Califon Public School Curriculum



Subject:	Grade:	Unit #:	Pacing:
Science	8th	1	15 days

Unit Title: Evidence of Common Ancestry

OVERVIEW OF UNIT:

In this unit, Students will look at empirical and fossil evidence that documents the change of diversity in organisms within Earth's History. Students will compare and contrast organisms from different time periods to their ancestors that exist today, also comparing the similarities in the growth and development of offspring across multiple species.

Big Ideas

- The fossil record documents the existence, diversity, extinction, and change of many life forms throughout the history of life on Earth.
- The collection of fossils and their placement in chronological order as identified through the location of sedimentary layers in which they are found or through radioactive dating is known as the fossil record.
- Relative fossil dating is achieved by examining the fossil's relative position in sedimentary rock layers.
- Objects and events in the fossil record occur in consistent patterns that are understandable through measurement and observation.
- Patterns exist in the level of complexity of anatomical structures in organisms and the chronological order of fossil appearance in rock layers.
- Patterns can occur within one species of organism or across many species.
- Similarities and differences exist in the gross anatomical structures of modern organisms.
- There are anatomical similarities and differences among modern organisms and between modern organisms and fossil organisms.
- Similarities and differences exist in the gross anatomical structures of modern organisms and their fossil relatives.
- Similarities and differences in the gross anatomical structures of modern organisms enable the reconstruction of evolutionary history and the inference of lines of evolutionary descent.
- Patterns and anatomical similarities in the fossil record can be used to identify cause-and-effect relationships.
- Science assumes that objects and events in evolutionary history occur in consistent patterns that are understandable through measurement and observation.

Essential Questions

- How do we know when an organism (fossil) was alive?
- How do we know that birds and dinosaurs are related?

Objectives

- Students will be able to determine when an organism (fossil) was alive.
- Students will be able to determine how dinosaurs and birds are related.

Assessment

Formative Assessment:

- Labs
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning
- Class Discussions

Summative Assessment:

- Multiple Choice Assessment
- Open Ended Response
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning

Benchmark:

• LinkIt Benchmark

Alternative:

- Performance Assessments
- Projects
- Models
- Modified Tests Independently Developed by Teacher

Key Vocabulary

Extinction, fossil record, evolution, adaptations, selective breeding, geologic time scale, natural selection

Resources & Materials

Stemscopes website & kits

- Print and digital copies of textbook
- Lab write-ups
- SEP simulations
- Content videos
- PhET Interactive Simulations
- Reading articles
- Math connections
- Pre-assembled Kits

Technology Infusion

Teacher Technology:

- Chromebooks
- Stemscopes website
- Promethean Board

Student Technology:

- Chromebooks
- Stemscopes website

Activities:

• Students will use Chromebooks to access the Stemscopes website to: activate prior knowledge, build schema, watch videos, complete labs, take assessments and collect data.

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Standard	Standard Description
8.1.8.DA.1	Organize and transform data collected using computational tools to make it usable for
	a specific purpose.
8.2.8.ED.3	Develop a proposal for a solution to a real-world problem that includes a model (e.g.,
	physical prototype, graphical/technical sketch).

Interdisciplinary Integration

Activities:

- Students will be able to analyze data in order to create a scientific explanation.
- Students will be able to create a scientific explanation using evidence and reasoning from observation and informational text to support a scientific claim

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Standard	Standard Description
NJSLS-ELA AW	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using
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NJSLS-ELA	Write arguments on discipline-specific content (e.g., social studies, science, math,
W.AW.8.1	technical subjects, English/Language Arts) to support claims with clear reasons and
	relevant evidence.
NJSLS-ELA	Write informative/explanatory texts (including the narration of historical events,
W.IW.8.2	scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes) to examine a topic and
	convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and
	analysis of relevant content.
NJSLS-ELA	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection,
W.RW.8.7	metacognition/self-correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting
	or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Activities: • Students will work in groups to collaborate, at times taking leadership roles to communicate project ideas to the whole class. Standard Student Learning Objectives 9.4.8.GCA.2 Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions to achieve a group goal. 9.4.8.IML.4 Ask insightful questions to organize different types of data and create meaningful

visualizations.

Careers			
Activities:			
Students will exp	lain the consequences of human movement and development on the Earth.		
Practice	Description		
Consider the	Students understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make		
environmental, social	decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people,		
and economic impacts	organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies,		
of decisions.	understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their		

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	work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the
	profitability of the organization.
Act as a responsible	Students understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a
and contributing	community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their
community members	interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on
and employee.	others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and
	long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to
	the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are
	reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in
	participating in activities that serve the greater good.
Utilize critical thinking	Students readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the
to make sense of	problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of the
problems and persevere	problem and carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution is
in solving them.	agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through
	this when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they
	thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing
	solutions. Their own actions or the actions of others.
Use technology to	Students find and maximize the productive value of existing and new technology to
enhance productivity	accomplish workplace tasks and solve workplace problems. They are flexible and
increase collaboration	adaptive in acquiring new technology. They are proficient with ubiquitous
and communicate	technology applications. They understand the inherent risks-personal and
effectively.	organizational-of technology applications, and they take actions to prevent or
	mitigate these risks.
Work productively in	Students positively contribute to every team, whether formal or informal. They
teams while using	apply an awareness of cultural difference to avoid barriers to productive and
cultural/global	positive interaction. They find ways to increase the engagement and contribution of
competence.	all team members. They plan and facilitate effective team meetings.

	Standards					
Standard #	Standard Description	Student Learning Objective	Clarification Statement			
MS-LS4-1.	Biological Evolution	Analyze and interpret data for patterns in the fossil record that document the existence, diversity, extinction, and change of life forms throughout the history of life on Earth under the assumption that natural laws operate today as in the past.	Emphasis is on finding patterns of changes in the level of complexity of anatomical structures in organisms and the chronological order of fossil appearance in the rock layers.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include the names of individual species or geological eras in the fossil record.]			

Version Update: August 2025 5

MS-LS4-2.	Biological Evolution	Apply scientific ideas to	Emphasis is on explanations
1112 22 . 2.		construct an explanation for	of the evolutionary
		<u> </u>	
		the anatomical similarities	relationships among
		and differences among	organisms in terms of
		modern organisms and	similarity or differences of
		between modern and fossil	the gross appearance of
		organisms to infer	anatomical structures.]
		evolutionary relationships.	
MS-LS4-3	Biological Evolution	. Analyze displays of	Emphasis is on inferring
		pictorial data to compare	general patterns of
		patterns of similarities in the	relatedness among embryos
		embryological development	of different organisms by
		across multiple species to	comparing the macroscopic
		identify relationships not	appearance of diagrams or
		evident in the fully formed	pictures.] [Assessment
		anatomy.	Boundary: Assessment of
		-	comparisons is limited to
			gross appearance of
			anatomical structures in
			embryological development.]

