LEADERSHIP ACADEMY NETWORK | FWISD

8th Grade Biology | INSTRUCTIONAL PLANNING CALENDAR

6 WEEKS OVERVIEW

Red-Full Stop! Readiness-Will be tested 2 + times
Yellow-Slow down. Supporting-could be tested

STANDARDS/UNITS ASSESSED

B.13(D) explain how environmental change, including change due to human activity, affects biodiversity and analyze how changes in biodiversity impact ecosystem stability
B.11(B) investigate and explain the role of enzymes in facilitating cellular processes
B.5(B) compare and contrast prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells, including their complexity, and compare and contrast scientific explanations for cellular complexity
B.6(C) relate disruptions of the cell cycle to how they lead to the development of diseases such as cancer
B.8(B) predict possible outcomes of various genetic combinations using monohybrid and dihybrid crosses, including non-Mendelian traits of incomplete dominance, codominance, sex-linked traits, and multiple alleles
B.7(C) identify and illustrate changes in DNA and evaluate the significance of these changes
B.9(B) examine scientific explanations for varying rates of change such as gradualism, abrupt appearance, and stasis in the fossil record
B.10(B) analyze and evaluate how the elements of natural selection, including inherited variation, the potential of a population to produce more offspring than can survive, and a finite supply of environmental resources, result in differential reproductive success
B.10(C) analyze and evaluate how natural selection may lead to speciation
B.12(B) explain how the interactions that occur among systems that perform functions of transport, reproduction, and response in plants are facilitated by their structures
B.12A:analyze the interactions that occur among systems that perform the functions of regulation, nutrient absorption,reproduction, and defense from injury or illness in animals
B.13A:Investigate and evaluate how ecological relationships, including predation, parasitism, commensalism, mutualism, and competition, influence ecosystem stability.
B.5(A) relate the functions of different types of biomolecules, including carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids, to the structure and function of a cell
B.5(D) compare the structures of viruses to cells and explain how viruses spread and cause disease
B.6(A) explain the importance of the cell cycle to the growth of organisms, including an overview of the stages of the cell cycle and deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) replication models
B.7(A) identify components of DNA, explain how the nucleotide sequence specifies some traits of an organism, and examine scientific explanations for the origin of DNA
B.8(A) analyze the significance of chromosome reduction, independent assortment, and crossing-over during meiosis in increasing diversity in populations of organisms that reproduce sexually
B.6(B) explain the process of cell specialization through cell differentiation, including the role of environmental factors

B.7(B) describe the significance of gene expression and explain the process of protein synthesis using models of DNA and ribonucleic acid (RNA)
B.9(A) analyze and evaluate how evidence of common ancestry among groups is provided by the fossil record, biogeography, and homologies, including anatomical, molecular, and developmental
B.10(A) analyze and evaluate how natural selection produces change in populations and not in individuals
B.10(D) analyze evolutionary mechanisms other than natural selection, including genetic drift, gene flow, mutation, and genetic recombination, and their effect on the gene pool of a population
B.11(A) explain how matter is conserved and energy is transferred during photosynthesis and cellular respiration using models, including the chemical equations for these processes
B.12(A) analyze the interactions that occur among systems that perform the functions of regulation, nutrient absorption, reproduction, and defense from injury or illness in animals
B.13(A) investigate and evaluate how ecological relationships, including predation, parasitism, commensalism, mutualism, and competition, influence ecosystem stability
B.13(B) analyze how ecosystem stability is affected by disruptions to the cycling of matter and flow of energy through trophic levels using models
B.13(C) explain the significance of the carbon and nitrogen cycles to ecosystem stability and analyze the consequences of disrupting these cycles

Important Dates

2/16-Student Success successions
2/17-Science Benchmark
2/19-SS Benchmark
2/24-TELPAS Shutdown
2/16-TELPAS Shutdown
3/16-3/20-Spring Break
3/23-LAN Teachers off
4/3- Good Friday/No School

