) and their associated impacts (such as on sea level, glacial ice volumes, or atmosphere and ocean composition).] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to one example of a climate change and its associated impacts.] (HS-ESS3-5)*

**Use a computational representation to illustrate the relationships among Earth systems and how those relationships are being modified due to human activity.** [Clarification Statement: Examples of Earth systems to be considered are the hydrosphere, atmosphere, cryosphere, geosphere, and/or biosphere. An example of the far-reaching impacts from a human activity is how an increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide results in an increase in photosynthetic biomass on land and an increase in ocean acidification, with resulting impacts on sea organism health and marine populations.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include running computational representations but is limited to using the published results of scientific computational models.] (HS-ESS3-6)

**HS-ETS1-3: Evaluate a solution to a complex real-world problem based on prioritized criteria and trade-offs that account for a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability and aesthetics as well as possible social, cultural and environmental impacts.**

**Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills 9-12. Science**

**9.4.12.GCA.1: Collaborate with individuals analyze a variety of potential solutions to climate change effects and determine why solutions may work better than others (e.g., political, economic, cultural).**

## **Science and Engineering Practices**

### **Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions**

- Construct an explanation based on valid and reliable evidence obtained from a variety of sources (including students' own investigations, models, theories, simulations, peer review) and the assumption that theories and laws that describe the natural world operate today as they did in the past and will continue to do so in the future. (HS-ESS3-3)
- Design or refine a solution to a complex real-world problem, based on scientific knowledge, student-generated sources of evidence, prioritized criteria, and tradeoff considerations. (HS-ESS3-4)

### **Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking**

- Use mathematical and/or computational representations of phenomena or design solutions to support explanations. (HS-LS2-1)
- Use mathematical representations of phenomena or design solutions to support and revise explanations. (HS-LS2-2)
- Use a computational representation of phenomena or design solutions to describe and/or support claims and/or explanations. (HSESS3-6), (HS-LS4-6), (HS-LS4-7)

### **Engaging in Argument from Evidence**

- Evaluate the claims, evidence, and reasoning behind currently accepted explanations or solutions to

determine the merits of arguments. (HS-LS2-6)

## **Asking Questions and Defining Problems**

1. Analyze complex real-world problems by specifying criteria and constraints for successful solutions. (HS-ETS1-1)

## **Analyzing and Interpreting Data**

- Analyze data using computational models in order to make valid and reliable scientific claims. (HS-ESS3-5)

## **Disciplinary Core Ideas**

### **LS2.A: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems**

- Ecosystems have carrying capacities, which are limits to the numbers of organisms and populations they can support. These limits result from such factors as the availability of living and nonliving resources and from such challenges such as predation, competition, and disease. Organisms would have the capacity to produce populations of great size were it not for the fact that environments and resources are finite. This fundamental tension affects the abundance (number of individuals) of species in any given ecosystem. (HS-LS2-2)

### **LS2.C: Ecosystem Dynamics, Functioning, and Resilience**

- Anthropogenic changes (induced by human activity) in the environment—including habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, overexploitation, and climate change— can disrupt an ecosystem and threaten the survival of some species. (HS-LS2-7)
- A complex set of interactions within an ecosystem can keep its numbers and types of organisms relatively constant over long periods of time under stable conditions. If a modest biological or physical disturbance to an ecosystem occurs, it may return to its more or less original status (i.e., the ecosystem is resilient), as opposed to becoming a very different ecosystem. Extreme fluctuations in conditions or the size of any population, however, can challenge the functioning of ecosystems in terms of resources and habitat availability. (HS-LS2-2)

### **LS4.C: Adaptation**

- Changes in the physical environment, whether naturally occurring or human induced, have thus contributed to the expansion of some species, the emergence of new distinct species as populations diverge under different conditions, and the decline—and sometimes the extinction— of some species. (HS-LS4-6)

### **LS4.D: Biodiversity and Humans**

- Biodiversity is increased by the formation of new species (speciation) and decreased by the loss of

species (extinction). (secondary to HS-LS2-7)

