

MIDDLE SCHOOL LIFE SCIENCE NGSS

STANDARD	UNIT	TOPICS	TIME (DAYS)
MS-LS1	FROM MOLECULES TO ORGANISMS: STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES	-1. living things are made of cells	5-7
		-2. Cell model	4-7
		-3. Cells to tissues to organs: functions and interactions	8-12
		-4. Animal Behavior Plant Structures → Success	4-6
		-5. Energy and Matter flow in Photosynthesis	6-8
		-6. Receptors -> Response -> Behavior/Learned	5-6

Testing and Review Days Not Included

This pacing guide does not account for the days you spend reviewing or the actual days that students are tested on the materials, as the number of days and number of tests varies among classrooms.

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STANDARD	UNIT	TOPICS	TIME (DAYS)
MS-LS2	ECOSYSTEMS: INTERACTIONS, ENERGY, AND DYNAMICS	-1. Resource availability cause and effect upon populations	5-8
		-2. Interactions among ecosystems	5-6
		-3. Energy and Matter Flow/ Cycling	8-10
		-4. Factors that change ecosystems	4-6
		-5. Solutions to maintain biodiversity positively affect ecosystems	5-8

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STANDARD	UNIT	TOPICS	TIME (DAYS)
MS-LS3	HEREDITY: INHERITANCE AND VARIATION OF TRAITS	-1. Mutations and their effects on traits/individuals/species	12-15
		-2. Asexual vs. Sexual Reproduction	14-16

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STANDARD	UNIT	TOPICS	TIME (DAYS)
MS-LS4	BIOLOGICAL EVOLUTION: UNITY AND DIVERSITY	-1. Fossil Record as evidence for shaping the life forms throughout the history of the Earth	5-6
		-2. Anatomical similarities among fossil organisms and modern organisms – evolutionary relationships and homologies	5-6
		-3. Patterns in embryology to identify species	3-4
		-4. Genetic variation is crucial for survival of a species	6-8
		-5. Artificial selection and genetic modification effects – human impact	6-8
		-6. Mathematical models and probability to explain how natural selection can effect traits within a population	5-7
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