Third Grade Essential Standards



Science Essential Standards	
Physical Science Strand	
3.3.1	Plan and carry out investigations that provide evidence of the <u>effects</u> of balanced and unbalanced forces on the motion of an object. Emphasize investigations where only one variable is tested at a time. Examples could include an unbalanced force on one side of a ball causing it to move and balanced forces pushing on a box from both sides producing no movement. (PS2.A, PS2.B)
3.3.4	Ask questions to plan and carry out an investigation to determine <u>cause and effect</u> relationships of electric or magnetic interactions between two objects not in contact with each other. Emphasize how static electricity and magnets can cause objects to move without touching. Examples could include the force an electrically charged balloon has on hair, how magnet orientation affects the direction of a force, or how distance between objects affects the strength of a force. Electrical charges and magnetic fields will be taught in Grades 6 through 8. (PS2.B)
Life Science	
3.2.1	Develop and use models to describe <u>changes</u> that organisms go through during their life cycles. Emphasize that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles but follow a pattern of birth, growth, reproduction, and death. Examples of changes in life cycles could include how some plants and animals look different at different stages of life or how other plants and animals only appear to change size in their life. (LS1.B)
3.2.2	Analyze and interpret data to identify <u>patterns</u> of traits that plants and animals have inherited from parents. Emphasize the similarities and differences in traits between parent organisms and offspring and variation of traits in groups of similar organisms. (LS3.A, LS3.B)
3.2.5	Engage in argument from evidence that in a particular habitat (<u>system</u>) some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all. Emphasize that organisms and habitats form systems in which the parts depend upon each other. Examples of evidence could include needs and characteristics of the organisms and habitats involved such as cacti growing in dry, sandy soil but not surviving in wet, saturated soil. (LS4.C)
Earth and Space Science Strand	
3.1.1	Analyze and interpret data to reveal <u>patterns</u> that indicate typical weather conditions expected during a particular season. Emphasize students gathering data in a variety of ways and representing data in tables and graphs. Examples of data could include temperature, precipitation, or wind speed. (ESS2.D)
3.1.2	Obtain and communicate information to describe climate <u>patterns</u> in different regions of the world. Emphasize how climate patterns can be used to predict typical weather conditions. Examples of

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climate patterns could be average seasonal temperature and average seasonal precipitation. (ESS2.D)