- Humans depend on the living world for the resources and other benefits provided by biodiversity. But human activity is also having adverse impacts on biodiversity through overpopulation, overexploitation, habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, and climate change. Thus sustaining biodiversity so that ecosystem functioning and productivity are maintained is essential to supporting and enhancing life on Earth. (secondary to HS-LS2-7)
- Sustaining biodiversity also aids humanity by preserving landscapes of recreational or inspirational value. (secondary to HS-LS2-7)

### **ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems**

- The sustainability of human societies and the biodiversity that supports them requires responsible management of natural resources. (HS-ESS3-3)

### **ESS3.A: Natural Resources**

- Resource availability has guided the development of human society. (HS-LS3-1)

### **ESS3.B: Natural Hazards**

- Natural hazards and other geologic events have shaped the course of human history; [they] have significantly altered the sizes of human populations and have driven human migrations. (HS-LS3-1)

### **ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems**

- Scientists and engineers can make major contributions by developing technologies that produce less pollution and waste and that preclude ecosystem degradation. (HS-ESS3-4)

### **ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions**

- When evaluating solutions, it is important to take into account a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics, and to consider social, cultural, and environmental impacts. (HS-ESS3-4)

### **ESS3.D: Global Climate Change**

- Though the magnitudes of human impacts are greater than they have ever been, so too are human abilities to model, predict, and manage current and future impacts. (HS-ESS3-5)
- Through computer simulations and other studies, important discoveries are still being made about how

the ocean, the atmosphere, and the biosphere interact and are modified in response to human activities. (HS-ESS3-6)

## **ESS2.D: Weather and Climate**

- Current models predict that, although future regional climate changes will be complex and varied, average global temperatures will continue to rise. The outcomes predicted by global climate models strongly depend on the amounts of human-generated greenhouse gases added to the atmosphere each year and by the ways in which these gases are absorbed by the ocean and biosphere. (*secondary*) (HS-ESS3-6)

### **Crosscutting Concepts**

#### **Cause and Effect**

- Empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and make claims about specific causes and effects.

#### **Systems and System Models**

- When investigating or describing a system, the boundaries and initial conditions of the system need to be defined and their inputs and outputs analyzed and described using models. (HS-ESS3-6)

#### **Scale, Proportion, and Quantity**

- The significance of a phenomenon is dependent on the scale, proportion, and quantity at which it occurs. (HS-LS2-1)
- Using the concept of orders of magnitude allows one to understand how a model at one scale relates to a model at another scale. (HS-LS2-2)

#### **Stability and Change**

- Much of science deals with constructing explanations of how things change and how they remain stable. (HS-LS2-6)
- Feedback (negative or positive) can stabilize or destabilize a system. (HS-ESS3-3),(HS-LS2-7), (HS-LS4-6) (HS-ESS3-4)
- Change and rates of change can be quantified and modeled over very short or very long periods of time. Some system changes are irreversible. (HS-ESS3-5)

## Concepts & Formative Assessment

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### Human Activity and Biodiversity

#### **Part A: Part A: How might we change habits if we replaced the word “environment” with the word “life support system”?**

##### Concepts

- The sustainability of human societies and the biodiversity that supports them require responsible management of natural resources.
- Change and rates of change can be quantified and modeled over very short or very long periods.
- Some system changes are irreversible.
- Modern civilization depends on major technological systems.
- New technologies can have deep impacts on society and the environment including some that are not anticipated.
- Scientific knowledge is a result of human endeavors imagination and creativity.

##### Formative Assessment

*Students who understand the concepts are able to:*

- Create a computational simulation to illustrate the relationships among management of natural resources, the sustainability of human populations, and biodiversity.
- Quantify and model change and rates of change in the relationships among management of natural resources, the sustainability of human populations, and biodiversity.

#### **Part B: Part B: Does reducing human impacts on our global life support system require social engineering or mechanical engineering?**

##### Concepts

- Anthropogenic changes (induced by human activity) in the environment— including habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, overexploitation, and climate change—can disrupt an ecosystem and threaten the survival of some species.
- Biodiversity is increased by the formation of new species (speciation) and decreased by the loss of species (extinction).
- Humans depend on the living world for the resources and other benefits provided by biodiversity. But human activity is also having adverse impacts on biodiversity through overpopulation, overexploitation, habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, and climate change.
- Thus sustaining biodiversity so that ecosystem functioning and productivity are maintained is essential to supporting and enhancing life on Earth.
- Sustaining biodiversity also aids humanity by preserving landscapes of recreational or inspirational value.
- Much of science deals with constructing explanations of how things change and how they remain stable.

