

SCIENCE SAURUS:
A STUDENT HANDBOOK ©2002
Grades 6-8

correlated to

**North Carolina
Science Standard Course of
Study and Grade Level
Competencies**



EDUCATION GROUP



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North Carolina Science
Standard Course of Study and Grade Level Competencies
Grade 6

COMPETENCY GOAL 1

The learner will design and conduct investigations to demonstrate an understanding of scientific inquiry.

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|--|
| 1.01 Identify and create questions and hypotheses that can be answered through scientific investigations. | Student Handbook: 002, 006-008, 017, 415-416 |
| 1.02 Develop appropriate experimental procedures for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given questions. • Student generated questions. | Student Handbook: 003-004, 017-018, 414, 415, 416 |
| 1.03 Apply safety procedures in the laboratory and in field studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize potential hazards. • Manipulate materials and equipment. • Conduct appropriate procedures. | Student Handbook: 021-045 |
| 1.04 Analyze variables in scientific investigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify dependent and independent. • Use of a control. • Manipulate. • Describe relationships between. • Define operationally. | Student Handbook: 008, 015, 016, 396 |
| 1.05 Analyze evidence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain observations. • Make inferences and predictions. • Develop the relationship between evidence and explanation. | Student Handbook: 002, 012, 013, 017 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|---|
| 1.06 Use mathematics to gather, organize, and present quantitative data resulting from scientific investigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measurement. • Analysis of data. • Graphing. • Prediction models. | Student Handbook: 002, 012, 017, 053, 058-072, 390-401 |
| 1.07 Prepare models and/or computer simulations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test hypotheses. • Evaluate how data fit. | Student Handbook: 007-010, 012 |
| 1.08 Use oral and written language to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate findings. • Defend conclusions of scientific investigations. | Student Handbook: 014, 015 |
| 1.09 Use technologies and information systems to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research. • Gather and analyze data. • Visualize data. • Disseminate findings to others. | Student Handbook: 009 |
| 1.10 Analyze and evaluate information from a scientifically literate viewpoint by reading, hearing, and/or viewing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific text. • Articles. • Events in the popular press. | Student Handbook: 015 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 2

The learner will demonstrate an understanding of technological design.

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 2.01 Explore evidence that "technology" has many definitions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artifact or hardware. • Methodology or technique. • System of production. • Social-technical system. | Student Handbook: 354-373 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 2.02 Use information systems to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify scientific needs, human needs, or problems that are subject to technological solution. • Locate resources to obtain and test ideas. | Student Handbook: 354-357 |
| 2.03 Evaluate technological designs for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of scientific principles. • Risks and benefits. • Constraints of design. • Consistent testing protocols. | Student Handbook: 357-373 |
| 2.04 Apply tenets of technological design to make informed consumer decisions about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Products. • Processes. • Systems. | Student Handbook: 355-373 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 3

The learner will build an understanding of the geological cycles, forces, processes, and agents which shape the lithosphere.

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 3.01 Evaluate the forces that shape the lithosphere including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crustal plate movement. • Folding and faulting. • Deposition. • Volcanic Activity. • Earthquakes. | Student Handbook: 181-187 |
| 3.02 Examine earthquake and volcano patterns. | Student Handbook: 186-187 |
| 3.03 Explain the model for the interior of the earth. | Student Handbook: 177, 180 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|---|
| <p>3.04 Describe the processes which form and the uses of earth materials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rock cycle. • Minerals. • Characteristics of rocks. • Economic use of rocks and minerals. • Value of gems and precious metals. • Common gems, minerals, precious metals and rocks found in N.C. | <p>Student Handbook: 179, 180, 331</p> |
| <p>3.05 Analyze soil properties that can be observed and measured to predict soil quality including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color. • Horizon profile. • Infiltration. • Soil temperature. • Structure. • Consistency. • Texture. • Particle size. • pH. • Fertility. • Soil moisture. | <p>Student Handbook: 140, 191</p> |
| <p>3.06 Evaluate ways in which human activities have affected Earth's pedosphere and the measures taken to control the impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetative cover. • Agriculture. • Land use. • Nutrient balance. • Soil as a vector. | <p>Student Handbook: 340-344, 346</p> |
| <p>3.07 Assess the use of technology and information systems in monitoring lithospheric phenomenon.</p> | <p>Student Handbook: 183, 186</p> |
| <p>3.08 Conclude that the good health of environments and organisms requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of the pedosphere. • Taking steps to maintain soil quality. • Stewardship. | <p>Student Handbook: 332-353</p> |

COMPETENCY GOAL 4

The learner will investigate the cycling of matter.

