

# 6. Unit 6- Evolution and Natural Selection (Life Science)

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s): **Biology H/Lab**  
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## Title Section

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## Department of Curriculum and Instruction



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

# Biology H, High School Evolution and Natural Selection

**Belleville Board of Education**

**102 Passaic Avenue**

**Belleville, NJ 07109**

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## **Unit Overview**

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Students constructing explanations and designing solutions, analyzing and interpreting data, and engaging in argument from evidence investigate to make sense of the relationship between the environment and natural selection. Students also develop an understanding of the factors causing natural selection of species over time. They also demonstrate and understandings of how multiple lines of evidence contribute to the strength of scientific theories of natural selection. The crosscutting concepts of patterns and cause and effect serve as organizing concepts for the disciplinary core ideas. Students also use the science and engineering practices to demonstrate understanding of the disciplinary core ideas.

Students construct explanations for the processes of natural selection and evolution and then communicate how multiple lines of evidence support these explanations. Students evaluate evidence of the conditions that may result in new species and understand the role of genetic variation in natural selection. Additionally, students can apply concepts of probability to explain trends in population as those trends relate to advantageous heritable traits in a specific environment. Students demonstrate an understanding of these concepts by obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information and constructing explanations and designing solutions. The crosscutting concepts of patterns and cause and effect support the development of a deeper understanding.

## **Enduring Understanding**

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- Natural selection leads to adaptation, that is, to a population dominated by organisms that are

anatomically, behaviorally, and physiologically well suited to survive and reproduce in a specific environment.

- The differential survival and reproduction of organisms in a population that have an advantageous heritable trait leads to an increase in the proportion of individuals in future generations that have the trait and to a decrease in the proportion of individuals that do not.
- The traits that positively affect survival are more likely to be reproduced, and thus are more common in the population.
- Populations can evolve to form new species.
- 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.
- Fossils help scientists understand the history of life. They show traits of transitional species, which indicate, where species that are present today, evolved from.

## Essential Questions

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- How does natural selection account for the diversity of species?
- How does natural selection lead to adaptations of populations?
- Why is it so important to take all of the antibiotics in a prescription if I feel better?
- How are species affected by changing environmental conditions?
- Why do some species live in groups and others are solitary?
- How can someone prove that birds and dinosaurs are related?
- What is the relationship between natural selection and evolution?
- How does mutation and change in gene frequency in a population lead to the evolution of new species?
- What are the major distinctions between the six kingdoms?

## Exit Skills

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Upon completion of this Unit, students should be able to do the following:

- Recall the history of Darwin and how the origin of his Theory of Evolution by means of natural selection.
- Describe the process of speciation.
- Use data to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about how specific biotic and abiotic differences in ecosystems contribute to change in gene frequency over time, leading to adaptation of populations.
- Analyze shifts in numerical distribution of traits and, using these shifts as evidence, support explanations that organisms with an advantageous heritable trait tend to increase in proportion to organisms lacking this trait.
- 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.

- Develop logical and reasonable arguments based on evidence to evaluate the role of group behavior on individual and species' chances to survive and reproduce.
- Identify the contributions of Aristotle and Linnaeus in developing a common system of biological classification.
- Recall that Miller and Urey were scientists that were able to come close to recreating the conditions of early earth and hypothesize, how the first cell came about.
- Identify Species using Binomial nomenclature.

## **New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSL-S)**

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### [NextGen Science Standards](#)

9-12.HS-ETS1-1.1.1	Analyze complex real-world problems by specifying criteria and constraints for successful solutions.
9-12.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.
9-12.HS-LS2-8	Evaluate evidence for the role of group behavior on individual and species' chances to survive and reproduce.
9-12.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.
9-12.HS-LS4-4	Construct an explanation based on evidence for how natural selection leads to adaptation of populations.
9-12.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.
9-12.HS-LS4-1	Communicate scientific information that common ancestry and biological evolution are supported by multiple lines of empirical evidence.
9-12.HS-LS4-1.1.1	students observe patterns in systems at different scales and cite patterns as empirical evidence for causality in supporting their explanations of phenomena. They recognize classifications or explanations used at one scale may not be useful or need revision using a different scale; thus requiring improved investigations and experiments. They use mathematical representations to identify certain patterns and analyze patterns of performance in order to reengineer and improve a designed system.
9-12.HS-LS4-3.1.1	students observe patterns in systems at different scales and cite patterns as empirical evidence for causality in supporting their explanations of phenomena. They recognize classifications or explanations used at one scale may not be useful or need revision using a different scale; thus requiring improved investigations and experiments. They use mathematical representations to identify certain patterns and analyze patterns of performance in order to reengineer and improve a designed system.
9-12.HS-LS2-8.2.1	students understand that empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about specific causes and effects. They suggest cause and effect relationships to explain and predict behaviors in complex natural and designed systems. They also propose causal relationships by examining what is known about smaller scale mechanisms within the system. They recognize changes in systems may have various