- When evaluating solutions, it is important to take into account a range of constraints—including costs, safety, reliability, and aesthetics—and to consider social, cultural, and environmental impacts.
- Criteria may need to be broken down into simpler ones that can be approached systematically, and decisions about the priority of certain criteria over others (trade-offs) may be needed.
- New technologies can have deep impacts on society and the environment, including some that were not anticipated. Analysis of cost and benefits is a critical.

## Formative Assessment

*Students who understand the concepts are able to:*

- Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity based on scientific knowledge, student-generated sources of evidence, prioritized criteria, and tradeoff considerations.
- Construct explanations for how the environment and biodiversity change and stay the same when affected by human activity.
- Evaluate a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity based on scientific knowledge, student-generated sources of evidence, prioritized criteria, and tradeoff considerations.
- Analyze costs and benefits of a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity based on scientific knowledge, student-generated sources of evidence, prioritized criteria, and tradeoff considerations.

## Part C: Part C: Is the damage done to the global life support system permanent?

### Concepts

- Changes in the physical environment, whether naturally occurring or human induced, have contributed to the expansion of some species, the emergence of new distinct species as populations diverge under different conditions, and the decline—and sometimes the extinction—of some species.
- Humans depend on the living world for the resources and other benefits provided by biodiversity. But human activity is also having adverse impacts on biodiversity through overpopulation, overexploitation, habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, and climate change.
- Thus sustaining biodiversity so that ecosystems' functioning and productivity are maintained is essential to supporting and enhancing life on Earth. Sustaining biodiversity also aids humanity by preserving landscapes of recreational or inspirational value.
- Empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and make claims about specific causes and effects.
- When evaluating solutions, it is important to take into account a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics, and to consider social, cultural, and environmental impacts.
- Both physical models and computers can be used in various ways to aid the engineering design process. Computers are useful for a variety of purposes, such as running simulations to test ways of solving a problem or to see which one is most efficient or economical, and in making a persuasive presentation to a client about how a given design will meet his or her needs.
- Criteria may need to be broken down into simpler ones that can be approached systematically, and decisions about the priority of certain criteria over others (trade-offs) may be needed.
- New technologies can have deep impacts on society and the environment, including some that were not anticipated.



- Analysis of costs and benefits is a critical aspect of decisions about technology.

## Formative Assessment

*Students who understand the concepts are able to:*

- Create or revise a simulation based on scientific knowledge, student-generated sources of evidence, prioritized criteria, and tradeoff considerations to test a solution to mitigate adverse impacts of human activity on biodiversity.
- Use empirical evidence to make claims about the impacts of human activity on biodiversity.
- Break down the criteria for the design of a simulation to test a solution for mitigating adverse impacts of human activity on biodiversity into simpler ones that can be approached systematically based on consideration of tradeoffs.
- Design a solution for a proposed problem related to threatened or endangered species or to genetic variation of organisms for multiple species.
- Analyze costs and benefits of a solution to mitigate adverse impacts of human activity on biodiversity.

## Resources

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**Evaluate & Refine a Solution Performance Task Resources: (HSESS3-4), (HSETS1-3), & CLKS (9.4.12.GCA.1)**

[Transition to Renewable Energy Now Lesson](#)

[Additional Resources from NJ Climate education hub](#)

[Climate Impacts on Crops Lesson Resource \(HSESS3-1\)](#)

**Student review of public opinion research on climate change and misconceptions assignment: (CLKS Standard 9.4.12.IML.6)**

[Yale Research Report Lesson](#)

[Misconception Assignment Rubric](#)

**Biodiversity:** Students use this lab to represent how biodiversity stops a disease from spreading.

**Cost-Benefit Analysis Primer:** Students read this explanation about how cost-benefit analysis is derived and applied in order to apply this model to design solutions related to human sustainability. Students then read the application of CBA to [water sanitation](#).

