

# Unit 5 - Structure & Function

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s): **Science 7**  
Time Period: **January**  
Length: **~15 days**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Summary

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Students demonstrate age appropriate abilities to plan and carry out investigations to develop evidence that living organisms are made of cells. Students gather information to support explanations of the relationship between structure and function in cells. They are able to communicate an understanding of cell theory and understand that all organisms are made of cells. Students understand that special structures are responsible for particular functions in organisms. They then are able to use their understanding of cell theory to develop and use physical and conceptual models of cells. The crosscutting concepts of scale, proportion, and quantity and structure and function provide a framework for understanding the disciplinary core ideas. Students are expected to demonstrate proficiency in planning and carrying out investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, and developing and using models. Students are also expected to use these to use these science and engineering practices to demonstrate understanding of the disciplinary core ideas.

## Standards

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## Student Learning Objectives

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- SLO 1** Conduct an investigation to provide evidence that living things are made of cells; either one cell or many different numbers and types of cells. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on developing evidence that living things are made of cells, distinguishing between living and non-living things, and understanding that living things may be made of one cell or many and varied cells.]
- SLO 2** Develop and use a model to describe the function of a cell as a whole and ways parts of cells contribute to the function. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the cell functioning as a whole system and the primary role of identified parts of the cell, specifically the nucleus, chloroplasts, mitochondria, cell membrane, and cell wall.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment of organelle structure/function relationships is limited to the cell wall and cell membrane. Assessment of the function of the other organelles is limited to their relationship to the whole cell. Assessment does not include the biochemical function of cells or cell parts.]

## Driving Questions

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How do cells contribute to the functioning of an organism?

How will astrobiologists know if they have found life elsewhere in the solar system?

How do the functions of cells support an entire organism?