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Students with 504 plans

- Preferential seating
- Guided notes
- Extra time
- Teacher check-ins
- Use graphic organizers
- Redirect attention
- Prioritize tasks
- Small group testing
- Provide modifications & accommodations per individual student's 504 plan

Special Education

- Provide modifications & accommodations as listed in the student's IEP
- Position the student near a helping peer or have quick access to the teacher
- Modify or reduce assignments/tasks
- Reduce the length of the assignment for different modes of delivery
- Increase one-to-one time
- Prioritize tasks
- Use graphic organizers
- Use online resources for skill-building
- Provide teacher notes
- Use collaborative grouping strategies, such as small groups

• NJDOE resources - http://www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/

Response to Intervention (RTI)

- Tiered interventions following the RTI framework
- Effective RTI strategies for teachers http://www.specialeducationguide.com/pre-k-12/response-to-intervention/effective-rti-strategies-for-teachers/
- Intervention Central http://www.interventioncentral.org/

English Language Learners (ELL)

- Provide text-to-speech
- Use of a translation dictionary or software
- Provide graphic organizers
- NJDOE resources http://www.state.nj.us/education/aps/cccs/ELL.htm
- Adapt a Strategy Adjusting strategies for ESL students http://www.teachersfirst.com/content/esl/adaptstrat.cfm

Enrichment

- Process should be modified: higher order thinking skills, open-ended thinking, discovery
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Contents should be modified: real-world problems, audiences, deadlines, evaluations, transformations
- Learning environments should be modified: student-centered learning, independence, openness, complexity, and groups should be varied
- NJDOE resources

Califon Public School Curriculum



Subject:	Grade:	Unit #:	Pacing:
Science	8th	2	20 days

Unit Title: Selection and Adaptation

OVERVIEW OF UNIT:

In this unit, students construct explanations based on evidence to support fundamental understandings of natural selection and evolution. They will use ideas of genetic variation in a population to make sense of how organisms survive and reproduce, thus passing on the traits of the species.

Big Ideas

- Genetic variations of traits in a population increase or decrease some individuals' probability of surviving and reproducing in a specific environment.
- Natural selection leads to the predominance of certain traits in a population and the suppression of others
- Natural selection may have more than one cause, and some cause-and-effect relationships within natural selection can only be described using probability.
- Natural selection, which over generations leads to adaptations, is one important process through which species change over time in response to changes in environmental conditions.
- The distribution of traits in a population changes.
- Traits that support successful survival and reproduction in the new environment become more common; those that do not become less common.
- Natural selection may have more than one cause, and some cause-and-effect relationships in natural selection can only be described using probability.
- Mathematical representations can be used to support explanations of how natural selection may lead to increases and decreases of specific traits in populations over time.
- In artificial selection, humans have the capacity to influence certain characteristics of organisms by selective breeding.
- In artificial selection, humans choose desirable, genetically determined traits in to pass on to offspring.
- Phenomena, such as genetic outcomes in artificial selection, may have more than one cause, and some cause-and-effect relationships in systems can only be described using probability.
- Technologies have changed the way humans influence the inheritance of desired traits in organisms.
- Engineering advances have led to important discoveries in the field of selective breeding.
- Engineering advances in the field of selective breeding have led to the development of entire industries and engineered systems.
- Scientific discoveries have led to the development of entire industries and engineered systems.

Essential Questions

- How can changes to the genetic code increase or decrease an individual's chances of survival?
- How can the environment affect natural selection?
- Are Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) safe to eat?

Objectives

- Students will be able to determine how changes to the genetic code increase or decrease an individual's changes of survival.
- Students will be able to describe how the environment can affect natural selection.
- Students will be able to explain if Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) are safe to eat.

Assessment

Formative Assessment:

- Labs
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning
- Class Discussions

Summative Assessment:

- Multiple Choice Assessment
- Open Ended Response
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning

Benchmark:

• LinkIt Benchmark

Alternative:

- Performance Assessments
- Projects
- Models
- Modified Tests Independently Developed by Teacher

Key Vocabulary

Sexual reproduction, heredity, genetics, punnet square, dominant traits, recessive traits, alleles, phenotype, genotype

Resources & Materials

Stemscopes website & kits

- Print and digital copies of textbook
- Lab write-ups
- SEP simulations
- Content videos
- PhET Interactive Simulations
- Reading articles
- Math connections
- Pre-assembled Kits

Technology Infusion

Teacher Technology:

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- Stemscopes website
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Student Technology:

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Activities:

• Students will use Chromebooks to access the Stemscopes website to: activate prior knowledge, build schema, watch videos, complete labs, take assessments and collect data.

Standard	Standard Description
8.1.8.DA.1	Organize and transform data collected using computational tools to make it usable for
	a specific purpose.
8.2.8.ED.3	Develop a proposal for a solution to a real-world problem that includes a model (e.g.,
	physical prototype, graphical/technical sketch).

Interdisciplinary Integration

Activities:

- Students will be able to analyze data in order to create a scientific explanation.
- Students will be able to create a scientific explanation using evidence and reasoning from observation and informational text to support a scientific claim

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Standard	Standard Description
NJSLS-ELA AW	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using
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NJSLS-ELA	Write informative/explanatory texts (including the narration of historical events,
W.IW.8.2	scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes) to examine a topic and
	convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and
	analysis of relevant content.
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W.RW.8.7	metacognition/self-correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting
	or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

21st Century Life Skills Standards Activities:

• Students will work in groups to collaborate, at times taking leadership roles to communicate project ideas to the whole class.

Standard	Student Learning Objectives
9.4.8.GCA.2	Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions
	to achieve a group goal.
9.4.8.IML.4	Ask insightful questions to organize different types of data and create meaningful
	visualizations.

	Careers
Activities:	
Students will exp	lain the consequences of human movement and development on the Earth.
Practice	Description
Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.	Students understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies, understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization.
Act as a responsible and contributing community members and employee.	Students understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.	Students readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of the problem and carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution is agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through this when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing solutions. Their own actions or the actions of others.
Use technology to enhance productivity increase collaboration and communicate effectively.	Students find and maximize the productive value of existing and new technology to accomplish workplace tasks and solve workplace problems. They are flexible and adaptive in acquiring new technology. They are proficient with ubiquitous technology applications. They understand the inherent risks-personal and organizational-of technology applications, and they take actions to prevent or mitigate these risks.
Work productively in teams while using cultural/global competence.	Students positively contribute to every team, whether formal or informal. They apply an awareness of cultural difference to avoid barriers to productive and positive interaction. They find ways to increase the engagement and contribution of all team members. They plan and facilitate effective team meetings.

Standards			
Standard #	Standard Description	Student Learning Objective	Clarification Statement
MS-LS4-4.	Biological Evolution	Construct an explanation	Emphasis is on using simple
		based on evidence that	probability statements and
		describes how genetic	proportional
		variations of traits in a	

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		population increase some	reasoning to construct
		individuals' probability of	explanations.
		surviving and reproducing in	
		a specific environment.	
MS-LS4-5.	Biological Evolution	Gather and synthesize	Emphasis is on synthesizing
		information about the	information from reliable
		technologies that have	sources about the
		changed the way humans	influence of humans on
		influence the inheritance of	genetic outcomes in artificial
		desired traits in organisms.	selection (such as genetic
			modification, animal
			husbandry, gene therapy);
			and, on the impacts these
			technologies have on society
			as well as the
			technologies leading to these
			scientific discoveries.
MS-LS4-6.	Biological Evolution	Use mathematical	Emphasis is on using
		representations to support	mathematical models,
		explanations of how natural	probability statements, and
		selection may lead to	proportional reasoning to
		increases and decreases of	support explanations of
		specific traits in populations	trends in changes to
		over time.	populations over time.
			[Assessment Boundary:
			Assessment does not include
			Hardy Weinberg
			calculations.]

