Content Area: Science Grades 8
Unit: Unifying Themes MLR Span: 6-8

MLR Content Standard: **A: Unifying Themes**Students apply the principles of systems, models, constancy and change, and scale in science and technology.

*Assessment

Unifying	MLR Performance	MSAD #54	Instructional
Themes:	Indicators	Objectives	Resources/Activities
A1 Systems	1.Students describe and apply principles of systems in man- made things, natural things, and processes.	Students will:	
	a.Explain how individual parts working together in a system (including organisms, Earth systems, solar systems, or man-made structures) can do more than each part individually.	a1.explain how individual parts working together in a system (including organisms, Earth systems, solar systems, or manmade structures) can do more than each part individually.	a1-c1.STC: Micro Macro Organisms, STC Energy and Motion, STC: Earth and Space a1-c1.Aimes: Microworld FAST Program
	b.Explain how the output of one part of a system, including waste products from manufacturing or organisms, can become the input of another part of a system.	b1.explain how the output of one part of a system, including waste products from manufacturing or organisms, can become the input of another part of a system.	
	c.Describe how systems are nested and that systems may be thought of a s containing subsystems (as well as being a subsystem of a larger system) and apply the	c1.describe how systems are nested and that systems may be thought of a s containing subsystems (as well as being a subsystem of a larger system) and apply the understanding to analyze systems	

A2 Models	understanding to analyze systems. 2.Students use models to examine a variety of real-world phenomena from the physical setting, the living environment, and the technological world and compare advantages and disadvantages of various models.	Students will:	
	a.Compare different types of models that can be used to represent the same thing (including models of chemical reactions, motion, or cells) in order to match the purpose and complexity of a model to its use. b.Propose changes to models and explain how those changes may better the real thing.	al.compare different types of models that can be used to represent the same thing (including models of chemical reactions, motion, or cells) in order to match the purpose and complexity of a model to its use.	a1. Resources: Physical and Conceptual Models
A3 Constancy and Change	3.Students describe how patterns of change vary in physical, biological, and technological systems.	Students will:	
	a.Describe systems that are changing including ecosystems, Earth systems, and technologies.	al.describe systems that are changing including ecosystems, Earth systems, and technologies.	a1-b1. STC: Earth and Space Genetics Unit STC: Micro/Macro Organisms

	b.Give examples of systems including ecosystems, Earth systems, and technologies that appear to be unchanging (even though things may be changing within the system) and identify any feedback mechanisms that may be modifying the changes.	b1.give examples of systems including ecosystems, Earth systems, and technologies that appear to be unchanging (even though things may be changing within the system) and identify any feedback mechanisms that may be modifying the changes.	
	c.Describe rates of change and cyclic patterns using appropriate gradelevel mathematics.		
A4 Scale	4.Students use scale to describe objects, phenomena, or processes related to Earth, space, matter, and mechanical and living systems.	Students will:	
	a.Describe how some things change or work differently at different scales.	al.describe how some things change or work differently at different scales.	a1-b1.STC: Organisms STC: Earth and Space FAST Program Aimes: Machine Shop
	b.Use proportions, averages, and ranges to describe small and large extremes of scale.	b1.use proportions, averages, and ranges to describe small and large extremes of scale.	

Content Area: Science
Unit: Skills & Traits
Grade: Grade 8
MLR Span: 6-8

MLR Content Standard: **B. The Skills and Traits of Scientific Inquiry And Technological Design**

Students plan, conduct, analyze data from and communicate results of in-depth scientific investigations; and they use a systematic process, tools, equipment, and a variety of materials to create a technological design and produce a solution or product to meet a specified need.

	MLR Performance	MSAD #54	Instructional
Skills and Traits	Indicators	Objectives	Resources/Activities
B1 Skills and Traits of Scientific Inquiry	1.Students plan, conduct, analyze data from, and communicate results	Students will:	
	of investigations, including simple experiments.		
	a.Identify questions that can be answered through scientific investigations.	a1.identify questions that can be answered through scientific investigations.	a1-d1. FAST Program Aimes: Machine Shop Computer Programs to graph data
	b.Design and safely conduct scientific investigations including experiments with controlled variables.	b1.design and safely conduct scientific investigations including experiments with controlled variables.	
	c.Use appropriate tools, metric units, and techniques to gather, analyze, and interpret data.	c1.use appropriate tools, metric units, and techniques to gather, analyze, and interpret data.	
	d.Use mathematics to gather, organize, and present data and structure convincing explanations. e.Use logic, critical	d1.use mathematics to gather, organize, and present data and structure convincing explanations	