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|---|
| 4.01 Describe the flow of energy and matter in natural systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy flows through ecosystems in one direction, from the sun through producers to consumers to decomposers. • Matter is transferred from one organism to another and between organisms and their environments. • Water, nitrogen, carbon dioxide, and oxygen are substances cycled between the living and non-living environments. | Student Handbook: 136-139 |
| 4.02 Evaluate the significant role of decomposers. | Student Handbook: 133-135 |
| 4.03 Examine evidence that green plants make food. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photosynthesis is a process carried on by green plants and other organisms containing chlorophyll. • During photosynthesis, light energy is converted into stored energy which the plant, in turn, uses to carry out its life processes. | Student Handbook: 078, 079, 107, 138, 153, 330 |
| 4.04 Evaluate the significance of photosynthesis to other organisms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The major source of atmospheric oxygen is photosynthesis. • Carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere and oxygen is released during photosynthesis. • Green plants are the producers of food that is used directly or indirectly by consumers. | Student Handbook: 078, 079, 107, 138, 153, 330 |
| 4.05 Evaluate designed systems for ability to enable growth of certain plants and animals. | Student Handbook: 076-081, 097 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 5

The learner will build understanding of the Solar System.

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|---|
| 5.01 Analyze the components and cycles of the solar system including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sun. • Planets and moons. • Asteroids and meteors. • Comets. • Phases. • Seasons. • Day/year. • Eclipses. | Student Handbook: 231-243 |
| 5.02 Compare and contrast the Earth to other planets in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size. • Composition. • Relative distance from the sun. • Ability to support life. | Student Handbook: 175-178, 180, 212-216, 245 |
| 5.03 Relate the influence of the sun and the moon's orbit to the gravitational effects produced on Earth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar storms. • Tides. | Student Handbook: 237, 242 |
| 5.04 Describe space explorations and the understandings gained from them including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N.A.S.A. • Technologies used to explore space. • Historic timeline. • Apollo mission to the moon. • Space Shuttle. • International Space Station. • Future goals. | Student Handbook: 359 |
| 5.05 Describe the setting of the solar system in the universe including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Galaxy. • Size. • The uniqueness of Earth. | Student Handbook: 178, 245, 247 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|------------------------------|
| 5.06 Analyze the spin-off benefits generated by space exploration technology including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical. • Materials. • Transportation. • Processes. • Future research. | Student Handbook: 366 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 6

The learner will conduct investigations and examine models and devices to build an understanding of the characteristics of energy transfer and/or transformation.

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|--|
| 6.01 Determine how convection and radiation transfer energy. | Student Handbook: 304 |
| 6.02 Analyze heat flow through materials or across space from warm objects to cooler objects until both objects are at equilibrium. | Student Handbook: 302, 303 |
| 6.03 Analyze sound as an example that vibrating materials generate waves that transfer energy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequency. • Amplitude. • Loudness. • How sound travels through different material. • Form and function of the human ear. | Student Handbook: 096, 300, 306, 312, 313 |
| 6.04 Evaluate data for qualitative and quantitative relationships associated with energy transfer and/or transformation. | Student Handbook: 300, 304 |
| 6.05 Analyze the physical interactions of light and matter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absorption. • Scattering. • Color perception. • Form and function of the human eye. | Student Handbook: 075, 096, 309, 311 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|------------------------------|
| 6.06 Analyze response to heat to determine the suitability of materials for use in technological design: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduction. • Expansion. • Contraction. | Student Handbook: 304 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 7

The learner will conduct investigations and use technologies and information systems to build an understanding of population dynamics.