Differentiation

Students with 504 plans

- Preferential seating
- Guided notes
- Extra time
- Teacher check-ins
- Use graphic organizers
- Redirect attention
- Prioritize tasks
- Small group testing
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- Learning environments should be modified: student-centered learning, independence, openness, complexity, and groups should be varied
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Califon Public School Curriculum



Subject:	Grade:	Unit #:	Pacing:
Science	8th	3	30 days

Unit Title: Stability and Change on Earth

OVERVIEW OF UNIT:

Why aren't minerals and groundwater distributed evenly across the world? Students construct an understanding of the ways that human activities affect Earth's systems. Students use practices to understand the significant and complex issues surrounding human uses of land, energy, mineral, and water resources and the resulting impacts on the development of these resources. Students also understand that the distribution of these resources is uneven due to past and current geosciences processes or removal by humans.

Big Ideas

- Humans depend on Earth's land, ocean, atmosphere, and biosphere for many different resources.
- All human activities draw on Earth's land, ocean, atmosphere, and biosphere resources and have both short and long-term consequences, positive as well as negative, for the health of people and the natural environment.
- Minerals, fresh water, and biosphere resources are distributed unevenly around the planet as a result of past geologic processes.
- Cause-and-effect relationships may be used to explain how uneven distributions of Earth's mineral, energy, and groundwater resources have resulted from past and current geosciences processes.
- Resources that are unevenly distributed as a result of past processes include but are not limited to petroleum, metal ores, and soil.
- Mineral, fresh water, ocean, biosphere, and atmosphere resources are limited, and many are not renewable or replaceable over human lifetimes.
- The distribution of some of Earth's land, ocean, atmosphere, and biosphere resources are changing significantly due to removal by humans.
- Natural hazards can be the result of interior processes, surface processes, or severe weather events.
- Some natural hazards, such as volcanic eruptions and severe weather, are preceded by phenomena that allow for reliable predictions, but others, such as earthquakes, occur suddenly and with no notice, and thus are not yet predictable.
- Mapping the history of natural hazards in a region, combined with an understanding of related geologic forces, can help forecast the locations and likelihoods of future events.
- Data on natural hazards can be used to forecast future catastrophic events and inform the development of technologies to mitigate their effects.
- Data on natural hazards can include the locations, magnitudes, and frequencies of the natural hazards.
- Graphs, charts, and images can be used to identify patterns of natural hazards in a region.

- Graphs, charts, and images can be used to understand patterns of geologic forces that can help forecast the locations and likelihoods of future events.
- Technologies that can be used to mitigate the effects of natural hazards can be global or local.
- Technologies used to mitigate the effects of natural hazards vary from region to region and over time.

Essential Questions

- Why aren't minerals and groundwater distributed evenly across the world?
- How can we predict and prepare for natural disasters?
- How might we treat resources if we thought about the Earth as a spaceship on an extended survey of the solar system? (How would astronauts manage their resources?)
- How can basic chemistry be used to explain the mechanisms that control the global temperature the atmosphere?

Objectives

- Students will be able to infer why minerals and groundwater are not distributed evenly across the world.
- Students will be able to predict and prepare for natural disasters.
- Students will be able to determine how we might treat resources if we thought about the Earth as a spaceship on an extended survey of the solar system.
- Students will be able to describe how basic chemistry can be used to explain the mechanisms that control the global temperature of the atmosphere.

Ass	essm	ent
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Formative Assessment:

- Labs
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning
- Class Discussions

Alternative:

Benchmark:

Performance Assessments

• LinkIt Benchmark

- Projects
- Models
- Modified Tests Independently Developed by Teacher

Summative Assessment:

- Multiple Choice Assessment
- Open Ended Response
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning

Key Vocabulary

Natural resources, renewable, nonrenewable, consumption, distribution

Resources & Materials

Stemscopes website & kits

- Print and digital copies of textbook
- Lab write-ups
- SEP simulations
- Content videos
- PhET Interactive Simulations

- Reading articles
- Math connections
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- Promethean Board

Student Technology:

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Activities:

• Students will use Chromebooks to access the Stemscopes website to: activate prior knowledge, build schema, watch videos, complete labs, take assessments and collect data.

Standard	Standard Description	
8.1.8.DA.1	Organize and transform data collected using computational tools to make it usable for	
	a specific purpose.	
8.2.8.ED.3	Develop a proposal for a solution to a real-world problem that includes a model (e.g.,	
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Interdisciplinary Integration

Activities:

- Students will be able to analyze data in order to create a scientific explanation.
- Students will be able to create a scientific explanation using evidence and reasoning from observation and informational text to support a scientific claim

Standard	Standard Description	
NJSLS-ELA AW	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using	
	valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.	
NJSLS-ELA	Write arguments on discipline-specific content (e.g., social studies, science, math,	
W.AW.8.1	technical subjects, English/Language Arts) to support claims with clear reasons and	
	relevant evidence.	
NJSLS-ELA	Write informative/explanatory texts (including the narration of historical events,	
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	convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and	
	analysis of relevant content.	
NJSLS-ELA	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection,	
W.RW.8.7	metacognition/self-correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting	
	or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.	

21st Century Life Skills Standards Activities: Students will work in groups to collaborate, at times taking leadership roles to communicate project ideas to the whole class. Standard Student Learning Objectives 9.4.8.GCA.2 Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions to achieve a group goal. 9.4.8.IML.4 Ask insightful questions to organize different types of data and create meaningful visualizations.

	Careers
Activities:	
Students will exp	lain the consequences of human movement and development on the Earth.
Practice	Description
Consider the	Students understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make
environmental, social	decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people,
and economic impacts	organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies,
of decisions.	understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their
	work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the
	profitability of the organization.
Act as a responsible	Students understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a
and contributing	community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their
community members	interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on
and employee.	others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and
	long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to
	the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are
	reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in
	participating in activities that serve the greater good.
Utilize critical thinking	Students readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the
to make sense of	problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of the
problems and persevere	problem and carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution is
in solving them.	agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through
	this when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they
	thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing
	solutions. Their own actions or the actions of others.
Use technology to	Students find and maximize the productive value of existing and new technology to
enhance productivity	accomplish workplace tasks and solve workplace problems. They are flexible and
increase collaboration	adaptive in acquiring new technology. They are proficient with ubiquitous
and communicate	technology applications. They understand the inherent risks-personal and
effectively.	organizational-of technology applications, and they take actions to prevent or
	mitigate these risks.
Work productively in	Students positively contribute to every team, whether formal or informal. They
teams while using	apply an awareness of cultural difference to avoid barriers to productive and

cultural/global	positive interaction. They find ways to increase the engagement and contribution of
competence.	all team members. They plan and facilitate effective team meetings.

