1st Grade Plants and Animals Unit

Benchmarks

Chapter 1: The Nature of Science

Scientific Inquiry

1B(K-2)#1: People can often learn about things around them by just observing those things carefully, but sometimes they can learn more by doing something to the things and noting what happens.

1B(K-2)#2: Tools such as thermometers, magnifiers, rulers, or balances often give more information about things than can be obtained by just observing things without their help.

1B(K-2)#3: Describing things as accurately as possible is important in science because it enables people to compare their observations with those of others.

1B(K-2)#4: When people give different descriptions of the same thing, it is usually a good idea to make some fresh observations instead of just arguing about who is right.

The Scientific Enterprise

1C(K-2)#2: In doing science, it is often helpful to work with a team and to share findings with others. All team members should reach their own individual conclusions, however, about what the findings mean.

1C(K-2)#3: A lot can be learned about plants and animals by observing them closely, but care must be taken to know the needs of living things and how to provide for them in the classroom.

Chapter 4: The Physical Setting

Motion

Reinforce from Science in the Toy Box unit 4F(K-2)#1: Things move in many different ways, such as straight, zigzag, round and round, back and forth, and fast and slow.

Chapter 5: The Living Environment

Diversity of Life

5A(K-2)#1: Some animals are alike in the way they look and in the things they do, and others are very different from one another.

Chapter titles and headers correlate with *Benchmarks for Science Literacy* by Project 2061.

5A(K-2)#2: Plants and animals have features that help them live in different environments.

5A(K-2)#3: Stories sometimes give plants and animals attributes they really do not have.

Heredity

5B(K-2)#1: There is variation among individuals of one kind within a population.

Cells

5C(K-2)#2: Most living things need water, food, and air.

Interdependence of Life

5D(K-2)#1: Animals eat plants for food and may also use plants (or even other animals) for shelter and nesting.

5D(K-2)#2: Living things are found almost everywhere in the world. There are somewhat different kinds in different places.

Flow of Matter and Energy

5E(K-2)#1: Plants and animals both need to take in water, and animals need to take in food.

Evolution of Life

5F(K-2)#1: Different plants & animals have external features that help them thrive in different kinds of places.

Chapter 6: The Human Organism

Human Identity

6A(K-2)#1: People have different external features, such as the size, shape, and color of hair, skin, and eyes, but they are more like one another than like other animals.
6A(K-2)#2: People need water, food, air, waste removal, and a particular range of temperatures in their environment, just as other animals do.

Learning

6D(K-2)#1: People use their senses to find out about their surroundings and themselves. Different senses give different information. Sometimes a person can get different information about the same thing by moving closer to it or further away from it.

Chapter 11: Common Themes

Models

11B(K-2)#3: One way to describe something is to say how it is like something else.

Constancy and Change

11C(K-2)#1: Things change in some ways and stay the same in some ways.

11C(K-2)#3: Things can change in different ways, such as in size, weight, color, and movement. Some small changes can be detected by taking measurements.

11C(K-2)#4: Some changes are so slow or so fast that they are hard to see.

Scale

11D(K-2)#1: Things in nature and things people make have very different sizes, weights, ages, and speeds.

Chapter 12: Habits of Mind

Communication Skills

12D(K-2)#1: Describe and compare things in terms of number, shape, texture, size, weight, color, and motion.

12D(K-2)#2: Draw pictures that correctly portray at least some features of the thing being described.

Critical-Response Skills

12E(K-2)#1: Ask "How do you know?" in appropriate situations and attempt reasonable answers when others ask them the same question.