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|---|
| 7.01 Describe ways in which organisms interact with each other and with non-living parts of the environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coexistence/Cooperation/Competition. • Symbiosis. • Mutual dependence. | Student Handbook: 130, 132 |
| 7.02 Investigate factors that determine the growth and survival of organisms including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light. • Temperature range. • Mineral availability. • Soil/rock type. • Water. • Energy. | Student Handbook: 136-137, 141-149 |
| 7.03 Explain how changes in habitat may affect organisms. | Student Handbook: 340 |
| 7.04 Evaluate data related to human population growth, along with problems and solutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste disposal. • Food supplies. • Resource availability. • Transportation. • Socio-economic patterns. | Student Handbook: 131, 340-343 |
| 7.05 Examine evidence that overpopulation by any species impacts the environment. | Student Handbook: 131, 345 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 6 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|------------------------------|
| 7.06 Investigate processes which, operating over long periods of time, have resulted in the diversity of plant and animal life present today: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural selection.• Adaptation. | Student Handbook: 127 |



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Standard Course of Study and Grade Level Competencies
Grade 7

COMPETENCY GOAL 1

The learner will design and conduct investigations to demonstrate an understanding of scientific inquiry.

| Competency Objective, Grade 7 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|--|
| 1.01 Identify and create questions and hypotheses that can be answered through scientific investigations. | Student Handbook: 002, 006-008, 017, 415-416 |
| 1.02 Develop appropriate experimental procedures for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given questions. • Student generated questions. | Student Handbook: 003-004, 017-018, 414, 415, 416 |
| 1.03 Apply safety procedures in the laboratory and in field studies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize potential hazards. • Safely manipulate materials and equipment. • Conduct appropriate procedures. | Student Handbook: 021-045 |
| 1.04 Analyze variables in scientific investigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify dependent and independent. • Use of a Control. • Manipulate. • Describe relationships between. • Define operationally. | Student Handbook: 008, 015, 016, 396 |
| 1.05 Analyze evidence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain observations. • Make inferences and predictions. • Develop the relationship between evidence and explanation. | Student Handbook: 002, 012, 013, 017 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 7 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|---|
| 1.06 Use mathematics to gather, organize, and present quantitative data resulting from scientific investigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measurement. • Analysis of data. • Graphing. • Prediction models. | Student Handbook: 002, 012, 017, 053, 058-072, 390-401 |
| 1.07 Prepare models and/or computer simulations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test hypotheses. • Evaluate how data fit. | Student Handbook: 007-010, 012 |
| 1.08 Use oral and written language to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate findings. • Defend conclusions of scientific investigations. | Student Handbook: 014, 015 |
| 1.09 Use technologies and information systems to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research. • Gather and analyze data. • Visualize data. • Disseminate findings to others. | Student Handbook: 009 |
| 1.10 Analyze and evaluate information from a scientifically literate viewpoint by reading, hearing, and/or viewing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific text. • Articles. • Events in the popular press. | Student Handbook: 015 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 2

The learner will demonstrate an understanding of technological design.

| Competency Objective, Grade 7 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 2.01 Explore evidence that "technology" has many definitions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artifact or hardware. • Methodology or technique. • System of production. • Social-technical system. | Student Handbook: 354-373 |
| 2.02 Use information systems to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify scientific needs, human needs, or problems that are subject to technological solution. • Locate resources to obtain and test ideas. | Student Handbook: 354-357 |
| 2.03 Evaluate technological designs for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of scientific principles. • Risks and benefits. • Constraints of design. • Consistent testing protocols. | Student Handbook: 357-373 |
| 2.04 Apply tenets of technological design to make informed consumer decisions about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Products. • Processes. • Systems. | Student Handbook: 355-373 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 3

The learner will conduct investigations and utilize appropriate technologies and information systems to build an understanding of the atmosphere.

| Competency Objective, Grade 7 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 3.01 Explain the composition, properties and structure of the atmosphere: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixture of gases. • Stratified layers. • Each layer has distinct properties. • As altitude increases, air pressure decreases. • Equilibrium. | Student Handbook: 213-215 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 7 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|--|
| 3.02 Describe properties that can be observed and measured to predict air quality: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Particulate matter. • Ozone. | Student Handbook: 214 |
| 3.03 Conclude that the good health of environments and organisms requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The monitoring of air quality. • Taking steps to maintain healthy air quality. • Stewardship. | Student Handbook: 348 |
| 3.04 Evaluate how humans impact air quality including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality standards. • Point and non-point sources of air pollution in North Carolina. • Financial and economic trade-offs. • Local air quality issues. | Student Handbook: 348, 370 |
| 3.05 Examine evidence that atmospheric properties can be studied to predict atmospheric conditions and weather hazards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humidity. • Temperature. • Wind speed and direction. • Air pressure. • Precipitation. • Tornados. • Hurricanes. • Floods. • Storms. | Student Handbook: 216-230, 492, 519 |
| 3.06 Assess the use of technology in studying atmospheric phenomena and weather hazards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satellites. • Weather maps. • Predicting. • Recording. • Communicating information about conditions. | Student Handbook: 219-220, 225 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 4