Direct Link to Weekly IPC

Week 1

Week 2

Week 3

Week 4

Week 5

Week 6

Resources

YAG
Block Breakdown
STAAR Study Sheet
STAAR Blueprint

WEEK 1: (2/16-2/20)					
BIOLOGY					
	MONDAY	**TUESDAY**	**WEDNESDAY**	**THURSDAY**	**FRIDAY**
	2/16/26	**First Day of 5th 6 Weeks** 2/17/26	2/18/26 Investigation 12 Experience 3:Reproduction in Animals	2/19/26	2/20/26 Investigation 12 Experience 3:Reproduction in Animals
TEKS	**Student Success Sessions**	**Science Benchmark**	B.12A:analyze the interactions that occur among systems that perform the functions of regulation, nutrient absorption, reproduction, and defense from injury or illness in animals	**Math Benchmark**	B.12A:analyze the interactions that occur among systems that perform the functions of regulation, nutrient absorption, reproduction, and defense from injury or illness in animals
Learning Objective			• Compare asexual and sexual reproduction in animals. • Describe development and growth in animals. • Analyze the interaction of the		• Compare asexual and sexual reproduction in animals. • Describe development and growth in animals. • Analyze the interaction of the endocrine system

			endocrine system and reproductive system in humans		and reproductive system in humans
ENGAGE (Hook)			**Everyday Phenomenon** Is it the same species?		
EXPLORE			**Interactivity** Reproductive Strategies		
EXPLAIN/ELABORATE			**Explain Video** Remarkable Reproduction **Experience Handbook** Reproduction in Animals **Presentation** Reproduction in Animals		**Leveled Summary and Review** Reproduction in Animals
Multiple Response Strategy					
Resources			Teacher Guide		Teacher Guide
Independent Practice					

Demonstration of Learning/EVALUATE			**DOL**		**Quiz** Reproduction in Animals **Experience Handbook** Revisit Anchoring Phenomenon
Intervene/ Accelerate **1x per week 6W1** **3x per week 6W2** **Daily M-Th 6W3**			Small group instruction using DATA		Small group instruction using DATA
Success Criteria *A student has achieved mastery when…*			***Students will:*** ● Compare asexual and sexual reproduction in animals. ● Describe development and growth in animals. ● Analyze the interaction of the endocrine system and reproductive system in humans		***Students will:*** ● Compare asexual and sexual reproduction in animals. ● Describe development and growth in animals. ● Analyze the interaction of the endocrine system and reproductive system in humans

WEEK 2: (2/23-2/27)					
BIOLOGY					
	MONDAY	**TUESDAY**	**WEDNESDAY**	**THURSDAY**	**FRIDAY**
	2/23/26 Investigation 12 Experience 4:Response to the Environment	2/24/26	2/25/26 Investigation 12 Experience 4:Response to the Environment	2/26/26	2/27/26 Investigation 15 Experience 1: Ecological Relationships
TEKS	B.12A:analyze the interactions that occur among systems that perform the functions of regulation, nutrient absorption, reproduction, and defense from injury or illness in animals	**TELPAS Shutdown**	B.12A:analyze the interactions that occur among systems that perform the functions of regulation, nutrient absorption, reproduction, and defense from injury or illness in animals	**TELPAS Shutdown**	B.13A:Investigate and evaluate how ecological relationships, including predation, parasitism, commensalism, mutualism, and competition, influence ecosystem stability.
Learning Objective	• Describe how animals respond to their environment. • Explain how neurons transmit nerve impulses. • Describe trends in nervous system evolution. • Analyze how the skeletal system interacts with other body systems to respond to stimuli		• Describe how animals respond to their environment. • Explain how neurons transmit nerve impulses. • Describe trends in nervous system evolution. • Analyze how the skeletal system interacts with other body systems to respond to stimuli		• Describe the factors that determine an organism's niche. • Describe how competition and ecological relationships shape communities. • Describe the factors that determine the characteristics and stability of an ecosystem.