	reasoning, and evicence to develop descriptions, explanations, predictions, and models. f.Communicate, critique, and analyze their own scientific work and the work of other students.		
B2 Skills and Traits of Technological Design	2.Students use a systematic process, tools, equipment, and a variety of materials to design and produce a solution or product to meet a specified need, using established criteria.	Students will	
	a.Identify appropriate problems for technological design.	al.identify appropriate problems for technological design.	a1-g1. Teacher Created Activities FAST Program
	b.Design a solution or product.	b1.design a solution or product.	
	c.Communicate a proposed design using drawings and simple models.	c1.communicate a proposed design using drawings and simple models.	
	d.Implement a proposed design.	d1.implement a proposed design.	
	e.Evaluate a completed design or product.	e1.evaluate a completed design or product.	
	f.Suggest improvement for their own and others' designs and try out	fl.suggest improvement for their own and others' designs and try out proposed modifications.	

proposed modifications.		
g.Explain the design process including the	g1.explain the design process including the stages of problem	
stages of problem	identification, solution design,	
identification, solution	implementation, and evaluation.	
design, implementation, and		
evaluation.		

Content Area: Science Grade 8
Unit: Scientific & Technological Enterprise MLR Span: 6-8

MLR Content Standard: **C. The Scientific and Technological Enterprise** Students understand the history and nature of scientific knowledge and technology, the processes of inquiry and technological design, and the impacts science and technology have on society and the environment.

Scientific & Technological Enterprise	MLR Performance Indicators	MSAD #54 Objectives	Instructional Resources/Activities
C1 Understandings of Inquiry	1.Students describe how scientists use varied and systematic approaches to investigations that may lead to further investigations.	Students will	
	a.Explain how the type of question informs the type of investigation. b.Explain why it is important to identify and control variables and replicate trials in experiments.	al.explain how the type of question informs the type of investigation. bl.explain why it is important to identify and control variables and replicate trials in experiments.	a1-c1.Teacher Created Projects FAST Program STC Programs
	c.Describe how scientists' analyses of findings can lead to new investigations.	c1.describe how scientists' analyses of findings can lead to new investigations.	
C2 Understandings About Science and Technology	2.Students understand and compare the similarities and differences between scientific inquiry and technological design. a.Compare the process of scientific inquiry to the process of technological design.	Students will	

C3 Science, Technology, and Society	b.Explain how constraints and consequences impact scientific inquiry and technological design. 3.Students identify and describe the role of science and technology in addressing personal and societal challenges.	Students will	
	a.Describe how science and technology can help address societal challenges related to population, natural hazards, sustainability, personal health and safety, and environmental quality.	al.describe how science and technology can help address societal challenges related to population, natural hazards, sustainability, personal health and safety, and environmental quality.	a1-c1.STC: Earth and Space STC: Micro/Macro Building Literacy Skills/Current Events a1-c1.National Geographic website a1-c1.60 Minutes website
	b.Identify personal choices that can either positively or negatively impact society including population, ecosystem sustainability, personal health, and environmental quality.	b1.identify personal choices that can either positively or negatively impact society including population, ecosystem sustainability, personal health, and environmental quality.	
	c.Identify factors that influence the development and use of science and technology.	c1.identify factors that influence the development and use of science and technology.	
C4 History and Nature of Science	4.Students describe historical examples that illustrate how science advances knowledge through the scientists involved and through the ways scientists think and about their work and the work of others.	Students will	

a.Describe how men and women of various backgrounds, working in teams or alone and communicating about their ideas extensively with others, engage in science, engineering, and related fields.

b.Describe a breakthrough from the history of science that contributes to our current understanding of science.

c.Describe and provide examples that illustrate that science is a human endeavor that generates explanations based on verifiable evidence that are subject to change when new evidence does not match existing explanations.

b1.describe a breakthrough from the history of science that contributes to our current understanding of science.

c1.describe and provide examples that illustrate that science is a human endeavor that generates explanations based on verifiable evidence that are subject to change when new evidence does not match existing explanations.

b1-c1.
STC Programs:
Examples:
cell theory
climate change
universe
natural selection
DNA and heredity

Content Area: Science
Unit: Physical Setting
Grade: Grade 8
MLR Span: 6-8

MLR Content Standard: D. The Physical Setting

Students understand the universal nature of matter, energy, force, and motion and identify how these relationships are exhibited in Earth Systems, in the solar system, and throughout the universe.