The learner will conduct investigations, use models, simulations, and appropriate technologies and information systems to build an understanding of the complementary nature of the human body system.

| Competency Objective, Grade 7 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|--|
| 4.01 Analyze how human body systems interact to provide for the needs of the human organism: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musculoskeletal. • Cardiovascular. • Endocrine and Nervous. • Digestive and Circulatory. • Excretory. • Reproductive. • Respiratory. • Immune. • Nervous system. | Student Handbook: 085-101 |
| 4.02 Describe how systems within the human body are defined by the functions it performs. | Student Handbook: 085-101 |
| 4.03 Explain how the structure of an organ is adapted to perform specific functions within one or more systems. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liver. • Heart. • Lung. • Brain • Stomach. • Kidney. | Student Handbook: 089, 090, 092, 093, 095 |
| 4.04 Evaluate how systems in the human body help regulate the internal environment. | Student Handbook: 085-101 |
| 4.05 Analyze how an imbalance in homeostasis may result from a disruption in any human system. | Student Handbook: 084 |
| 4.06 Describe growth and development of the human organism. | Student Handbook: 099, 102 |
| 4.08 Explain how understanding human body systems can help make informed decisions regarding health. | Student Handbook: 083-102 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 5

The learner will conduct investigations and utilize appropriate technologies and information systems to build an understanding of heredity and genetics.

| Competency Objective, Grade 7 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 5.01 Explain the significance of genes to inherited characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genes are the units of information. • Parents transmit genes to their offspring. • Some medical conditions and diseases are genetic. | Student Handbook: 116-121 |
| 5.02 Explain the significance of reproduction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sorting and recombination of parents' genetic material. • Potential variation among offspring. | Student Handbook: 116-121 |
| 5.03 Identify examples and patterns of human genetic traits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dominant and recessive. • Incomplete dominance. | Student Handbook: 122 |
| 5.04 Analyze the role of probability in the study of heredity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of each parent in transfer of genetic traits. • Analysis of pedigrees. | Student Handbook: 116-121 |
| 5.05 Summarize the genetic transmittance of disease. | Student Handbook: 118, 121 |
| 5.06 Evaluate evidence that human characteristics are a product of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inheritance. • Environmental factors, and • Lifestyle choices. | Student Handbook: 116-121 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 6

The learner will conduct investigations, use models, simulations, and appropriate technologies and information systems to build an understanding of motion and forces.

| Competency Objective, Grade 7 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 6.01 Demonstrate ways that simple machines can change force. | Student Handbook: 288-294 |
| 6.02 Analyze simple machines for mechanical advantage and efficiency. | Student Handbook: 289-294 |
| 6.03 Evaluate motion in terms of Newton's Laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The force of friction retards motion. • For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. • The greater the force, the greater the change in motion. • An object's motion is the result of the combined effect of all forces acting on the object. • A moving object that is not subjected to a force will continue to move at a constant speed in a straight line. • An object at rest will remain at rest. | Student Handbook: 283-286 |
| 6.04 Analyze that an object's motion is always judged relative to some other object or point. | Student Handbook: 285 |
| 6.05 Describe and measure quantities that characterize moving objects and their interactions within a system: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time. • Distance. • Mass. • Force. • Velocity. • Center of mass. • Acceleration. | Student Handbook: 285 |
| 6.06 Investigate and analyze the real world interactions of balanced and unbalanced forces: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports and recreation. • Transportation. • The human body. | Student Handbook: 280-282 |



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Grade 8

COMPETENCY GOAL 1

The learner will design and conduct investigations to demonstrate an understanding of scientific inquiry.

