Unit 3: Lifecycles

Content Area: **Science**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Trimester**
Length: **Trimester 3**
Status: **Published**

General Overview, Course Description or Course Philosophy

In the Animal unit, students develop an understanding of how animals and their environments change through time. Fossils provide a window into the animals and habitats of the past. Analyzing the traits of animals provides evidence for how those traits vary, how they are inherited, and how they have changed over time. Students also examine how the environment can affect inherited traits and determine which animals will survive in a particular environment.

In the Plant unit, students discover how plants reproduce by exploring the process of pollination and fruiting. They also investigate how plant traits are inherited from parent plants, and how favorable plant traits can be enhanced by humans via artificial selection.

OBJECTIVES, ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS, ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS

Objectives and Enduring Understandings:

- Students develop an understanding of the similarities and differences in organisms' life cycles. In addition, students use evidence to construct an explanation for how the variations in characteristics among individuals of the same species may provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing.

Essential Questions:

- Why do plants grow and grow fruit?
- What animals might there be in the future?
- Can traits be passed down to offspring without people?

CONTENT AREA STANDARDS

SCI.3-5-ETS1-1	Define a simple design problem reflecting a need or a want that includes specified criteria for success and constraints on materials, time, or cost.
SCI.3-5-ETS1-2	Generate and compare multiple possible solutions to a problem based on how well each is likely to meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.
SCI.3-5-ETS1-3	Plan and carry out fair tests in which variables are controlled and failure points are considered to identify aspects of a model or prototype that can be improved.

3-LS1-1	Develop models to describe that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles but all have in common birth, growth, reproduction, and death.
3-LS2-1	Construct an argument that some animals form groups that help members survive.
3-LS3-1	Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence that plants and animals have traits inherited from parents and that variation of these traits exists in a group of similar organisms.
3-LS3-2	Use evidence to support the explanation that traits can be influenced by the environment.

RELATED STANDARDS (Technology, 21st Century Life & Careers, ELA Companion Standards are Required)

LA.RI.3.1	Ask and answer questions, and make relevant connections to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
LA.RI.3.2	Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.
LA.RI.3.3	Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect.
MA.3.NBT	Number and Operations in Base Ten
LA.RI.3.7	Use information gained from text features (e.g., illustrations, maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).
MA.3.NF	Number and Operations—Fractions
MA.3.MD.B.4	Generate measurement data by measuring lengths using rulers marked with halves and fourths of an inch. Show the data by making a line plot, where the horizontal scale is marked off in appropriate units— whole numbers, halves, or quarters.
LA.W.3.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
LA.SL.3.4	Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.
LA.SL.3.5	Use multimedia to demonstrate fluid reading at an understandable pace; add visual displays when appropriate to emphasize or enhance certain facts or details.

EVIDENCE OF LEARNING

Formative Assessments

- Student notebook pages
- Lab Activities
- Student predicitons
- Student observations
- Vocabulary
- Big Idea graphic organizer
- Data collected

- Monitor students working in groups
- Teacher questions and discussion
- Observe students as they apply new concepts and skills

Summative Assessments

Benchmark Assessments

- Multiple Choice Assessment administered at the end of each trimester (T1, T2, T3)

Alternative Assessments

- Oral Presentations
- Questions for Comprehension
- Performance Tasks
- Scientific Journals/Notebooks
- Self-Assessment
- WebQuests

RESOURCES (Instructional, Supplemental, Intervention Materials)

- Teacher Edition
- Student Lab Manual
- Student Science Notebook
- Videos

INTERDISCIPLINARY CONNECTIONS

- Integrate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text. Distinguish among facts, reasoned judgment based on research findings, and speculation in a text.
- Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.
- Social Emotional Learning
- Sustainability

ACCOMMODATIONS & MODIFICATIONS FOR SUBGROUPS

See link to Accommodations & Modifications document in course folder.

*In addition to IEP Accommodations & Modifications:

- Restate and review directions
- Student restates directions or information
- Oral responses
- Small group/ one to one
- Additional time
- Concrete examples
- Extra visuals
- Support auditory information with visuals
- Space for movement or breaks
- Extra verbal cues and prompts