

## Initial Engagement Planning Tool

### Unit Big Ideas

- Living things share several STRUCTURES
- Living things share several FUNCTIONS
- There is great variety in the STRUCTURES & FUNCTIONS

### Key Aspects of Initial Engagement Activity

How do you plan to accomplish each of the following through your Initial Engagement Activity?

<b>Develop an awareness of student understanding related to unit concepts</b>	<b>Introduce an interesting or curiosity-provoking phenomenon related to unit concepts</b>	<b>Collect student questions related to the Initial Engagement Activity and unit concepts</b>
<b>Students will be recording their guess on whether or no the object is living or not living.</b>	<b>Provide a hands on, interactive activity that promotes critical thinking by showing students things that are living and not living and having them guess.</b>	<b>Students will explain why they chose living or not living and will come up with big questions at the end of the initial engagement activity.</b>

### Anticipated Progression of Initial Engagement Activity

What is the anticipated sequence of student and teacher activity that will take place during the Initial Engagement Activity? (Include specific management techniques, ways to differentiate, projected timeframes, and anticipated student responses)

- Have students walk around the classroom observing various living and nonliving things and marking down whether they think the object is living vs non -living.
- After students make their decisions, have them write down and explain why they

thought some things were living and some things weren't.

- Have students raise their hands to show whether each item was living or nonliving and record majority vote.
  - If students disagree, have them form groups and come up with a reason why they are thinking the way they are thinking.
- After each living or non-living item has been voted on, have students group up and come up with potential big questions for the unit.

### Specific Materials & Resource Needs for IEA

What materials will you need to prepare and have ready students?

- Living and nonliving items (link for ideas)  
<https://iowa.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/tdc02.sci.life.colt.alive/is-it-alive/> )
- Piece of paper and writing utensil