Physical	MLR Performance	MSAD #54	Instructional
Setting	Indicators	Objectives	Resources/Activities
D1 Universe and Solar System	1.Students explain the movements, and describe the location, composition, and characteristics of our solar system and universe, including planets, the sun, and galaxies.	Students will:	
	a.Describe the different kinds of objects in the solar system including planets, sun, moons, asteroids, and comets. b.Explain the motions that cause days, years, phases of the moon, and eclipses.	a1 .describe the different kinds of objects in the solar system including planets, sun, moons, asteroids, and comets. b1.explain the motions that cause days, years, phases of the moon, and eclipses.	a1-c1.STC: Earth in Space a1-c1.Teacher Created Activities a1-c1.Brainpop website a1-c1.National Geographic website
	c.Describe the location of our solar system in its galaxy and explain that other galaxies exist and that they include stars and planets.	c1.describe the location of our solar system in its galaxy and explain that other galaxies exist and that they include stars and planets.	
D2 Earth	2.Students describe the various cycles, physical and biological forces and processes, position in space, energy transformations,	Students will	

and human actions that affect the short-term and long-term changes to the Earth.		
a.Explain how the tilt of Earth's rotational axis relative to the plane of its yearly orbit around the sun affects the day length and sunlight intensity to cause seasons. b.Describe Earth Systems-biosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and	al.explain how the tilt of Earth's rotational axis relative to the plane of its yearly orbit around the sun affects the day length and sunlight intensity to cause seasons. bl.describe Earth Systemsbiosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere- and cycles and interactions within	a1-f1.STC: Earth in Space a1-f1. Teacher Created Activities a1-f1. National Geographic Website a1-f1.Brainpop website
lithosphere- and cycles and interactions within them (including water moving among and between them, rocks forming and transforming, and weather formation).	them (including water moving among and between them, rocks forming and transforming, and weather formation).	
c.Give several reasons why the climate is different in different regions of the Earth.	c1.give several reasons why the climate is different in different regions of the Earth.	
d.Describe significant Earth resources and how their limited supply affects how they are used.	d1.describe significant Earth resources and how their limited supply affects how they are used.	
e.Describe the effect of gravity on objects on Earth.	e1.describe the effect of gravity on objects on Earth.	
f.Give examples of abrupt changes and slow changes in Earth Systems.	fl.give examples of abrupt changes and slow changes in Earth Systems.	

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D3 Matter and Energy	3.Students describe physical and chemical properties of matter, interactions and changes in matter, and transfer of energy through matter.	Students will	
	a.Describe that all matter is made up of atoms and distinguish between/among elements, atoms, and molecules.	a1.describe that all matter is made up of atoms and distinguish between/among elements, atoms, and molecules.	al-kl. Toppher Creeted
	b.Describe how physical characteristics of elements and types of reactions they undergo have been used to create the Periodic Table.	b1.describe how physical characteristics of elements and types of reactions they undergo have been used to create the Periodic Table.	a1-k1. Teacher Created Activities a1-k1.Brainpop website
	c.Describe the difference between physical and chemical change.	c1.describe the difference between physical and chemical change.	
	d.Explain the relationship of the motion of atoms and molecules to the states of matter for gases, liquids, and solids.	d1.explain the relationship of the motion of atoms and molecules to the states of matter for gases, liquids, and solids.	
	e.Explain how atoms are packed together in arrangements that compose all substances including elements, compounds, mixtures, and solutions.	el.explain how atoms are packed together in arrangements that compose all substances including elements, compounds, mixtures, and solutions.	
	f.Explain and apply the understanding that substances have characteristic	fl.explain and apply the understanding that substances have characteristic properties, including density, boiling point,	

	properties, including density, boiling point, and solubility and these properties are not dependent on the amount of matter present.	and solubility and these properties are not dependent on the amount of matter present.	
	g.Use the idea of atoms to explain the conservation of matter.	g1.use the idea of atoms to explain the conservation of matter.	
	h.Describe several different types of energy forms including heat energy, chemical energy, and mechanical energy.	h1.describe several different types of energy forms including heat energy, chemical energy, and mechanical energy.	
	i.Use examples of energy transformations form one form to another to explain that energy cannot be created or destroyed.	i1.use examples of energy transformations form one form to another to explain that energy cannot be created or destroyed.	
	j.Describe how heat is transferred from one object to another by conduction, convection, and/or radiation.	j1.describe how heat is transferred from one object to another by conduction, convection, and/or radiation.	
	k.Describe the properties of solar radiation and its interaction with objects on Earth.	k1.describe the properties of solar radiation and its interaction with objects on Earth.	
D4 Force and Motion	4.Students describe the force of gravity, the motion of objects, the properties of waves, and the wavelike property of energy in light waves.	Students will:	

a.Describe the similarities and differences in the motion of sound vibrations, earthquakes, and light waves. b.Explain the relationship among visible light, the electromagnetic spectrum, and sight. c.Describe and apply an understanding of how the gravitational force between any two objects would change if their mass or the distance between them changed. d.Describe and apply an understanding of how electric currents and magnets can exert force on each other. e1.STC: Energy, Machines e.Describe and apply el.describe and apply an understanding of the effects of an understanding of the and Motion effects of multiple multiple forces on an object, and forces on an object, how unbalanced forces will cause e1.Brainpop.com and how unbalanced changes in the speed or direction. forces will cause e1. Teacher Created changes in the speed or Activities direction.

