

Grade Level / Course Summary with Big Ideas:

The seventh grade science curriculum, aligned with PA standards in Science and Technology and emerging NGSS, is designed to provide students with a “hands on” approach, while fostering a scientific community through cooperative learning groups. Students will be involved in inquiry-based science and STEM activities, which will strengthen and reinforce student’s problem solving skills. Biological sciences will be the focus of this year, with the following major units of study:

1. Organisms and Cells
2. Genetics
3. Evolution
4. Ecology
5. Wetlands and Watersheds

Grade Level Modules (Units):

Suggested Timeline
of Weeks or # of Class Periods/Lessons

1. Organisms and Cells	3 weeks
2. Genetics	3 weeks
3. Evolution	3 weeks
4. Ecology	2 weeks
5. Wetlands and Watersheds	2 weeks

Learning Activities/Modes of Formative and Summative Assessment:

Large group instruction	Projects with Rubrics
Laboratory experiments	Lab Journals/Write-ups
Small group instruction	STEM Challenges
Computer simulations	Teacher observations
Webquests	Checks for Understanding
Tests and Quizzes	IXL Learning Modules
Checklists/Teacher Observation	

Primary Instructional Resources

Life Science (McDougal Little Science 2005)
Foss kits
Trout in the Classroom resources
Appropriate Internet resources