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|--|
| 1.01 Identify and create questions and hypotheses that can be answered through scientific investigations. | Student Handbook: 002, 006-008, 017, 415-416 |
| 1.02 Develop appropriate experimental procedures for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given questions. • Student generated questions. | Student Handbook: 003-004, 017-018, 414, 415, 416 |
| 1.03 Apply safety procedures in the laboratory and in field studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize potential hazards. • Safely manipulate materials and equipment. • Conduct appropriate procedures. | Student Handbook: 021-045 |
| 1.04 Analyze variables in scientific investigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify dependent and independent. • Use of a control. • Manipulate. • Describe relationships between. • Define operationally. | Student Handbook: 008, 015, 016, 396 |
| 1.05 Analyze evidence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explain observations. • make inferences and predictions. • develop the relationship between evidence and explanation. | Student Handbook: 002, 012, 013, 017 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|---|
| 1.06 Use mathematics to gather, organize, and present quantitative data resulting from scientific investigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measurement. • Analysis of data. • Graphing. • Prediction models. | Student Handbook: 002, 012, 017, 053, 058-072, 390-401 |
| 1.07 Prepare models and/or computer simulations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test hypotheses. • Evaluate how data fit. • Make predictions. | Student Handbook: 002, 007-010, 012 |
| 1.08 Use oral and written language to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate findings. • Defend conclusions of scientific investigations. • Describe strengths and weaknesses of claims, arguments, and/or data. | Student Handbook: 014, 015 |
| 1.09 Use technologies and information systems to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research. • Gather and analyze data. • Visualize data. • Disseminate findings to others. | Student Handbook: 009 |
| 1.10 Analyze and evaluate information from a scientifically literate viewpoint by reading, hearing, and/or viewing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific text. • Articles. • Events in the popular press. | Student Handbook: 015 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 2

The learner will demonstrate an understanding of technological design.

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 2.01 Explore evidence that "technology" has many definitions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artifact or hardware. • Methodology or technique. • System of production. • Social-technical system. | Student Handbook: 354-373 |
| 2.02 Use information systems to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify scientific needs, human needs, or problems that are subject to technological solution. • Locate resources to obtain and test ideas. | Student Handbook: 354-357 |
| 2.03 Evaluate technological designs for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of scientific principles. • Risks and benefits. • Constraints of design. • Consistent testing protocols. | Student Handbook: 357-373 |
| 2.04 Apply tenets of technological design to make informed consumer decisions about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Products. • Processes. • Systems. | Student Handbook: 355-373 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 3

The learner will conduct investigations and utilize appropriate technologies and information systems to build an understanding of the hydrosphere.

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|---|
| 3.01 Analyze the unique properties of water including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal solvent. • Cohesion and adhesion. • Polarity. • Density and buoyancy. • Specific heat. | Student Handbook: 190, 296, 317, 515 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|---|
| 3.02 Explain the structure of the hydrosphere including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water distribution on earth. • Local river basin. • Local water availability. | Student Handbook: 192, 193, 330 |
| 3.03 Evaluate evidence that Earth's oceans are a reservoir of nutrients, minerals, dissolved gases, and life forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estuaries. • Marine ecosystems. • Upwelling. • Behavior of gases in the marine environment. • Value and sustainability of marine resources. • Deep ocean technology and understandings gained. | Student Handbook: 148, 149, 208-211, 342, 343, 521 |
| 3.04 Describe how terrestrial and aquatic food webs are interconnected. | Student Handbook: 135 |
| 3.05 Analyze hydrospheric data over time to predict the health of a water system including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temperature. • Dissolved oxygen. • pH. • Nitrates. • Turbidity. • Bio-indicators. | Student Handbook: 209, 264, 353 |
| 3.06 Evaluate technologies and information systems used to monitor the hydrosphere. | Student Handbook: 353 |
| 3.07 Describe how humans affect the quality of water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Point and non-point sources of water pollution in North Carolina. • Possible effects of excess nutrients in North Carolina waters. • Economic trade-offs. • Local water issues. | Student Handbook: 353 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|--|
| 3.08 Recognize that the good health of environments and organisms requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of the hydrosphere. • Water quality standards. • Methods of water treatment. • Maintaining safe water quality. • Stewardship. | Student Handbook: 342, 343, 353 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 4

The learner will conduct investigations and utilize technology and information systems to build an understanding of chemistry.