**Building Biodiversity** and the [PREDICTS project](#) and [GLOBIO project](#): Students explore this website to develop an understanding of how computational models of the impacts on biodiversity are created. Next, they explore [Conservation Maps](#) for a global perspective of land use and conservation efforts.

**Rainforest carbon cycling and biodiversity:** Students apply this model to simulate how atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations, which influence global climate, increase with

**Land and People: Finding a Balance:** This environmental study project allows a group of students to consider real environmental dilemmas concerning water use and provide solutions to these dilemmas.

**Reefs at Risk:** and **NOAA Coral Reefs at Risk:** Students access and explore a series of interactive maps displaying coral reef data from around the globe and develop hypotheses related to the impacts of climate change (i.e. increased levels of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere) on coral reef health.

[GLOBE Carbon Cycle](#): Students collect data about their school field site through existing GLOBE protocols of phenology, land cover and soils as well as through new protocols focused on biomass and carbon stocks in vegetation. Students participate in classroom activities to understand carbon cycling at local and global scales. Students expand their scientific thinking through the use of systems models.

[Know Your Energy Costs](#): The goal of this activity is to become aware of how much energy you use at school — and the financial and environmental costs.

[Earth: Planet of Altered States](#): Watch a segment of a NASA video and discuss how the earth is constantly changing.

[Climate Reanalyzer](#): Students use the Environmental Change Model of the Climate Reanalyzer to study the feedbacks in the climate system.

## **Suggested Assessments**

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- Use data or simulation to model the effects of abiotic or biotic factors on population growth
- Use data or simulation to model the effects of declining biodiversity in an ecosystem's response to a disturbance. (Let students model stability and resilience or lack thereof)
- Use data or simulation to show ecosystem response in relationship to minor vs. major disturbance
- Resource management or urban planning project
- Develop, test and refine a solution that reduces human impact on biodiversity - see performance expectation HS-LS4-6

### **Performance Assessment (HSESS3-4), (HSETS1-3), & CLKS (9.4.12.GCA.1):**

- Students will evaluate and refine (where applicable) solutions to mitigate negative human impacts on climate. (Examples include but are not limited to: Alternative energy sources, modern farming practices, and carbon sequestration techniques). Students must collaborate with other students and consider various points of view. To ensure this, students will first be asked to individually select which means they think is the best way to reduce climate change impacts before they are put into a group. Teachers will ensure the group is not initially all of the same mindset and then foster discussion on reaching a consensus considering pros and cons, facts and data that students bring to the table. Students will later present a plan to their consensus solution. <https://njclimateeducation.org/resource/transition-to-renewable-energy-now> Also see link in row 12 for various resources and options for students to pursue with respect to different solutions.

## **Connecting with English Language Arts Literacy and Mathematics**

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*Connections to English Language Arts/Literacy-*

- Evaluate data to verify claims about the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity, verifying the data when possible and corroborating or challenging conclusions with other sources of information.
- Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to determine the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity, synthesizing information from multiple sources.
- Synthesize information from a range of sources about the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity into a coherent understanding of a process, phenomenon, or concept, resolving conflicting information when possible.
- Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on the impacts of human activity on biodiversity and how to mitigate these impacts.
- Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to determine the impacts of human activity on biodiversity and how to mitigate these impacts.
- Evaluate data presented in diverse formats in order to determine the impacts of human activity on biodiversity and how to mitigate these impacts.
- Evaluate data to verify claims about the impacts of human activities on biodiversity and how to mitigate these impacts.
- Synthesize information from a range of sources into a coherent understanding of the impacts of human activities on biodiversity and how to mitigate these impacts.

### *Connections to Mathematics-*

- Represent the factors that affect biodiversity and populations in ecosystems symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols. Make sense of quantities and relationships between different factors and their effects on biodiversity and populations in ecosystems.
- Use a mathematical model to describe the factors that affect biodiversity and populations in ecosystems. Identify important quantities in factors that affect biodiversity and populations in ecosystems and map their relationships using tools. Analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions, reflecting on the results and improving the model if it has not served its purpose.
- Represent data relating to complex interactions in ecosystems and their effects on stability and change in ecosystems with plots on the real number line (graph).
- Use units to understand the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity and to guide the solution of multistep problems to reduce these impacts.
- Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling of impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.
- Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities showing impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.
- Use a mathematical model to describe the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity. Identify important quantities in the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity and map their relationships using tools. Analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions, reflecting on the results and improving the model if it has not served its purpose.
- Identify important quantities in the impacts of human activities on the biodiversity and map their relationships using tools. Analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions, reflecting on the results and improving the model if it has not served its purpose.

