

# **Unit 3: Plants and Animals (Interdependent Relationships)**

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s): **Science Gr K**  
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## **Unit 3: Plants and Animals**

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## **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

## **Science: Kindergarten**

## **Unit 3: Plants and Animals**

**Belleville Board of Education**

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## **Unit Overview**

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In this unit, children will:

- use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals need to survive
- analyze data by collection, recording, and sharing observations
- use a model to show the relationship between the needs of different plants or animals and the places they live
- use patterns as evidence to support claims
- construct an argument supported by evidence for how plants and animals change the environment to survive

## **Enduring Understanding**

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- Living things are alive.
- Nonliving things are not alive.
- Plants need sunlight, water, air and space to live and grow.
- Most plants need soil.
- Animals need food, water, air, and shelter to live and grow.
- A shelter is a safe place to live.
- Plants and animals live in different systems.
- A desert is a dry place.
- A forest is a place where many trees grow.
- A pond is a small body of fresh water.
- An ocean is a very large body of salt water.
- Living things depend on each other.
- Some living things change the environment.
- The environment is all the things in a place.

## Essential Questions

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Lesson 1:

- What do plants need?

Lesson 2:

- What do animals need?

Lesson 3:

- Where do plants and animals live?

Lesson 4:

- How do plants and animals change their environment?

Unit Project:

- How can you model a way animals change their environment?
- How does a nest help a bird get something it needs?
- What evidence can be collected to show how a bird changes its environment?
- What cause and effect relationship will occur when you build the nest?

## Exit Skills

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By the end of Grade K Unit 3, the student should be able to:

- tell what plants need to live and grow
- tell what animals need to live and grow
- say why plants and animals live in certain places
- know how living things change the environment to meet their needs

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

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SEP - Analyzing and Interpreting Data

SEP - Scientific Knowledge is Based on Empirical Evidence

SEP - Developing and Using Models

SEP - Engaging in Argument from Evidence

DCI - Organization for Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms

DCI - Natural Resources

DCI - Biogeology

CCC - Patterns

CCC - Systems and System Models

### [NextGen Science Standards](#)

K-ESS2-2

Construct an argument supported by evidence for how plants and animals (including humans) can change the environment to meet their needs.

K-ESS3-1	Use a model to represent the relationship between the needs of different plants or animals (including humans) and the places they live.
K-LS1-1	Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.

## Interdisciplinary Connections

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Do the Math! pp. 81, 98, 113, 133

LA.W.K.7	Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore a number of books by a favorite author and express opinions about them).
LA.SL.K.5	Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.
MA.K.CC.A.1	Count to 100 by ones and by tens.
MA.K.MD.A.2	Directly compare two objects with a measurable attribute in common, to see which object has “more of”/“less of” the attribute, and describe the difference.

## Learning Objectives

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Lesson 1:

- SWDAT formulate evidence to explain what plants need to live and grow.

Hands-On Activity 1: SWDAT determine what a plant needs to stay alive.

Lesson 2:

- SWDAT formulate evidence to explain what animals need to live and grow.

Hands-On Activity 2: SWDAT infer what pill bugs need to live and stay alive by exploring patterns and making observations.

Lesson 3:

- SWDAT distinguish between where different plants and animals live and explain that they are part of a system with parts that work together in the natural world.

Hands-On Activity 3: SWDAT conclude whether a system in the natural world has the things a plant needs to live and grow.

Lesson 4:

- SWDAT support evidence that explains how plants and animals can change where they live to meet their needs.

Hands-On Activity 4: SWDAT construct a model of a park for plants and animals that has what they need to live and grow.

You Solve It:

- SWDAT develop and use a model ecosystem.

- SWDAT identify the needs of plants and animals.
- SWDAT observe how plants and animals change their environment.

Unit Project:

- SWDAT plan and build a model bird's nest.
- SWDAT analyze how building the bird's nest has changed the environment.
- SWDAT construct an argument to support a claim.

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

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
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**

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Vocabulary Game - Guess the Word!

Hands-On Activities - Plant Needs; Pill Bug Home; Where Plants Live; Plan a Park

You Solve It Virtual Lab - Grow a Garden!

Unit Project - Animal Changes

Performance Task - Do Plants Need Air?

Take it Further - People in Science and Engineering: Dr. Norma Alcantar

Assessments

- Pre-Assessment
- Formative: interactive workbook, apply what you know, lesson check/self check
- Summative: assessment guide, lesson quizzes, unit test
- Online Assessment

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

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- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe



- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- HMH End-of-Year Test (Benchmark)
- HMH Mid-Year Test (Benchmark)
- HMH Performance-based Assessment (Alternative)
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes (Formative)
- 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 (Summative)
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

## **Primary Resources & Materials**

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HMH Science Dimensions: Teacher Edition, Student workbooks, online resources

HMH Equipment & Safety Kits

HMH Science Dimensions S&E Leveled Readers

- On Level: What Can We Learn About Animals? What Are Plants?
- Extra Support: What Can We Learn About Animals? What Are Plants?

- Enrichment: Animal Groups; Inside Seeds

## Ancillary Resources

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<https://ngss-assessment.portal.concord.org/>

## Technology Infusion

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HMH Science Dimensions "Explore online" sections embedded throughout online teacher/student edition to extend student learning

HMH Science Dimensions "Can you explain/solve it?" videos embedded throughout online teacher/student edition

Computer-based assessments

## Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

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- English Language Arts;
- Mathematics;
- Science and Scientific Inquiry (Next Generation);
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;
- Technology;
- Visual and Performing Arts.

CRP.K-12.CRP1.1

Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.

CRP.K-12.CRP4.1

Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace

with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.

CRP.K-12.CRP5.1

Career-ready individuals understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies, understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization.

CRP.K-12.CRP6.1

Career-ready individuals regularly think of ideas that solve problems in new and different ways, and they contribute those ideas in a useful and productive manner to improve their organization. They can consider unconventional ideas and suggestions as solutions to issues, tasks or problems, and they discern which ideas and suggestions will add greatest value. They seek new methods, practices, and ideas from a variety of sources and seek to apply those ideas to their own workplace. They take action on their ideas and understand how to bring innovation to an organization.

## **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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Leveled Readers (On Level, Extra Support, Enrichment)

Reinforce Vocabulary- Help students connect vocabulary to real world examples.

RTI/Extra Support- Provide additional opportunities for hands-on discovery.

Extension Activity for enrichment

ELL- Provide hands-on examples of important concepts (ELL support resources include a glossary in English and Level Readers in Spanish and English)

### **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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- Provide modifications dictated by the IEP/504 Plan
- Modify assessment format

- Check work frequently for understanding

- 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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- Provide study guides
- Allow students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- Allowing productions (projects, models, timelines, demonstrations, charts, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning

- 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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- Tutoring by peers
  - Using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
  - Decreasing the amount of work represented or required
- 
- 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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- Advanced problem-solving
  - Higher order, critical and creative thinking skills, and discovery
  - Utilize project based learning for a greater depth of knowledge
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- 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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