	Standards			
Standard #	Standard Description	Student Learning Objective	Clarification Statement	
MS-ESS3-1	Earth and Human Activity	Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how the uneven distributions of Earth's mineral, energy, and groundwater resources are the result of past and current geoscience processes.	Emphasis is on how these resources are limited and typically nonrenewable, and how their distributions are significantly changing as a result of removal by humans. Examples of uneven distributions of resources as a result of past processes include but are not limited to petroleum (locations of the burial of organic marine sediments and subsequent geologic traps), metal ores (locations of past volcanic and hydrothermal activity associated with subduction zones), and soil (locations of active weathering and/or deposition of	
MS-ESS3-2	Earth and Human Activity	Analyze and interpret data on natural hazards to forecast future catastrophic events and inform the development of technologies to mitigate their effects.	rock). Emphasis is on how some natural hazards, such as volcanic eruptions and severe weather, are preceded by phenomena that allow for reliable predictions, but others, such as earthquakes, occur suddenly and with no notice, and thus are not yet predictable. Examples of natural hazards can be taken from interior processes (such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions), surface processes (such as mass wasting and tsunamis), or	

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			severe weather events (such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods). Examples of data can include the locations, magnitudes, and frequencies of the natural hazards. Examples of technologies can be global (such as satellite systems to monitor hurricanes or forest fires) or local (such as building basements in tornado-prone regions or reservoirs to mitigate droughts).
MS-ESS3-4	Earth and Human Activity	Construct an argument supported by evidence for how increases in human population and per-capita consumption of natural resources impact Earth's systems.	Examples of evidence include grade-appropriate databases on human populations and the rates of consumption of food and natural resources (such as freshwater, mineral, and energy). Examples of impacts can include changes to the appearance, composition, and structure of Earth's systems as well as the rates at which they change. The consequences of increases in human populations and consumption of natural resources are described by science, but science does not make the decisions for the actions society takes.
MS-ESS3-5	Earth and Human Activity	Ask questions to clarify evidence of the factors that have caused the rise in global temperatures over the past century.	Examples of factors include human activities (such as fossil fuel combustion, cement production, and agricultural activity) and natural processes (such as changes in

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	incoming solar radiation or
	volcanic activity). Examples of
	evidence can include tables,
	graphs, and
	maps of global and regional
	temperatures, atmospheric
	levels of gases such as carbon
	dioxide and
	methane, and the rates of
	human activities. Emphasis is
	on the major role that human
	activities play in
	causing the rise in global
	temperatures.

Differentiation

Students with 504 plans

- Preferential seating
- Guided notes
- Extra time
- Teacher check-ins
- Use graphic organizers
- Redirect attention
- Prioritize tasks
- Small group testing
- Provide modifications & accommodations per individual student's 504 plan

Special Education

- Provide modifications & accommodations as listed in the student's IEP
- Position the student near a helping peer or have quick access to the teacher
- Modify or reduce assignments/tasks
- Reduce the length of the assignment for different modes of delivery
- Increase one-to-one time
- Prioritize tasks
- Use graphic organizers
- Use online resources for skill-building
- Provide teacher notes
- Use collaborative grouping strategies, such as small groups
- NJDOE resources http://www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/

Response to Intervention (RTI)

- Tiered interventions following the RTI framework
- Effective RTI strategies for teachers http://www.specialeducationguide.com/pre-k-12/response-to-intervention/effective-rti-strategies-for-teachers/

• Intervention Central - http://www.interventioncentral.org/

English Language Learners (ELL)

- Provide text-to-speech
- Use of a translation dictionary or software
- Provide graphic organizers
- NJDOE resources http://www.state.nj.us/education/aps/cccs/ELL.htm
- Adapt a Strategy Adjusting strategies for ESL students http://www.teachersfirst.com/content/esl/adaptstrat.cfm

Enrichment

- Process should be modified: higher order thinking skills, open-ended thinking, discovery
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Contents should be modified: real-world problems, audiences, deadlines, evaluations, transformations
- Learning environments should be modified: student-centered learning, independence, openness, complexity, and groups should be varied
- NJDOE resources

Califon Public School Curriculum



Subject:	Grade:	Unit #:	Pacing:
Science	8th	4	25 days

Unit Title: Human Impacts on Earth Systems and Global Climate Change

OVERVIEW OF UNIT:

In this unit of study, students analyze and interpret data and design solutions to build on their understanding of the ways that human activities affect Earth's systems. The emphasis of this unit is the significant and complex issues surrounding human uses of land, energy, minerals, and water resources and the resulting impacts of these uses. The crosscutting concepts of cause and effect and the influence of science, engineering, and technology on society and the natural world are called out as organizing concepts for these disciplinary core ideas.

Building on Unit 3, students define a problem by precisely specifying criteria and constraints for solutions as well as potential impacts on society and the natural environment; systematically evaluate alternative solutions; analyze data from tests of different solutions; combining the best ideas into an improved solution; and develop and iteratively test and improve their model to reach an optimal solution. In this unit of study students are expected to demonstrate proficiency in analyzing and interpreting data and designing solutions. Students are also expected to use these practices to demonstrate understanding of the core ideas. This unit is based on MS-ESS3-3, MS-ETS1-1, MS-ETS1-2, and MS-ETS1-3.

Big Ideas

- Human activities have significantly altered the biosphere, sometimes damaging or destroying natural habitats and causing the extinction of other species.
- Changes to Earth's environments can have different impacts (negative and positive) for different living things.
- Typically as human populations and per capita consumption of natural resources increase, so do the negative impacts on Earth, unless the activities and technologies involved are engineered otherwise.
- Relationships can be classified as causal or correlational, and correlation does not necessarily imply causation.
- The uses of technologies and any limitations on their use are driven by individual or societal needs, desires, and values; by the findings of scientific research; and by differences in such factors as climate, natural resources, and economic conditions. Thus technology use varies from region to region and over time.

Essential Questions

• How do we monitor the health of the environment (our life support system)?

Objectives

• Students will be able to determine how we monitor the health of the environment.

Assessment		
Formative Assessment:	Benchmark:	
• Labs	 LinkIt Benchmark 	
Claim-Evidence- Reasoning		
 Class Discussions 	Alternative:	
	 Performance Assessments 	
Summative Assessment:	Projects	
 Multiple Choice Assessment 	 Models 	
Open Ended Response	 Modified Tests Independently Developed by 	
Claim-Evidence- Reasoning	Teacher	

Key Vocabulary

Renewable resources, nonrenewable resources, biosphere, greenhouse effect, population, aquifers, development, pollution, recycling, conservation

Resources & Materials

Stemscopes website & kits

- Print and digital copies of textbook
- Lab write-ups
- SEP simulations
- Content videos
- PhET Interactive Simulations
- Reading articles
- Math connections
- Pre-assembled Kits

Technology Infusion

Teacher Technology:

- Chromebooks
- Stemscopes website
- Promethean Board

Student Technology:

- Chromebooks
- Stemscopes website

Activities:

• Students will use Chromebooks to access the Stemscopes website to: activate prior knowledge, build schema, watch videos, complete labs, take assessments and collect data.

Standard	Standard Description
8.1.8.DA.1	Organize and transform data collected using computational tools to make it usable for
	a specific purpose.

8.2.8.ED.3	Develop a proposal for a solution to a real-world problem that includes a model (e.g.,
	physical prototype, graphical/technical sketch).