	in the environment.		in the environment.		
ENGAGE Hook	**Everyday Phenomenon** How do neurons transmit messages?				**Everyday Phenomenon** Can I live here
EXPLORE	**Interactivity** Adaptations of Sense Organs				**Inquiry Lab*** Exploring the World of Soil Protozoa
EXPLAIN/ELABORATE	**Explain Video** Springs, Bows, and Gears: Amazing Animal Jumpers **Experience Handbook** Response to the Environment		**Presentation** Response to the Environment **Leveled Summary and Review** Response to the Environment		
Multiple Response Strategy					
Resources	Teacher Guide		Teacher Guide		Teacher Guide
Independent Practice					

DEMONSTRATION OF LEARNING/EVALUATE	**DOL**		**Quiz** Response to the Environment **Experience Handbook** Revisit Anchoring Phenomenon		**DOL**
Intervene/ Accelerate **1x per week 6W1** **3x per week 6W2** **Daily M-Th 6W3**			Small group instruction using DATA		
Success Criteria *A student has achieved mastery when…*	***Students will:*** • Describe how animals respond to their environment. • Explain how neurons transmit nerve impulses. • Describe trends in nervous system evolution. • Analyze how the skeletal system interacts with other body systems to respond to stimuli in the environment.		***Students will:*** • Describe how animals respond to their environment. • Explain how neurons transmit nerve impulses. • Describe trends in nervous system evolution. • Analyze how the skeletal system interacts with other body systems to respond to stimuli in the environment.		***Students will:*** • Describe the factors that determine an organism's niche. • Describe how competition and ecological relationships shape communities. • Describe the factors that determine the characteristics and stability of an ecosystem.

WEEK 3: (3/2-3/6)					
BIOLOGY					
	MONDAY	**TUESDAY**	**WEDNESDAY**	**THURSDAY**	**FRIDAY**
	3/2/26 Investigation 15 Experience 1: Ecological Relationships	3/3/326 Investigation 15 Experience 1: Ecological Relationships	3/4/26 Investigation 15 Experience 2: Ecological Succession	3/5/26 Investigation 15 Experience 2: Ecological Succession	3/6/26 Investigation 15 Experience 3:Population Growth
TEKS	B.13A:Investigate and evaluate how ecological relationships, including predation, parasitism, commensalism, mutualism, and competition, influence ecosystem stability.	B.13A:Investigate and evaluate how ecological relationships, including predation, parasitism, commensalism, mutualism, and competition, influence ecosystem stability.	B.13(D) explain how environmental change, including change due to human activity, affects biodiversity and analyze how changes in biodiversity impact ecosystem stability	B.13(D) explain how environmental change, including change due to human activity, affects biodiversity and analyze how changes in biodiversity impact ecosystem stability	B.13(D) explain how environmental change, including change due to human activity, affects biodiversity and analyze how changes in biodiversity impact ecosystem stability
Learning Objective	• Describe the factors that determine an organism's niche. • Describe how competition and ecological relationships shape communities. • Describe the factors that determine the characteristics and stability of an ecosystem.	• Describe the factors that determine an organism's niche. • Describe how competition and ecological relationships shape communities. • Describe the factors that determine the characteristics and stability of an ecosystem.	• Explain how communities change over time. • Explain how communities recover after a disturbance	• Explain how communities change over time. • Explain how communities recover after a disturbance	• Describe how ecologists study populations. • Explain the factors that affect population growth. • Explain what happens during exponential growth. • Explain what happens during logistic growth. • Explain the factors and conditions that

					limit population growth. ● Describe how human population growth has changed over time.
ENGAGE Hook			**Everyday Phenomenon** How do humans affect ecosystems?		**Everyday Phenomenon** What is exponential growth? **Analyzing Data** Predator-Prey Dynamics
EXPLORE	**Interactivity** Symbiotic Relationships		**Quick Lab** How does Succession Occur? **Interactivity** Comparing Types of Succession		
EXPLAIN/ELABORATE	**Explain Video** Pig Out **Experience Handbook** Ecological Relationships	**Leveled Summary and Review** Ecological Relationships	**Explain Video** Ecological Succession: Change is Good **Experience Handbook** Ecological Succession	**Leveled Summary and Review** Ecological Succession	**Experience Handbook** Population Growth