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|--|
| 4.01 Understand that both naturally occurring and synthetic substances are chemicals. | Student Handbook: 251 |
| 4.02 Evaluate evidence that elements combine in a multitude of ways to produce compounds that account for all living and nonliving substances. | Student Handbook: 260, 262 |
| 4.03 Explain how the periodic table is a model for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classifying elements. • Identifying the properties of elements. | Student Handbook: 265 |
| 4.04 Describe the suitability of materials for use in technological design: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrical Conductivity. • Density. • Magnetism. • Solubility. • Malleability. | Student Handbook: 068, 251, 273 |
| 4.05 Identify substances based on characteristic physical properties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Density. • Boiling/Melting points. • Solubility. • Chemical reactivity. • Specific heat. | Student Handbook: 068, 251, 253-254, 273, 515 |

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 4.06 Describe and measure quantities related to chemical/physical changes within a system: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temperature. • Volume. • Mass. • Precipitate. • Gas production. | Student Handbook: 253, 254 |
| 4.07 Identify evidence supporting the law of conservation of matter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During an ordinary chemical reaction matter cannot be created or destroyed. • In a chemical reaction, the total mass of the reactants equals the total mass of the products mass of the products. | Student Handbook: 270 |
| 4.09 Describe factors that determine the effects a chemical has on a living organism including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exposure. • Potency. • Dose and the resultant concentration of chemical in the organism. • Individual susceptibility. • Possible means to eliminate or reduce effects. | Student Handbook: 350, 351 |
| 4.10 Describe risks and benefits of chemicals including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicines. • Food preservatives. • Crop yield. • Sanitation. | Student Handbook: 330, 372 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 5

The learner will conduct investigations and utilize appropriate technologies and information systems to build an understanding of evidence of evolution in organisms and landforms.

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|--|
| 5.01 Interpret ways in which rocks, fossils, and ice cores record Earth's geologic history and the evolution of life including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geologic Time Scale. • Index Fossils. • Law of Superposition. • Unconformity. • Evidence for climate change. • Extinction of species. • Catastrophic events. | Student Handbook: 126, 128, 187, 195, 196, 200, 340 |
| 5.02 Correlate evolutionary theories and processes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological. • Geological. • Technological. | Student Handbook: 126, 195, 200, 439-449 |
| 5.03 Examine evidence that the geologic evolution has had significant global impact including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of living things. • Major geological events. • Mechanical and chemical weathering. | Student Handbook: 186-187, 189-190 |
| 5.04 Analyze satellite imagery as a method to monitor Earth from space: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spectral analysis. • Reflectance curves. | Student Handbook: 219 |
| 5.05 Use maps, ground truthing and remote sensing to make predictions regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over time. • Land use. • Urban sprawl. • Resource management. | Student Handbook: 174, 199 |

COMPETENCY GOAL 6

The learner will conduct investigations, use models, simulations, and appropriate technologies and information systems to build an understanding of cell theory.

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|---|--|
| <p>6.01 Describe cell theory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All living things are composed of cells. • Cells provide structure and carry on major functions to sustain life. • Some organisms are single cell; other organisms, including humans, are multi-cellular. • Cell function is similar in all living things. | <p>Student Handbook: 076</p> |
| <p>6.02 Analyze structures, functions, and processes within animal cells for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capture and release of energy. • Feedback information. • Dispose of wastes. • Reproduction. • Movement. • Specialized needs. | <p>Student Handbook: 077, 079</p> |
| <p>6.03 Compare life functions of protists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euglena. • Amoeba. • Paramecium. • Volvox. | <p>Student Handbook: 156, 159</p> |
| <p>6.04 Conclude that animal cells carry on complex chemical processes to balance the needs of the organism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cells grow and divide to produce more cells. • Cells take in nutrients to make the energy for the work cells do. • Cells take in materials that a cell or an organism needs. | <p>Student Handbook: 077, 080</p> |

COMPETENCY GOAL 7

The learner will conduct investigations, use models, simulations, and appropriate technologies and information systems to build an understanding of microbiology.

| Competency Objective, Grade 8 | ScienceSaurus, Grades 6-8 |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 7.01 Compare and contrast microbes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size, shape, structure. • Whether they are living cells. | Student Handbook: 157, 159 |
| 7.02 Describe diseases caused by microscopic biological hazards including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viruses. • Bacteria. • Parasites. • Contagions. • Mutagens. | Student Handbook: 098, 157 |
| 7.04 Evaluate the human attempt to reduce the risk of and treatments for microbial infections including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solutions with anti-microbial properties. • Antibiotic treatment. • Research. | Student Handbook: 372 |
| 7.05 Investigate aspects of biotechnology including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific genetic information available. • Careers. • Economic benefits to North Carolina. • Ethical issues. • Impact for agriculture. | Student Handbook: 361 |



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