Interdisciplinary Integration	
Activities:	
• Students will be	e able to analyze data in order to create a scientific explanation.
• Students will be	e able to create a scientific explanation using evidence and reasoning from observation
and information	al text to support a scientific claim
Standard	Standard Description
NJSLS-ELA AW	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using
	valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
NJSLS-ELA	Write arguments on discipline-specific content (e.g., social studies, science, math,
W.AW.8.1	technical subjects, English/Language Arts) to support claims with clear reasons and
	relevant evidence.
NJSLS-ELA	Write informative/explanatory texts (including the narration of historical events,
W.IW.8.2	scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes) to examine a topic and
	convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and
	analysis of relevant content.
NJSLS-ELA	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection,
W.RW.8.7	metacognition/self-correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting
	or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Activities: • Students will work in groups to collaborate, at times taking leadership roles to communicate project ideas to the whole class. Standard Student Learning Objectives 9.4.8.GCA.2 Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions to achieve a group goal. 9.4.8.IML.4 Ask insightful questions to organize different types of data and create meaningful visualizations.

Careers		
Activities:		
 Students will exp 	lain the consequences of human movement and development on the Earth.	
Practice	Description	
Consider the	Students understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make	
environmental, social	decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people,	
and economic impacts	organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies,	
of decisions.	understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their	
	work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the	
	profitability of the organization.	

Act as a responsible and contributing community members and employee. Students understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community members and employee. others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Students readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem and carefully consider the options to solve the problem. They are aware of the problem and carefully consider the options to solve the problem is solved, whether through this when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing solutions. Their own actions or the actions of others. Use technology to enhance productivity in accurate the productive value of existing and new technology to accomplish workplace tasks and solve workplace problems. They are flexible and adaptive in acquiring new technology. They are proficient with ubiquitous technology applica		
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	competence.	all team members. They plan and facilitate effective team meetings.

	Standards		
Standard #	Standard Description	Student Learning Objective	Clarification Statement
MS-ESS3-3	Earth and Human Activity	Apply scientific principles to	Examples of the design process
		design a method for monitoring	include examining human
		and minimizing a human impact	environmental
		on the environment.	impacts, assessing the kinds of
			solutions that are feasible, and
			designing and evaluating
			solutions that
			could reduce that impact.
			Examples of human impacts
			can include water usage (such
			as the
			withdrawal of water from
			streams and aquifers or the
			construction of dams and
			levees), land usage

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			(such as urban development,
			agriculture, or the removal of
			wetlands), and pollution (such
			as of the
			air, water, or land).
MS-ETS1-1	Engineering Design	Define the criteria and	N/A
		constraints of a design problem	
		with sufficient precision to	
		ensure a successful solution,	
		taking into account relevant	
		scientific principles and	
		potential impacts on people and	
		the natural environment that	
		may limit possible solutions.	
MS-ETS1-2	Engineering Design	Evaluate competing design	N/A
		solutions using a systematic	
		process to determine how well	
		they meet the criteria and	
		constraints of the problem.	
MS-ETS1-3	Engineering Design	Analyze data from tests to	N/A
		determine similarities and	
		differences among several	
		design solutions to identify the	
		best characteristics of each that	
		can be combined into a new	
		solution to better meet the	
		criteria for success.	

Differentiation

Students with 504 plans

- Preferential seating
- Guided notes
- Extra time
- Teacher check-ins
- Use graphic organizers
- Redirect attention
- Prioritize tasks
- Small group testing
- Provide modifications & accommodations per individual student's 504 plan

Special Education

- Provide modifications & accommodations as listed in the student's IEP
- Position the student near a helping peer or have quick access to the teacher
- Modify or reduce assignments/tasks

- Reduce the length of the assignment for different modes of delivery
- Increase one-to-one time
- Prioritize tasks
- Use graphic organizers
- Use online resources for skill-building
- Provide teacher notes
- Use collaborative grouping strategies, such as small groups
- NJDOE resources http://www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/

Response to Intervention (RTI)

- Tiered interventions following the RTI framework
- Effective RTI strategies for teachers http://www.specialeducationguide.com/pre-k-12/response-to-intervention/effective-rti-strategies-for-teachers/
- Intervention Central http://www.interventioncentral.org/

English Language Learners (ELL)

- Provide text-to-speech
- Use of a translation dictionary or software
- Provide graphic organizers
- NJDOE resources http://www.state.nj.us/education/aps/cccs/ELL.htm
- Adapt a Strategy Adjusting strategies for ESL students http://www.teachersfirst.com/content/esl/adaptstrat.cfm

Enrichment

- Process should be modified: higher order thinking skills, open-ended thinking, discovery
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Contents should be modified: real-world problems, audiences, deadlines, evaluations, transformations
- Learning environments should be modified: student-centered learning, independence, openness, complexity, and groups should be varied
- NJDOE resources

Califon Public Scho



Califon Public School Curriculum

Subject:	Grade:	Unit #:	Pacing:
Science	8th	5	20 days

Unit Title: Relationships Among Forms of Energy

OVERVIEW OF UNIT:

How can physics explain sports?

Version Update: August 2025

In this unit, students use the practices of analyzing and interpreting data, developing and using models, and engaging in argument from evidence to make sense of relationship between energy and forces. Students develop their understanding of important qualitative ideas about the conservation of energy. Students understand that objects that are moving have kinetic energy and that objects may also contain stored (potential) energy, depending on their relative positions. Students also understand the difference between energy and temperature, and the relationship between forces and energy.

Big Ideas

- Kinetic energy is related to the mass of an object and to the speed of an object.
- Kinetic energy has a relationship to mass separate from its relationship to speed.
- Motion energy is properly called kinetic energy; it is proportional to the mass of the moving object and grows with the square of the object's speed.
- Proportional relationships among different types of quantities provide information about the magnitude of properties and processes.
- When the arrangement of objects interacting at a distance changes, different amounts of potential energy are stored in the system.
- A system of objects may contain stored (potential) energy, depending on the objects' relative positions.
- When two objects interact, each one exerts a force on the other that can cause energy to be transferred to or from the objects.
- Models that could include representations, diagrams, pictures, and written descriptions of systems can be used to represent systems and their interactions, such as inputs, processes, and outputs, and energy and matter flows within systems.
- When the kinetic energy of an object changes, energy is transferred to or from the object.
- When the motion energy of an object changes, there is inevitably some other change in energy at the same time.
- Kinetic energy may take different forms (e.g., energy in fields, thermal energy, energy of motion).

Essential Questions

- Is it better to have an aluminum (baseball/softball) bat or a wooden bat?
- Who can design the best roller coaster?

Objectives

- Students will be able to distinguish if its better to have an aluminum bat or a wooden bat.
- Students will be able to determine the aspects of a functioning roller coaster

Assessment

Formative Assessment:

- Labs
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning
- Class Discussions

Alternative:

Benchmark:

• Performance Assessments

• LinkIt Benchmark

- Projects
- Models
- Modified Tests Independently Developed by Teacher

Summative Assessment:

- Multiple Choice Assessment
- Open Ended Response
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning

Key Vocabulary

Kinetic energy, potential energy, thermal energy, momentum, speed, mass

Resources & Materials

Stemscopes website & kits

- Print and digital copies of textbook
- Lab write-ups
- SEP simulations
- Content videos
- PhET Interactive Simulations
- Reading articles
- Math connections
- Pre-assembled Kits

Technology Infusion

Teacher Technology:

- Chromebooks
- Stemscopes website
- Promethean Board

Student Technology:

- Chromebooks
- Stemscopes website

Activities:

• Students will use Chromebooks to access the Stemscopes website to: activate prior knowledge, build schema, watch videos, complete labs, take assessments and collect data.

