



**Soil & Plant: Characteristics of a Living System**  
**MA Curriculum Framework Standards**

**K**

**LS1. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes**

K-LS1-1. Observe and communicate that animals (including humans) and plants need food, water, and air to survive. Animals get food from plants or other animals. Plants make their own food and need light to live and grow.

K-LS1-2. Recognize that all plants and animals grow and change over time.

**GR. 1**

**LS1. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes**

1-LS1-1. Use evidence to explain that (a) different animals use their body parts and senses in different ways to see, hear, grasp objects, protect themselves, move from place to place, and seek, find, and take in food, water, and air, and (b) plants have roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and fruits that are used to take in water, air, and other nutrients, and produce food for the plant.

**LS3. Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits**

1-LS3-1. Use information from observations (first-hand and from media) to identify similarities and differences among individual plants or animals of the same kind.

**GR. 2**

**LS2. Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics**

2-LS2-3. Develop and use models to compare how plants and animals depend on their surroundings and other living things to meet their needs in the places they live.

**LS4. Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity**

2-LS4-1. Use texts, media, or local environments to observe and compare (a) different kinds of living things in an area, and (b) differences in the kinds of living things living in different types of areas.

**GR. 3**

**LS1. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes**

3-LS1-1. Use simple graphical representations to show that different types of organisms have unique and diverse life cycles. Describe that all organisms have birth, growth, reproduction, and death in common but there are a variety of ways in which these happen.

**LS4. Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity**

3-LS4-5(MA). Provide evidence to support a claim that the survival of a population is dependent upon reproduction.

**GR. 4**

**LS1. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes**

4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that animals and plants have internal and external structures that support their survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.

**GR. 5****LS1. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes**

5-LS1-1. Ask testable questions about the process by which plants use air, water, and energy from sunlight to produce sugars and plant materials needed for growth and reproduction.

**LS2. Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics**

5-LS2-1. Develop a model to describe the movement of matter among producers, consumers, decomposers, and the air, water, and soil in the environment to (a) show that plants produce sugars and plant materials, (b) show that animals can eat plants and/or other animals for food, and (c) show that some organisms, including fungi and bacteria, break down dead organisms and recycle some materials back to the air and soil.

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