

Unit 1: Classifying Matter

Grade 4: Science 2026-2027

[*\(Unit Guide 2025-2026\)*](#)

[Unit Overview]

Tools for Planning		
PLC Process Resources • Unit Internalization Protocol • TEA TEKS Guide • Lead4Ward Resources • Lead4Ward Field Guides - Content & SEPs	Year-At-A-Glance/Pacing Calendar • GR 4 Science YAAG 2026-2027 • GR 4 Science Suggested Pacing By Week 26-27	Additional Planning Resources: • Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) • Language Supports • Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) • [Materials List] Gr 4 Science Unit 1

Unit Description
Description: Students will explore the physical properties of matter, including temperature, mass, magnetism, relative density, and physical state. They will investigate a variety of mixtures, including solutions, and demonstrate that matter is conserved when mixtures are formed. Suggested Unit Pacing: 16 Days (20- 25 minute class periods) Number of Bundles: 2

PLC Q1 - Unit 7 Planning Guidance	
Essential Questions	Enduring Understandings
→ How can we classify matter based on physical properties? → When is a mixture also a solution? → How do we know that matter is always conserved in mixtures?	→ Matter can be classified using observable physical properties, including temperature, mass, magnetism, relative density, and physical state. → All solutions are mixtures, but not all mixtures are solutions. In a solution, one substance is dissolved, so the tiny pieces of one substance are evenly distributed into another substance.

		→ Matter is always conserved in mixtures, so the mass of a mixture will be the same mass as the total mass of each component.
TEKS [District Recommended Essentials are in Bold Type]		
TEKS: [District Recommended Essentials are in Bold Type] 4.6 (Matter and Energy)- The student knows that matter has measurable physical properties that determine how matter is identified, classified, changed, and used. → 4.6A classify and describe matter using observable physical properties, including temperature, mass, magnetism, relative density (the ability to sink or float in water), and physical state (solid, liquid, gas) → 4.6B investigate and compare a variety of mixtures, including solutions that are composed of liquids in liquids and solids in liquids; and → 4.6C demonstrate that matter is conserved when mixtures such as soil and water or oil and water are formed.		Scientific & Engineering Practices: → 4.1D use tools to observe, measure, test, and analyze information → 4.1E collect observations and measurements as evidence Recurring Themes and Concepts: → 4.5(E) investigate how energy flows and matter cycles through systems and how matter is conserved
Essential ELPS: ● Learning Strategies 1C - use strategic learning techniques such as concept mapping, drawing, memorizing, comparing, contrasting, and reviewing to acquire grade-level vocabulary ● Listening 2H - understand implicit ideas and information based on grade-level learning expectations ● Speaking 3H - narrate, describe, and explain with increasing specificity and detail ● Reading 4J - demonstrate comprehension by employing inferential skills such as predicting, making connections, drawing inferences and conclusions from text and graphic sources, and finding supporting text evidence based on content area needs ● Writing 5G - narrate, describe, and explain with increasing specificity and detail to fulfill content areas' writing needs		
PLC Q2 - Unit 7 Assessment Guidance		
Unit Assessment Resources		Other Assessment Resources
[Unit Assessment] Gr 4 Sci Unit 1: Properties of Matter 2025-2026 → PISD Gr4 Science Unit 1 [2025-2026] → PISD Gr4 Science Unit 1 [2025-2026] SPANISH		→ TEA Assessed Curriculum- Elementary Science STAAR → Elementary Science STAAR Blueprint → Sample SCR Scoring Rubric & Guide → Lead4Ward IQ Released Items Analysis Tool → Elementary Science Gr 3-5 Supplemental Aids
Performance Task Resources		

[Unit Guide]

Tools for Instruction		
Teacher Resources → TEA TEKS Guide → Lead4Ward Field Guide - Properties of Matter (4.6ABC) → Lead4Ward SEPs Field Guide → Lead4Ward Instructional Strategies Playlist → ELLlevation	Student Resources → HMH Resources (link to book) → PhET Lab Simulations → Elementary Science Gr 3-5 Supplemental Aids	Additional Tools → Visual Non-Glossary → Science - Digital Resources → 5E Model and 3D Science Framework → Safety Contract ◆ English ◆ SPANISH

Tier One	Bundle 1: Classifying Matter		
	Description: Students will measure physical properties of matter, including temperature, mass, magnetism, and relative density and will then explain how they used these properties to classify matter. Pacing:		
	TEKS/I Can Statements (Q1)		Check for Understanding (Q2)
	TEKS: → 4.6A classify and describe matter using observable physical properties, including temperature, mass, magnetism, relative density (the ability to sink or float in water), and physical state (solid, liquid, gas)	→ [CFU 1] Physical Properties of Matter → SPANISH	
		Activities (Q1)	Resources (Q1)
		→ [Student Sheet] Gr4 U1 B1- Classifying Matter → [SPANISH Student Sheet] Gr4 U1 B1- Classifying Matter	→ [Teacher Presentation] Gr4 U1 B1- Classifying Matter → SPANISH [Teacher Presentation] Gr4 U1 B1- Classifying Matter ◆ State of Matter Card Sort ◆ SPANISH State of Matter Card Sort ◆ Stations- Classifying Matter ◆ Changes to States of Matter- Matching Activity ◆ SPANISH Changes to States of Matter- Matching Activity

		Additional Practice (Q3)	Challenge (Q4)
		→ Physical Properties- Vocabulary Dominoes → SPANISH Physical Properties- Vocabulary Dominoes → States of Matter Folder Activity	→
	Additional Tools	Academic Vocabulary	
	→ [Resource] HMH: Teacher Science Background (4.6A)	→ Matter → Solid, Liquid, Gas → Mass → Temperature → More/Less Dense → English Spanish	States of Matter (Physical State) Physical Properties Volume Magnetism Sink/Float

Bundle 2: Mixtures & Solutions

Description: Students will investigate a variety of mixtures, including solutions, and demonstrate that matter is conserved when mixtures are formed.
Pacing:

TEKS/I Can Statements (Q1)	Check for Understanding (Q2)	
TEKS: → 4.6B investigate and compare a variety of mixtures, including solutions that are composed of liquids in liquids and solids in liquids; and → 4.6C demonstrate that matter is conserved when mixtures such as soil and water or oil and water are formed.	→ [CFU 2] Mixtures and Solutions → SPANISH	
	Activities (Q1)	Resources (Q1)
	→ Student Sheet] Gr4 U1 B2- Mixtures and Solutions → SPANISH Student Sheet] Gr4 U1 B2- Mixtures and Solutions	→ [Teacher Presentation] Gr4 U1 B2- Mixtures and Solutions → SPANISH [Teacher Presentation] Gr4 U1 B2- Mixtures and Solutions ◆ Solutions Lab- Will it Dissolve? Teacher Guide ◆ RLA Connection- What's the Difference - Mixtures and Solutions? ◆ SPANISH RLA Connection- What's the Difference - Mixtures and Solutions?

		Challenge (Q4)
	→ VNG?	→ Separating Mixtures Activity
Additional Tools	Academic Vocabulary	
→ [Resource] HMH: Teacher Science Background (4.6B) → [Resource] HMH: Teacher Science Background (4.6C)	→ Matter → Solid, Liquid, Gas → Mixture → Solution → Conservation of Matter → English Spanish	