	causes that may not have equal effects.
9-12.HS-LS4-5.2.1	students understand that empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about specific causes and effects. They suggest cause and effect relationships to explain and predict behaviors in complex natural and designed systems. They also propose causal relationships by examining what is known about smaller scale mechanisms within the system. They recognize changes in systems may have various causes that may not have equal effects.
9-12.HS-LS4-4.2.1	students understand that empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about specific causes and effects. They suggest cause and effect relationships to explain and predict behaviors in complex natural and designed systems. They also propose causal relationships by examining what is known about smaller scale mechanisms within the system. They recognize changes in systems may have various causes that may not have equal effects.
9-12.HS-LS4-2.2.1	students understand that empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about specific causes and effects. They suggest cause and effect relationships to explain and predict behaviors in complex natural and designed systems. They also propose causal relationships by examining what is known about smaller scale mechanisms within the system. They recognize changes in systems may have various causes that may not have equal effects.
9-12.HS-LS4-3.4.1	Apply concepts of statistics and probability (including determining function fits to data, slope, intercept, and correlation coefficient for linear fits) to scientific and engineering questions and problems, using digital tools when feasible.
9-12.HS-LS4-2.6.1	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.
9-12.HS-LS4-5.7.1	Evaluate the evidence behind currently accepted explanations or solutions to determine the merits of arguments.
9-12.HS-LS2-8.7.1	Evaluate the evidence behind currently accepted explanations to determine the merits of arguments.
9-12.HS-LS4-1.8.1	Communicate scientific information (e.g., about phenomena and/or the process of development and the design and performance of a proposed process or system) in multiple formats (including orally, graphically, textually, and mathematically).
9-12.HS-LS2-8.LS2.D.1	Group behavior has evolved because membership can increase the chances of survival for individuals and their genetic relatives.
9-12.HS-LS4-1.LS4.A.1	Genetic information provides evidence of evolution. DNA sequences vary among species, but there are many overlaps; in fact, the ongoing branching that produces multiple lines of descent can be inferred by comparing the DNA sequences of different organisms. Such information is also derivable from the similarities and differences in amino acid sequences and from anatomical and embryological evidence.
9-12.HS-LS4-3.LS4.B.1	Natural selection occurs only if there is both
9-12.HS-LS4-2.LS4.B.1	Natural selection occurs only if there is both
9-12.HS-LS4-3.LS4.B.2	The traits that positively affect survival are more likely to be reproduced, and thus are more common in the population.
9-12.HS-LS4-4.LS4.C.1	Natural selection leads to adaptation, that is, to a population dominated by organisms that are anatomically, behaviorally, and physiologically well suited to survive and reproduce in a specific environment. That is, the differential survival and reproduction of organisms in a population that have an advantageous heritable trait leads to an increase in the proportion of individuals in future generations that have the trait and to a decrease in the proportion of individuals that do not.
9-12.HS-LS4-5.LS4.C.1	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.

9-12.HS-LS4-2.LS4.C.1

Evolution is a consequence of the interaction of four factors:

9-12.HS-LS4-3.LS4.C.1

Natural selection leads to adaptation, that is, to a population dominated by organisms that are anatomically, behaviorally, and physiologically well suited to survive and reproduce in a specific environment. That is, the differential survival and reproduction of organisms in a population that have an advantageous heritable trait leads to an increase in the proportion of individuals in future generations that have the trait and to a decrease in the proportion of individuals that do not.

9-12.HS-LS4-3.LS4.C.2

Adaptation also means that the distribution of traits in a population can change when conditions change.

## Interdisciplinary Connections

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LA.SL.11-12.4

Present information, findings and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically. The content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

LA.RST.11-12.1

Accurately cite strong and thorough evidence from the text to support analysis of science and technical texts, attending to precise details for explanations or descriptions.