Standard Standard Description

8.1.8.DA.1	Organize and transform data collected using computational tools to make it usable for
	a specific purpose.
8.2.8.ED.3	Develop a proposal for a solution to a real-world problem that includes a model (e.g.,
	physical prototype, graphical/technical sketch).

Interdisciplinary Integration		
Activities:		
• Students will be	e able to analyze data in order to create a scientific explanation.	
• Students will be	e able to create a scientific explanation using evidence and reasoning from observation	
and information	nal text to support a scientific claim	
Standard	Standard Description	
NJSLS-ELA AW	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using	
	valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.	
NJSLS-ELA	Write arguments on discipline-specific content (e.g., social studies, science, math,	
W.AW.8.1	technical subjects, English/Language Arts) to support claims with clear reasons and	
	relevant evidence.	
NJSLS-ELA	Write informative/explanatory texts (including the narration of historical events,	
W.IW.8.2	scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes) to examine a topic and	
	convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and	
	analysis of relevant content.	
NJSLS-ELA	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection,	
W.RW.8.7	metacognition/self-correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting	
	or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.	

21st Century Life Skills Standards				
Activities:				
 Students will w 	ork in groups to collaborate, at times taking leadership roles to communicate project			
ideas to the who	ideas to the whole class.			
Standard	Student Learning Objectives			
9.4.8.GCA.2	Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions			
	to achieve a group goal.			
9.4.8.IML.4	Ask insightful questions to organize different types of data and create meaningful			
	visualizations.			

Careers				
Activities:				
Students will create scientific explanations to describe observable phenomena in order to				
communicate finding	communicate findings.			
Practice	Description			
Consider the	Students understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make			
environmental, social	decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people,			
and economic impacts	organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies,			
of decisions.	understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their			

work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization. Act as a responsible and contributing community members and employee. Students understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good. Utilize critical thinking Students readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the
Act as a responsible and contributing community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
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Utilize critical thinking Students readily recognize problems in the workplace understand the nature of the
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to make sense of problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of the
problems and persevere problem and carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution
in solving them. agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through
this when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they
thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing
solutions. Their own actions or the actions of others.
Use technology to Students find and maximize the productive value of existing and new technology
enhance productivity accomplish workplace tasks and solve workplace problems. They are flexible and
increase collaboration adaptive in acquiring new technology. They are proficient with ubiquitous
and communicate technology applications. They understand the inherent risks-personal and
effectively. organizational-of technology applications, and they take actions to prevent or
mitigate these risks.
Work productively in Students positively contribute to every team, whether formal or informal. They
teams while using apply an awareness of cultural difference to avoid barriers to productive and
cultural/global positive interaction. They find ways to increase the engagement and contribution
competence. all team members. They plan and facilitate effective team meetings.

	Standards				
Standard #	Standard Description	Student Learning Objective	Clarification Statement		
MS-PS3-1	Energy	Construct and interpret	Emphasis is on descriptive		
		graphical displays of data to	relationships between kinetic		
		describe the relationships of	energy and mass separately		
		kinetic energy to the mass of	from kinetic energy and		
		an object and to the speed of	speed. Examples could		
		an object.	include riding a bicycle at		
			different speeds, rolling		
			different sizes of rocks		
			downhill, and getting hit by a		
			wiffle ball versus a tennis		
			ball.		
MS-PS3-2	Energy	Develop a model to describe	Emphasis is on relative		
		that when the arrangement of	amounts of potential energy,		

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		objects interacting at a	not on calculations of
		distance changes, different	potential energy. Examples of
		amounts of potential energy	objects within systems
		are stored in the system.	interacting at varying
			distances could include: the
			Earth and either a roller
			coaster cart at varying
			positions on a hill or objects
			at varying heights on shelves,
			changing the
			direction/orientation of a
			magnet, and a balloon with
			static electrical charge being
			brought closer to a
			classmate's hair. Examples of
			models could include
			representations, diagrams,
			pictures, and written
			descriptions of systems.
			[Assessment Boundary:
			Assessment is limited to two
			objects and electric,
			magnetic, and gravitational
			interactions.]
MS-PS3-5	Energy	Construct, use, and present	Examples of empirical
		arguments to support the	evidence used in arguments
		claim that when the kinetic	could include an inventory or
		energy of an object changes,	other representation of the
		energy is transferred to or	energy before and after the
		from the object.	transfer in the form of
			temperature changes or
			motion of object.
			[Assessment Boundary:
			Assessment does not include
			calculations of energy.]
	•	•	

Differentiation

Students with 504 plans

- Preferential seating
- Guided notes
- Extra time
- Teacher check-ins
- Use graphic organizers
- Redirect attention

- Prioritize tasks
- Small group testing
- Provide modifications & accommodations per individual student's 504 plan

Special Education

- Provide modifications & accommodations as listed in the student's IEP
- Position the student near a helping peer or have quick access to the teacher
- Modify or reduce assignments/tasks
- Reduce the length of the assignment for different modes of delivery
- Increase one-to-one time
- Prioritize tasks
- Use graphic organizers
- Use online resources for skill-building
- Provide teacher notes
- Use collaborative grouping strategies, such as small groups
- NJDOE resources http://www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/

Response to Intervention (RTI)

- Tiered interventions following the RTI framework
- Effective RTI strategies for teachers http://www.specialeducationguide.com/pre-k-12/response-to-intervention/effective-rti-strategies-for-teachers/
- Intervention Central http://www.interventioncentral.org/

English Language Learners (ELL)

- Provide text-to-speech
- Use of a translation dictionary or software
- Provide graphic organizers
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Enrichment

- Process should be modified: higher order thinking skills, open-ended thinking, discovery
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge
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- Contents should be modified: real-world problems, audiences, deadlines, evaluations, transformations
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Califon Public School Curriculum



Subject:	Grade:	Unit #:	Pacing:
Science	8th	6	30 days

Unit Title: Thermal Energy

OVERVIEW OF UNIT:

How can a standard thermometer be used to tell you how particles are behaving? In this unit, students ask questions, plan and carry out investigations, engage in argument from evidence, analyze and interpret data, construct explanations, define problems and design solutions as they make sense of the difference between energy and temperature. They use the practices to make sense of how the total change of energy in any system is always equal to the total energy transferred into or out of the system.

Big Ideas

- There are relationships among the energy transferred, the type of matter, the mass, and the change in the average kinetic energy of particles as measured by the temperature of the sample.
- Temperature is a measure of the average kinetic energy of particles of matter.
- The relationship between the temperature and the total energy of a system depends on the types, states, and amounts of matter present.
- The amount of energy transfer needed to change the temperature of a matter sample by a given amount depends on the nature of the matter, the size of the sample, and the environment.
- Proportional relationships among the amount of energy transferred, the mass, and the change in the average kinetic energy of particles as measured by temperature of the sample provide information about the magnitude of properties and processes.
- . Temperature is a measure of the average kinetic energy of particles of matter.
- The relationship between the temperature and the total energy of a system depends on the types, states, and amounts of matter present.
- Energy is spontaneously transferred out of hotter regions or objects and into colder ones.
- The transfer of energy can be tracked as energy flows through a designed or natural system.
- The more precisely a design task's criteria and constraints can be defined, the more likely it is that the designed solution will be successful.
- Specification of constraints includes consideration of scientific principles and other relevant knowledge that is likely to limit possible solutions.
- A solution needs to be tested and then modified on the basis of the test results in order to improve it.
- There are systematic processes for evaluating solutions with respect to how well they meet criteria and constraints of a problem.

