

Issues and Science

Third Edition: Redesigned for the NGSS

Middle School Units at a Glance*

	Unit Title Estimated Instructional Time	Unit Focus	Assessed PEs
EARTH SCIENCE	Earth's Resources (4–6 weeks)	<i>How is a growing human population affecting the use and availability of natural resources?</i>	ESS1-4, ESS3-1, ESS3-4
	Geological Processes (6–7 weeks)	<i>What geological processes need to be considered when evaluating a site for long-term storage of nuclear waste?</i>	ESS2-1, ESS2-2, ESS2-3, ESS3-1, ESS3-2
	Land, Water, and Human Interactions (5–7 weeks)	<i>How do natural geological processes and human behavior impact our decisions around new construction?</i>	ESS2-2, ESS2-4, ESS3-3, ETS1-1, ETS1-2
	Solar System and Beyond (4–7 weeks)	<i>What kind of future space missions should we fund and conduct?</i>	ESS1-1, ESS1-2, ESS1-3
	Weather & Climate (5–7 weeks)	<i>Is there a connection between population growth and changes in local weather, atmosphere, and water availability?</i>	ESS2-5, ESS2-6, ESS3-5, ETS1-3, ETS1-4
LIFE SCIENCE	Biomedical Engineering (3–4 weeks)	<i>How can science and engineering be used to improve the lives of those living with medical conditions?</i>	ETS1-1, ETS1-2, ETS1-3, ETS1-4
	Body Systems (5–6 weeks)	<i>How do we know if a medicine is safe and effective?</i>	LS1-3, LS1-8
	Ecology (6–7 weeks)	<i>What are the environmental impacts of introduced species, and what can be done about them?</i>	LS2-1, LS2-2, LS2-3, LS2-4, LS2-5
	From Cells to Organisms (5–6 weeks)	<i>How should we prevent the spread of an infectious disease?</i>	LS1-1, LS1-2, LS1-6, LS1-7
	Evolution (5–7 weeks)	<i>How are people affected by and affecting evolution?</i>	LS3-1, LS4-1, LS4-2, LS4-3, LS4-4, LS4-5, LS4-6
	Reproduction (4–5 weeks)	<i>What are the ethical issues involved in using genetic information to make health-related decisions?</i>	LS1-4, LS1-5, LS3-1, LS3-2
PHYSICAL SCIENCE	Chemistry of Materials (4–5 weeks)	<i>What are the environmental impacts of producing, using, and disposing of materials?</i>	PS1-1, PS1-3, PS1-4
	Chemical Reactions (4–5 weeks)	<i>How do people use chemical reactions to solve problems like waste disposal?</i>	PS1-2, PS1-5, PS1-6
	Energy (5–7 weeks)	<i>How can people manipulate energy transfer and transformation to use energy more efficiently?</i>	PS3-3, PS3-4, PS3-5, MS-ETS1-4
	Force and Motion (5–7 weeks)	<i>How can we reduce the risk of motor vehicle accidents?</i>	PS2-1, PS2-2, PS3-1, ETS1-1
	Fields and Interactions (4–6 weeks)	<i>How do the characteristics of fields help us design solutions for transport?</i>	PS2-3, PS2-4, PS2-5, PS3-2, ETS1-1, ETS1-2, ETS1-3, ETS1-4
	Waves (4–5 weeks)	<i>How are waves both helpful and harmful?</i>	PS4-1, PS4-2, PS4-3

*For detailed alignment information on each unit, refer to the Lab-Aids Correlations for The Next Generation Science Standards