LA.RST.11-12.8

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.

LA.WHST.11-12.2

Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.

LA.WHST.11-12.7

Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

LA.WHST.11-12.9

Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

MA.K-12.2

Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

MA.K-12.4

Model with mathematics.

## Learning Objectives

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Students who understand the concepts are able to:

- Construct an explanation for how natural selection leads to adaptation of populations.
- Describe the major events in the history of earth and life.
- Evaluate hypothesis regarding the origins of life on earth.
- Use data to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about how specific biotic and abiotic differences in ecosystems contribute to change in gene frequency over time, leading to adaptation of populations.
- Apply concepts of statistics and probability to support explanations that organisms with an advantageous

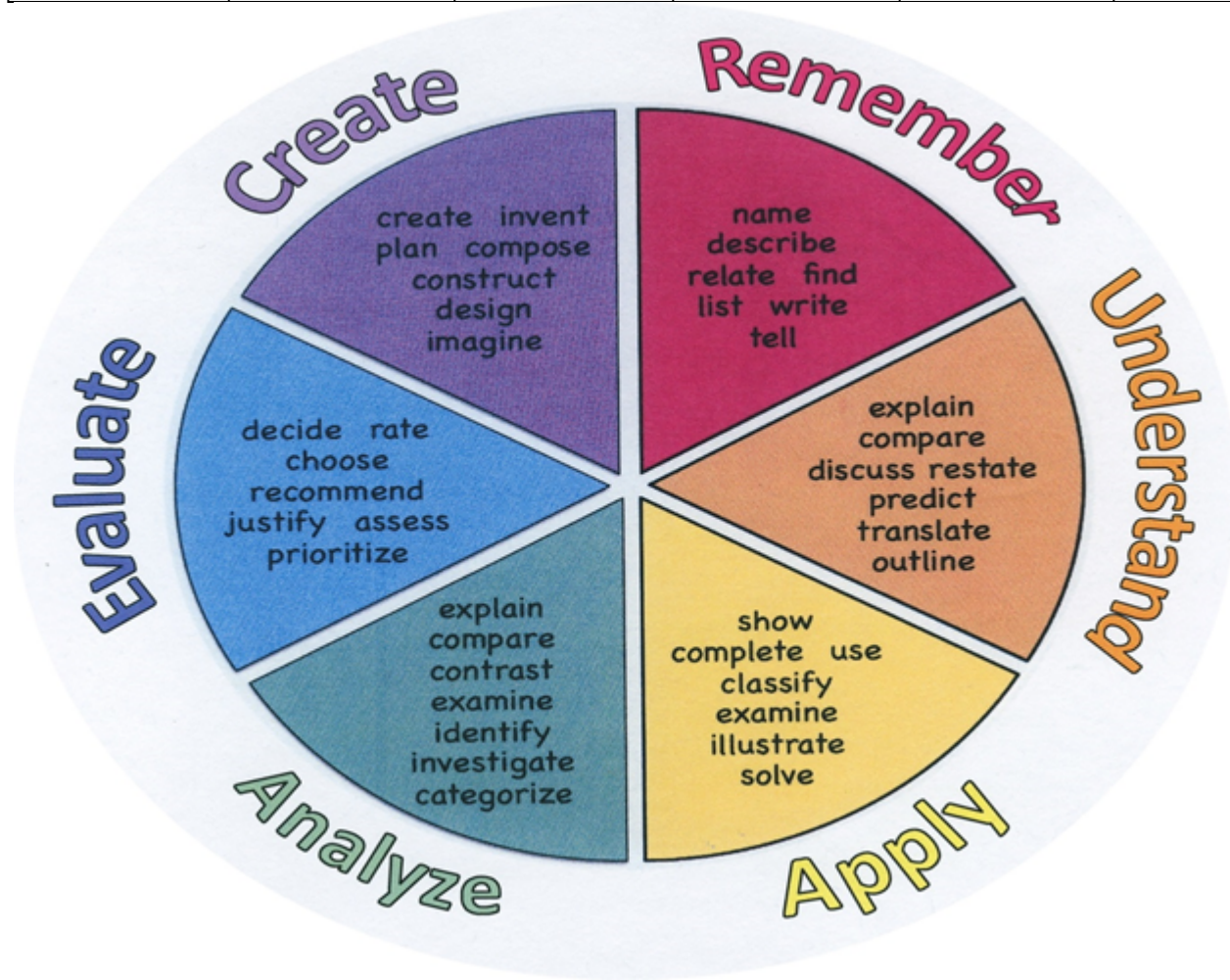
heritable trait tend to increase in proportion to organisms lacking this trait.