Multiple Response Strategy					
Resources	Teacher Guide	Teacher Guide	Teacher Guide	Teacher Guide	Teacher Guide
Independent Practice:					
Demonstration of Learning/EVALUATE	DOL	**Quiz** Ecological Relationships **Experience Handbook** Revisit Anchoring Phenomenon	DOL	**Quiz** Ecological Succession **Experience Handbook** Revisit Anchoring Phenomenon	DOL
Intervene/ Accelerate **1x per week 6W1** **3x per week 6W2** **Daily M-Th 6W3**		Small group instruction using DATA		Small group instruction using DATA	
Success Criteria *A student has achieved mastery when…*	***Students will:*** • Describe the factors that determine an organism's niche. • Describe how competition and ecological relationships shape communities. • Describe the factors that determine the characteristics and stability of an ecosystem.		***Students will:*** • Explain how communities change over time. • Explain how communities recover after a disturbance		***Students will:*** • Describe how ecologists study populations. • Explain the factors that affect population growth. • Explain what happens during exponential growth. • Explain what happens during logistic growth. • Explain the factors and conditions that

					limit population growth. • Describe how human population growth has changed over time.

WEEK 4: (3/9-3/13)					
BIOLOGY					
	MONDAY	**TUESDAY**	**WEDNESDAY**	**THURSDAY**	**FRIDAY**
	3/9/26 Investigation 15 Experience 3:Population Growth	3/10/26 STAAR Prep Day 1: Chemistry of Life and Enzymes	3/11/26 STAAR Prep Day 2:Viruses and Cells	3/12/26 STAAR Prep Day 3:The Cell Cycle and DNA	3/13/26
TEKS	B.13(D) explain how environmental change, including change due to human activity, affects biodiversity and analyze how changes in biodiversity impact ecosystem stability	B.5(A) relate the functions of different types of biomolecules, including carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids, to the structure and function of a cell B.11(B) investigate and explain the role of enzymes in facilitating cellular processes	B.5(B) compare and contrast prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells, including their complexity, and compare and contrast scientific explanations for cellular complexity B.5(D) compare the structures of viruses to cells and explain how viruses spread and cause disease	B.6(A) explain the importance of the cell cycle to the growth of organisms, including an overview of the stages of the cell cycle and deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) replication models B.6(C) relate disruptions of the cell cycle to how they lead to the development of diseases such as cancer B.7(A) identify components of	**STAAR Prep Mini Marker #1(schoolcity)**

				DNA, explain how the nucleotide sequence specifies some traits of an organism, and examine scientific explanations for the origin of DNA	
Learning Objective	• Describe how ecologists study populations. • Explain the factors that affect population growth. • Explain what happens during exponential growth. • Explain what happens during logistic growth. • Explain the factors and conditions that limit population growth. • Describe how human population growth has changed over time.				
ENGAGE **Hook**					
EXPLORE					

EXPLAIN/ELABORATE	**Leveled Summary and Review** Population Growth				
Multiple Response Strategy					
Resources	**Teacher Guide**	**Lowman STAAR Blitz FWISD Resources**	**Lowman STAAR Blitz FWISD Resources**	**Lowman STAAR Blitz FWISD Resources**	
Independent Practice:					
Demonstration of Learning/EVALUATE	**Quiz** Population Growth **Experience Handbook** Revisit Anchoring Phenomenon				
Intervene/ Accelerate **1x per week 6W1** **3x per week 6W2** **Daily M-Th 6W3**	Small group instruction using DATA				
Success Criteria *A student has achieved mastery when...*					

(3/16-3/20)
SpringBreak(No School)