Essential Questions

How can a standard thermometer be used to tell you how particles are behaving?

• You are an engineer working for NASA. In preparation for a manned space mission to the Moon, you are tasked with designing, constructing, and testing a device that will keep a hot beverage hot for the longest period of time. It costs approximately \$10,000 per pound to take payload into orbit so the devise must be lightweight and compact. The lack of atmosphere on the Moon produces temperature extremes that range from -157 degrees C in the dark to +121 degrees C in the light.

Objectives

- Students will be able to determine how a standard thermometer can be used to tell you how particles are behaving.
- Students will be able to design, construct, and test a device in preparation for a manned space mission to the Moon.

Formative Assessment: Benc

- Labs
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning
- Class Discussions

Summative Assessment:

- Multiple Choice Assessment
- Open Ended Response
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning

Benchmark:

• LinkIt Benchmark

Alternative:

- Performance Assessments
- Projects
- Models
- Modified Tests Independently Developed by Teacher

Key Vocabulary

Kinetic energy, potential energy, thermal energy, energy transfer, expansion, contraction, conduction, convection, radiation,

Resources & Materials

Stemscopes website & kits

- Print and digital copies of textbook
- Lab write-ups
- SEP simulations
- Content videos
- PhET Interactive Simulations
- Reading articles
- Math connections
- Pre-assembled Kits

Technology Infusion

Teacher Technology:

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- Stemscopes website
- Promethean Board

Student Technology:

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Activities:

• Students will use Chromebooks to access the Stemscopes website to: activate prior knowledge, build schema, watch videos, complete labs, take assessments and collect data.

Standard	Standard Description	
8.1.8.DA.1	Organize and transform data collected using computational tools to make it usable for	
	a specific purpose.	
8.2.8.ED.3	Develop a proposal for a solution to a real-world problem that includes a model (e.g.,	
	physical prototype, graphical/technical sketch).	

Interdisciplinary Integration

Activities:

- Students will be able to analyze data in order to create a scientific explanation.
- Students will be able to create a scientific explanation using evidence and reasoning from observation and informational text to support a scientific claim

and informational text to support a selectative claim			
Standard	Standard Description		
NJSLS-ELA AW	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using		
	valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.		
NJSLS-ELA	Write arguments on discipline-specific content (e.g., social studies, science, math,		
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	relevant evidence.		
NJSLS-ELA	Write informative/explanatory texts (including the narration of historical events,		
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	convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and		
	analysis of relevant content.		
NJSLS-ELA	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection,		
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	or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.		

21st Century Life Skills Standards

Activities:

• Students will work in groups to collaborate, at times taking leadership roles to communicate project ideas to the whole class.

Standard	Student Learning Objectives		
9.4.8.GCA.2	Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions		
	to achieve a group goal.		
9.4.8.IML.4	Ask insightful questions to organize different types of data and create meaningful		
	visualizations.		

Careers

Activities:

• Students will create scientific explanations to describe observable phenomena in order to communicate findings.

Dua stia a		
Practice	Description	
Consider the	Students understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make	
environmental, social	decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people,	
and economic impacts	organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies,	
of decisions.	understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their	
	work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the	
	profitability of the organization.	
Act as a responsible	Students understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a	
and contributing	community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their	
community members	interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on	
and employee.	others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and	
	long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to	
	the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable	
	and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in	
	activities that serve the greater good.	
Utilize critical thinking	Students readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the	
to make sense of	problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of the	
problems and persevere	problem and carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution is	
in solving them.	agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through	
	this when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they	
	thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing solutions.	
	Their own actions or the actions of others.	
Use technology to	Students find and maximize the productive value of existing and new technology to	
enhance productivity	accomplish workplace tasks and solve workplace problems. They are flexible and	
increase collaboration	adaptive in acquiring new technology. They are proficient with ubiquitous	
and communicate	technology applications. They understand the inherent risks-personal and	
effectively.	organizational-of technology applications, and they take actions to prevent or	
	mitigate these risks.	
Work productively in	Students positively contribute to every team, whether formal or informal. They	
teams while using	apply an awareness of cultural difference to avoid barriers to productive and	
cultural/global	positive interaction. They find ways to increase the engagement and contribution of	
competence.	all team members. They plan and facilitate effective team meetings.	

Standards			
Standard #	Standard Description	Student Learning Objective	Clarification Statement
MS-PS3-3	Energy	Apply scientific principles to	Examples of devices could
		design, construct, and test a	include an insulated box, a
		device that either minimizes	solar cooker, and a

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		or maximizes thermal energy transfer.	Styrofoam cup. [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include calculating the total amount of thermal energy transferred.]
MS-PS3-4	Energy	Plan an investigation to determine the relationships among the energy transferred, the type of matter, the mass, and the change in the average kinetic energy of the particles as measured by the temperature of the sample.	Examples of experiments could include comparing final water temperatures after different masses of ice melted in the same volume of water with the same initial temperature, the temperature change of samples of different materials with the same mass as they cool or heat in the environment, or the same material with different masses when a specific amount of energy is added.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include calculating the total amount of thermal energy transferred.]
MS-ETS1-1	Engineering Design	Define the criteria and constraints of a design problem with sufficient precision to ensure a successful solution, taking into account relevant scientific principles and potential impacts on people and the natural environment that may limit possible solutions.	N/A
MS-ETS1-2	Engineering Design	Evaluate competing design solutions using a systematic process to determine how well they meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.	N/A
MS-ETS1-3	Engineering Design	Analyze data from tests to determine similarities and differences among several	N/A

		design solutions to identify	
		the best characteristics of	
		each that can be combined	
		into a new solution to better	
		meet the criteria for success.	
MS-ETS1-4	Engineering Design	Develop a model to generate	N/A
		data for iterative testing and	
		modification of a proposed	
		object, tool, or process such	
		that an optimal design can be	
		achieved.	

Differentiation

Students with 504 plans

- Preferential seating
- Guided notes
- Extra time
- Teacher check-ins
- Use graphic organizers
- Redirect attention
- Prioritize tasks
- Small group testing
- Provide modifications & accommodations per individual student's 504 plan

Special Education

- Provide modifications & accommodations as listed in the student's IEP
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- Reduce the length of the assignment for different modes of delivery
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English Language Learners (ELL)

• Provide text-to-speech

- Use of a translation dictionary or software
- Provide graphic organizers
- NJDOE resources http://www.state.nj.us/education/aps/cccs/ELL.htm
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Enrichment

- Process should be modified: higher order thinking skills, open-ended thinking, discovery
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Califon Public School Curriculum



Subject:	Grade:	Unit #:	Pacing:
Science	8th	7	20 days

Unit Title: The Electromagnetic Spectrum

OVERVIEW OF UNIT:

In this unit of study, students develop and use models, use mathematical thinking, and obtain, evaluate, and communicate information in order to describe and predict characteristic properties and behaviors of waves. Students also apply their understanding of waves as a means of sending digital information.

