



Science

Grade 3

4th Nine Weeks



This academic overview can be used to monitor and support your child's at-home learning progress.

Unit 5: Organisms and Life Cycles

Student Learning Targets

- I can describe how structures and functions of plants and animals allow them to survive.
- I can identify how certain structures of plants and animals are adaptations to surviving in a specific environment.
- I can explain the life cycle stages of animals like beetles and frogs.
- I can compare the life cycles of different animals.

Questions to Check for Unit Understanding

- How do structures help organisms survive in their environment?
- How do organisms change as they go through their life cycles?
- How are the life cycles of plants and animals similar and different?

Key Academic Vocabulary

- Growth- an increase in size, abundance or complexity
- Life Cycle- the particular way a living thing grows, reproduces and dies
- Stage- a single step in a process

Unit 6: Ecosystems

Student Learning Targets

- I can describe the physical characteristics of environments.
- I can describe how the physical characteristics of environments support populations and communities of plants and animals within an ecosystem.
- I can identify and describe the flow of energy in a food chain.
- I can predict how changes in a food chain affect the ecosystem.
- I can describe why some organisms survive or move to new locations and others die out due to environmental changes like floods and droughts.

Questions to Check for Unit Understanding

- How do changes in an environment affect the survival of organisms?
- How do organisms get energy?
- What is the importance of patterns in weather?
- How would a drought affect an ecosystem?

Key Academic Vocabulary

- Ecosystem- all living and nonliving things and all their interactions in an area
- Community- all the interacting populations in a particular area
- Population- all the interacting members of a species in a single area
- Thrive- to grow well and strong
- Perish- to die
- Producer- an organism that uses sunlight to make its own food
- Consumer- an organism that gets energy from eating plants or animals
- Energy- what is needed to do work or cause change
- Food Chain- the path of food energy from one organism to another in an ecosystem
- Organism- a self-contained living thing