WEEK 5: (3/23-3/27)					
BIOLOGY					
	MONDAY	**TUESDAY**	**WEDNESDAY**	**THURSDAY**	**FRIDAY**
	3/23/26	3/24/26 STAAR Prep Day 4:Significance of Meiosis and Heredity	3/25/26 STAAR Prep Day 5: Gene Expression and Mutations	3/26/26 STAAR Prep Day 6: Evidence for Evolution	3/27/26
TEKS	**LAN Teachers off**	B.8(A) analyze the significance of chromosome reduction, independent assortment, and crossing-over during meiosis in increasing diversity in populations of organisms that reproduce sexually B.8(B) predict possible outcomes of various genetic combinations using monohybrid and dihybrid crosses, including non-Mendelian traits of incomplete dominance, codominance, sex-linked traits, and multiple alleles	B.6(B) explain the process of cell specialization through cell differentiation, including the role of environmental factors B.7(B) describe the significance of gene expression and explain the process of protein synthesis using models of DNA and ribonucleic acid (RNA) B.7(C) identify and illustrate changes in DNA and evaluate the significance of these changes	B.9(A) analyze and evaluate how evidence of common ancestry among groups is provided by the fossil record, biogeography, and homologies, including anatomical, molecular, and developmental B.9(B) examine scientific explanations for varying rates of change such as gradualism, abrupt appearance, and stasis in the fossil record	**STAAR Prep Mini Marker #2(schoolcity)**
Learning Objective					
ENGAGE Hook					
EXPLORE					
EXPLAIN/ELABORATE					
Multiple Response Strategy					

Resources		**Lowman STAAR Blitz FWISD Resources**	**Lowman STAAR Blitz FWISD Resources**	**Lowman STAAR Blitz FWISD Resources**	
Independent Practice					
Demonstration of Learning/EVALUATE					
Intervene/ Accelerate **1x per week 6W1 3x per week 6W2 Daily M-Th 6W3**					
Success Criteria *A student has achieved mastery when…*					

WEEK 6:(3/30-4/3)					
BIOLOGY					
	MONDAY	**TUESDAY**	**WEDNESDAY**	**THURSDAY**	**FRIDAY**
	3/30/26 STAAR Prep Day 7: Evolutionary Mechanisms	3/31/26 STAAR Prep Day 8: Cellular Energy and Plant Systems Interactions	4/1/26 STAAR Prep Day 9: Interactions in Animal Systems	4/2/26 STAAR Prep Day 10:Ecosystem Stability	4/3/26
TEKS	B.10(A) analyze and evaluate how natural selection produces change in populations and not in individuals B.10(D) analyze evolutionary mechanisms other than natural selection, including genetic drift, gene flow, mutation, and genetic recombination, and their effect on the gene pool of a population B.10(B) analyze and evaluate how the elements of natural selection, including inherited variation, the potential of a population to produce more offspring than can survive, and a finite supply of environmental resources, result in differential reproductive success B.10(C) analyze and evaluate how natural selection may lead to speciation	B.11(A) explain how matter is conserved and energy is transferred during photosynthesis and cellular respiration using models, including the chemical equations for these processes B.12(B) explain how the interactions that occur among systems that perform functions of transport, reproduction, and response in plants are facilitated by their structures	B.12(A) analyze the interactions that occur among systems that perform the functions of regulation, nutrient absorption, reproduction, and defense from injury or illness in animals	B.13(A) investigate and evaluate how ecological relationships, including predation, parasitism, commensalism, mutualism, and competition, influence ecosystem stability B.13(B) analyze how ecosystem stability is affected by disruptions to the cycling of matter and flow of energy through trophic levels using models B.13(C) explain the significance of the carbon and nitrogen cycles to ecosystem stability and analyze the consequences of disrupting these cycles B.13(D) explain how environmental change, including change due to human activity, affects biodiversity and analyze how changes in biodiversity impact ecosystem stability	**Good Friday/No School**

Learning Objective					
ENGAGE **Hook**					
EXPLORE					
EXPLAIN/ELABORATE					
Multiple Response Strategy					
Resources	**Lowman STAAR Blitz** **FWISD Resources**	**Lowman STAAR Blitz** **FWISD Resources**	**Lowman STAAR Blitz** **FWISD Resources**		
Independent Practice					
Demonstration of Learning/EVALUATE					
Intervene/ Accelerate **1x per week 6W1** **3x per week 6W2** **Daily M-Th 6W3**					
Success Criteria *A student has achieved mastery when…*					