



STAAR REPORTING CATEGORY 4: Organisms & Environments

SE, STANDARD, MAIN IDEA OF SE, AND KEY VOCABULARY

TEKS		Standard	Main Idea	Key Vocabulary
6.12 D	identify the basic characteristics of organisms, including prokaryotic or eukaryotic, unicellular or multicellular, autotrophic or heterotrophic, and mode of reproduction, that further classify them in the currently recognized Kingdoms	SS	Basic characteristics of organisms that help them live and reproduce	Prokaryotic, eukaryotic, unicellular, multicellular, autotrophic, heterotrophic, reproduction
7.10B	describe how biodiversity contributes to the sustainability of an ecosystem	SS	An ecosystem requires many individuals to help maintain nature's balance for extended periods of time	Biodiversity, sustainability, ecosystem
7.10C	observe, record, and describe the role of ecological succession such as in a microhabitat of a garden with weeds	SS	Experience a microhabitat	Ecological succession, microhabitat
7.11A	examine organisms or their structures such as insects or leaves and use dichotomous keys for identification	SS	Use a dichotomous key to identify an organism based on its structures	Structure, dichotomous key
7.11C	identify some changes in genetic traits that have occurred over several generations through natural selection and selective breeding such as the Galapagos Medium Ground Finch (<i>Geospiza fortis</i>) or domestic animals	SS	Know that changes occur over several generations due to natural selection or selective breeding	Genetic traits, generations, natural selection, selective breeding, domestic

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7.12B	identify the main functions of the systems of the human organism, including the circulatory, respiratory, skeletal, muscular, digestive, excretory, reproductive, integumentary, nervous, and endocrine systems	SS	Know what the different body systems do for the body and how they do it	Function, circulatory, respiratory, skeletal, muscular, digestive, excretory, reproductive, integumentary, nervous, endocrine
7.12D	differentiate between structure and function in plant and animal cell organelles, including cell membrane, cell wall, nucleus, cytoplasm, mitochondrion, chloroplast, and vacuole	SS	Know the parts of animal and plant cells and be able to determine major differences between the two	Structure, function, organelles, cell membrane, cell wall, nucleus, cytoplasm, mitochondrion, chloroplast, vacuole
7.12F	recognize that according to cell theory all organisms are composed of cells and cells carry on similar functions such as extracting energy from food to sustain life	SS	Know the cell theory and know that there are certain functions that help organisms survive	Cell theory, cell, extracting, sustain
7.14B	compare the results of uniform or diverse offspring from sexual reproduction or asexual reproduction	SS	Compare offspring traits of organisms that reproduce sexually vs. asexually	Uniform, diverse, offspring, sexual reproduction, asexual reproduction
7.14C	recognize that inherited traits of individuals are governed in the genetic material found in the genes within chromosomes in the nucleus	SS	Genetic material is found in the nucleus of the organism's cells	Inherited, traits, genetic material, genes, chromosomes, nucleus
8.11A	describe producer/consumer, predator/prey, and parasite/host relationships as they occur in food webs within marine, freshwater, and terrestrial ecosystems	RS	Describe relationships between organisms within an ecosystem	Producer, consumer, predator, prey, parasite, host, marine, terrestrial, ecosystem

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8.11B	investigate how organisms and populations in an ecosystem depend on and may compete for biotic and abiotic factors such as quantity of light, water, range of temperatures, or soil composition	RS	Organisms depend on and compete for resources in order to survive	Biotic, abiotic, quantity, soil, composition
8.11C	explore how short- and long-term environmental changes affect organisms and traits in subsequent populations	RS	Organisms may change over time due to environmental changes	Environmental change, subsequent, populations
8.11D	recognize human dependence on ocean systems and explain how human activities such as runoff, artificial reefs, or use of resources have modified these systems	SS	Humans depend on ocean systems and our activities affect these systems	Dependence, runoff, artificial reefs, modified