Big Ideas

- A simple wave has a repeating pattern with a specific wavelength, frequency, and amplitude.
- Describe a simple model for waves that includes how the amplitude of a wave is related to the energy in a wave.
- Graphs and charts can be used to identify patterns in data.
- Waves can be described with both qualitative and quantitative thinking.
- When light shines on an object, it is reflected, absorbed, or transmitted through the object, depending on the object's material and the frequency (color) of the light.
- The path that light travels can be traced as straight lines, except at surfaces between different transparent materials (e.g., air and water, air and glass) where the light path bends.
- A wave model of light is useful for explaining brightness, color, and the frequency-dependent bending of light at a surface between media.
- Waves are reflected, absorbed, or transmitted through various materials.
- A sound wave needs a medium through which it is transmitted.
- Because light can travel through space, it cannot be a matter wave, like sound or water waves.
- The structure of a wave can be modified to serve particular functions by taking into account properties of different materials and how materials can be shaped and used.
- Structures can be designed to use properties of waves to serve particular functions.
- Waves can be used for communication purposes.
- Digitized signals (sent as wave pulses) are a more reliable way to encode and transmit information than are analog signals.
- Wave-related technologies extend the measurement, exploration, modeling, and computational capacity of scientific investigations.

Essential Questions

- How do the light and sound systems in the auditorium work?
- If rotary phones worked for my grandparents, why did they invent cell phones?

Objectives

- Students will be able to determine how the light and sound systems in the auditorium work
- Students will be able to describe how digitized signals transmit information.

Assessment

Formative Assessment:

- Labs
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning
- Class Discussions

Summative Assessment:

- Multiple Choice Assessment
- Open Ended Response
- Claim-Evidence- Reasoning

Benchmark:

• LinkIt Benchmark

Alternative:

- Performance Assessments
- Projects
- Models
- Modified Tests Independently Developed by Teacher

Key Vocabulary

Waves, wave pulses, amplitude, frequency, wavelength, reflection

Resources & Materials

Stemscopes website & kits

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Activities:

• Students will use Chromebooks to access the Stemscopes website to: activate prior knowledge, build schema, watch videos, complete labs, take assessments and collect data.

Standard Standard Description

8.1.8.DA.1	Organize and transform data collected using computational tools to make it usable fo	
	a specific purpose.	
8.2.8.ED.3	Develop a proposal for a solution to a real-world problem that includes a model (e.g.,	
	physical prototype, graphical/technical sketch).	

Interdisciplinary Integration			
Activities:			
 Students will be able to analyze data in order to create a scientific explanation. 			
Students will be	• Students will be able to create a scientific explanation using evidence and reasoning from observation		
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Standard	Standard Description		
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	or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.		

21st Century Life Skills Standards			
Activities:			
 Students will 	work in groups to collaborate, at times taking leadership roles to communicate project		
ideas to the whole class.			
Standard	Student Learning Objectives		
9.4.8.GCA.2	Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions		
	to achieve a group goal.		
9.4.8.IML.4	Ask insightful questions to organize different types of data and create meaningful		
	visualizations.		

Careers			
Activities:			
 Students will create scientific explanations to describe observable phenomena in order to 			
communicate findings.			
Practice Description			
Consider the	Students understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make		
environmental, social	decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people,		
and economic impacts	organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies,		
of decisions.	understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their		

	work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the		
	profitability of the organization.		
Act as a responsible	Students understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a		
and contributing	community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their		
community members	interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on		
and employee.	others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and		
	long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to		
	the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are		
	reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in		
	participating in activities that serve the greater good.		
Utilize critical thinking	Students readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the		
to make sense of	problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of the		
problems and persevere	problem and carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution is		
in solving them.	agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through		
this when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; th			
	thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing		
	solutions. Their own actions or the actions of others.		
Use technology to	Students find and maximize the productive value of existing and new technology to		
enhance productivity	accomplish workplace tasks and solve workplace problems. They are flexible and		
increase collaboration	adaptive in acquiring new technology. They are proficient with ubiquitous		
and communicate	technology applications. They understand the inherent risks-personal and		
effectively.	organizational-of technology applications, and they take actions to prevent or		
	mitigate these risks.		
Work productively in	Students positively contribute to every team, whether formal or informal. They		
teams while using	ng apply an awareness of cultural difference to avoid barriers to productive and		
cultural/global	positive interaction. They find ways to increase the engagement and contribution of		
competence.	all team members. They plan and facilitate effective team meetings.		

Standards			
Standard #	Standard Description	Student Learning Objective	Clarification Statement
MS-PS4-1	Waves and Their	Use mathematical	Emphasis is on describing
	Applications in Technologies	representations to describe a	waves with both qualitative
	for Information Transfer	simple model for waves that	and quantitative thinking.]
		includes how the amplitude	[Assessment Boundary:
		of a wave is related to the	Assessment does not include
		energy in a wave.	electromagnetic waves and is
			limited to standard repeating
			waves.]
MS-PS4-2	Waves and Their	Develop and use a model to	Emphasis is on both light and
	Applications in Technologies	describe that waves are	mechanical waves. Examples
	for Information Transfer	reflected, absorbed, or	of models could include
		transmitted through various	drawings, simulations, and
		materials.	written descriptions.]

MG PG4 2			[Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to qualitative applications pertaining to light and mechanical waves.]
MS-PS4-3	Waves and Their Applications in Technologies for Information Transfer	Integrate qualitative scientific and technical information to support the claim that digitized signals are a more reliable way to encode and transmit information than analog signals.	Emphasis is on a basic understanding that waves can be used for communication purposes. Examples could include using fiber optic cable to transmit light pulses, radio wave pulses in wifi devices, and conversion of stored binary patterns to make sound or text on a computer screen.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include binary counting. Assessment does not include mechanism of any given device.]

Differentiation

Students with 504 plans

- Preferential seating
- Guided notes
- Extra time
- Teacher check-ins
- Use graphic organizers
- Redirect attention
- Prioritize tasks
- Small group testing
- Provide modifications & accommodations per individual student's 504 plan

Special Education

- Provide modifications & accommodations as listed in the student's IEP
- Position the student near a helping peer or have quick access to the teacher
- Modify or reduce assignments/tasks
- Reduce the length of the assignment for different modes of delivery
- Increase one-to-one time
- Prioritize tasks
- Use graphic organizers
- Use online resources for skill-building

- Provide teacher notes
- Use collaborative grouping strategies, such as small groups
- NJDOE resources http://www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/

Response to Intervention (RTI)

- Tiered interventions following the RTI framework
- Effective RTI strategies for teachers http://www.specialeducationguide.com/pre-k-12/response-to-intervention/effective-rti-strategies-for-teachers/
- Intervention Central http://www.interventioncentral.org/

English Language Learners (ELL)

- Provide text-to-speech
- Use of a translation dictionary or software
- Provide graphic organizers
- NJDOE resources http://www.state.nj.us/education/aps/cccs/ELL.htm
- Adapt a Strategy Adjusting strategies for ESL students http://www.teachersfirst.com/content/esl/adaptstrat.cfm

Enrichment

- Process should be modified: higher order thinking skills, open-ended thinking, discovery
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Contents should be modified: real-world problems, audiences, deadlines, evaluations, transformations
- Learning environments should be modified: student-centered learning, independence, openness, complexity, and groups should be varied
- NJDOE resources