- 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.
- Determine cause-and-effect relationships for how changes to the environment affect distribution or disappearance of traits in species.
- Use empirical evidence to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make 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.
- Evaluate the evidence for the role of group behavior on individual and species' chances to survive and reproduce.
- Distinguish between group and individual behavior.
- Identify evidence supporting the outcome of group behavior.
- Develop logical and reasonable arguments based on evidence to evaluate the role of group behavior on individual and species' chances to survive and reproduce.
- Use empirical evidence to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about the role of group behavior on individual and species' chances to survive and reproduce. Communicate scientific information in multiple forms that common ancestry and biological evolution are supported by multiple lines of empirical evidence.
- Understand the role each line of evidence has relating to common ancestry and biological evolution.
- Observe patterns in multiple lines of empirical evidence at different scales and provide evidence for causality in explanations of common ancestry and biological evolution.
- Construct an explanation, 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.

**Action Verbs:** Below are examples of action verbs associated with each level of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy.

<b>Remember</b>	<b>Understand</b>	<b>Apply</b>	<b>Analyze</b>	<b>Evaluate</b>	<b>Create</b>
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce

Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				



**Suggested Activities & Best Practices**

- Geologic Timeline Activity
- Radioactive Decay Calculations
- Evolution Pre-Survey



- Evolution Misconception Diagnosis
- Evidence for Evolution
- Cosmos: Video Clips and Guide
- Are Dog Breed Actually Different Species- Critical Reading
- Modeling Natural Selection Lab
- Allele Frequency Virtual Lab

## **Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)**

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Assessments Generated using ExamView Test Generator and Test Bank from Miller/Levine Biology 2017  
(Summative)

Common, Department Quarterly Benchmarks (Benchmark)

Oncourse Assessment Tools (Formative)

Do Now/Exit Ticket" Activity (Formative)

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline

- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

## **Primary Resources & Materials**

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### **Prentice Hall: Biology**

Kenneth R Miller, Ph.D. - Joseph Levine, Ph.D. - New Jersey - Pearson Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River - 2014

## **Ancillary Resources**

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- [PearsonEasyBridge.com](http://PearsonEasyBridge.com)
- Chrome Book Projects/ Research/ Analysis
- Google Classroom
- On-line Databases via Media Center

## **Technology Infusion**

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- Allele Frequency Virtual Lab
- MS Powerpoint
- Google Drive
- Prezi
- Khan Academy
- Ted Talks

- Bozeman Science (Youtube)
- Windows Movie Maker
- Time Lapse
- Local Zoo
- Wikipedia
- Word Cloud Maker
- Memorylage



## Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

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CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.3	Identify transferable career skills and design alternate career plans.
TECH.8.1.12.B	Creativity and Innovation: Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge and develop innovative products and process using technology.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS1	Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
TECH.8.1.12.C	Communication and Collaboration: Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.

## 21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes

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- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

## 21st Century Skills

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- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

## Differentiation

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Provide explanation of evidence models for evolution.

### Differentiations:

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments

- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Use manipulatives
- Center-based instruction
- Token economy
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Large print edition
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

#### **Hi-Prep Differentiations:**

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

#### **Lo-Prep Differentiations**

- Choice of books or activities
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping

- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

## **Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)**

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Students are provided with written notes and digital copies of presentations, as well as hard copy and digital textbook access.

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multiple test sessions
- multi-sensory presentation
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments

- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## **English Language Learning (ELL)**

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Students are provided with glossary in their native language.

Spanish speaking students may utilize Spanish Edition of Textbook for in class assignments

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## **At Risk**

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Student provided access to digital learning tools via EasyBridge platform.

This should include virtual labs, presentations, videos, and practice questions.

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.



- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## **Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)**

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Students design, execute, and report on an experiment to test an original hypothesis.

Students create time-line of events in earth history.

Students create models of natural selection.

Students create 'artificial cells' (microspheres/ coacervates) in the lab.

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

## **Sample Lesson**

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Sample Lesson Provided in Unit 1