## Modifications

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*Teacher Note: Teachers identify the modifications that they will use in the unit. The unneeded modifications can then be deleted from the list.*

- Restructure lesson using UDL principals ([http://www.cast.org/our-work/about-udl.html#.VXmoXcfD\\_UA](http://www.cast.org/our-work/about-udl.html#.VXmoXcfD_UA))
- Structure lessons around questions that are authentic, relate to students' interests, social/family background and knowledge of their community.
- Provide students with multiple choices for how they can represent their understandings (e.g. multisensory techniques-auditory/visual aids; pictures, illustrations, graphs, charts, data tables, multimedia, modeling).
- Provide opportunities for students to connect with people of similar backgrounds (e.g. conversations via digital tool such as SKYPE, experts from the community helping with a project, journal articles, and biographies).
- Provide multiple grouping opportunities for students to share their ideas and to encourage work among various backgrounds and cultures (e.g. multiple representation and multimodal experiences).
- Engage students with a variety of Science and Engineering practices to provide students with multiple entry points and multiple ways to demonstrate their understandings.
- Use project-based science learning to connect science with observable phenomena.
- Structure the learning around explaining or solving a social or community-based issue.
- Provide ELL students with multiple literacy strategies.
- Collaborate with after-school programs or clubs to extend learning opportunities.

## Research on Student Learning

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Most high school students seem to know that some kind of cyclical process takes place in ecosystems. Some students see only chains of events and pay little attention to the matter involved in processes such as plant growth or animals eating plants. They think the processes involve creating and destroying matter rather than transforming it from one substance to another. Other students recognize one form of recycling through soil minerals but fail to incorporate water, oxygen, and carbon dioxide into matter cycles. Even after specially designed instruction, students cling to their misinterpretations. Instruction that traces matter through the ecosystem as a basic pattern of thinking may help correct these difficulties ([NSDL, 2015](#)).

## References

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*Adapted from the New Jersey NGSS Science Model Curriculum*

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## **Connections to NJSLs**

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### **English Language Arts**

Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts, attending to important distinctions the author makes and to any gaps or inconsistencies in the account. **RST.11-12.1** (HS-LS2-1),(HS-LS2-2),(HS-LS2-6)

Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., quantitative data, video, multimedia) in order to address a question or solve a problem. **RST.11-12.7**(HS-LS2-

6)

Evaluate the hypotheses, data, analysis, and conclusions in a science or technical text, verifying the data when possible and corroborating or challenging conclusions with other sources of information. **RST.11-12.8** (HS-LS2-6)

Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes. **WHST.9-12.2** (HS-LS2-1),(HS-LS2-2)

Synthesize information from a range of sources (e.g., texts, experiments, simulations) into a coherent understanding of a process, phenomenon, or concept, resolving conflicting information when possible. **RST.11-12.9** (HS-ETS1-3).

Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. **WHST.9-12.5** (HSL4-6).

## **Mathematics**

Reason abstractly and quantitatively. **MP.2** (HS-LS2-1),(HS-LS2-2),(HS-LS2-6)

Model with mathematics. **MP.4** (HS-LS2-1),(HS-LS2-2)

Use units as a way to understand problems and to guide the solution of multi-step problems; choose and interpret units consistently in formulas; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays. **HSN.Q.A.1** (HS-LS2-1),(HS-LS2-2)

Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling. **HSN.Q.A.2** (HS-LS2-1),(HS-LS2-2)

Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities. **HSN.Q.A.3** (HS-LS2-1),(HS-LS2-2)

Represent data with plots on the real number line. **HSS-ID.A.1** (HS-LS2-6)

Understand statistics as a process for making inferences about population parameters based on a random sample from that population. **HSS-IC.A.1** (HS-LS2-6)