Content Area: Science Grade 8
Unit: The Living Environment MLR Span: 6-8

MLR Content Standard: E. The Living Environment

Students understand that cells are the basic unit of life, that all life as we know it has evolved through genetic transfer and natural selection to create a great diversity of organisms, and that these organisms create interdependent webs through which matter an energy flow. Students understand similarities and differences between humans and other organisms and the interconnections of these interdependent webs.

Living	MLR Performance	MSAD #54	Instructional
Environment	Indicators	Objectives	Resources/Activities
E1 Biodiversity	1.Students differentiate among organisms based on biological characteristics and identify patterns of similarity.	Students will	
	a.Compare physical characteristics that differentiate organisms into groups (including plants that use sunlight to make their own food, animals that consume energy-rich food, and organisms that cannot easily be classified as either).		
	b.Explain how biologists use internal and external features to determine relatedness among organisms and to form the basis for classification systems.		
	c.Explain ways to determine whether organisms are the same species.		
	d.Describe how external and internal structures of		

	animals and plants contribute to the variety of ways organisms are able to find food and reproduce.		
E2 Ecosystems	2. Students examine how the characteristics of the physical, non-living (abiotic) environment, the types and behaviors of living (biotic) organisms, and the flow of matter and energy affect organisms and the ecosystem of which they are part.	Students will	
	a.List various kinds of resources within different biomes for which organisms compete.		
	b.Describe ways in which two types of organisms may interact (including competition, predator/prey, producer/consumer/decomp oser, parasitism, and mutualism) and describe the positive and negative consequences of such interactions.		
	c.Describe the source and flow of energy in the two major food webs, terrestrial and marine.		
	d.Describe how matter and energy change from one form to another in living things and in the physical environment.		
	e.Explain that the total amount of matter in the environment stays the same		

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	even as its form and		
	location change.		
E3 Cells	3.Students describe the hierarchy of organization and function in organisms, and the similarities and differences in structure, function, and needs among and within organisms.	Students will	
	a.Describe the basic functions of organisms carried out within cells including the extracting of energy from food and the elimination of wastes.	al.describe the basic functions of organisms carried out within cells including the extracting of energy from food and the elimination of wastes.	a1-d1.STC: Organisms a1-d1.Brainpop.com a1-d1.Teacher Created Activities
	b.Explain the relationship among cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems, including how tissues and organs serve the needs of cells and organisms.	b1.explain the relationship among cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems, including how tissues and organs serve the needs of cells and organisms.	Activities
	c.Compare the structures, systems, and interactions that allow single-celled organisms and multi-celled plants and animals, including humans, to defend themselves, acquire and use energy, self-regulate, reproduce, and coordinate movement.	c1.compare the structures, systems, and interactions that allow single-celled organisms and multi-celled plants and animals, including humans, to defend themselves, acquire and use energy, self-regulate, reproduce, and coordinate movement.	
	d.Explain that all living things are composed of cells numbering from just one to millions.	d1.explain that all living things are composed of cells numbering from just one to millions.	
E4 Heredity and Reproduction	4.Students describe the general characteristics and mechanisms of reproduction and heredity in organisms, including	Students will	

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	humans, and ways in which organisms are affected by their genetic traits.		
	a.Explain that sexual reproduction includes fertilization that results in the inclusion of genetic information from each parent and determines the inherited traits that are a part of every cell.	al.explain that sexual reproduction includes fertilization that results in the inclusion of genetic information from each parent and determines the inherited traits that are a part of every cell.	a1-c1.STC Program: Organisms
	b.Identify some of the risks to the healthy development of an embryo including mother's diet, lifestyle, and hygiene.	b1.identify some of the risks to the healthy development of an embryo including mother's diet, lifestyle, and hygiene.	
	c.Describe asexual reproduction as a process by which all genetic information comes from one parent and determines the inherited traits that are a part of every cell.	c1.describe asexual reproduction as a process by which all genetic information comes from one parent and determines the inherited traits that are a part of every cell.	
E5 Evolution	5.Students describe the evidence that evolution occurs over many generations, allowing species to acquire many of their unique characteristics or adaptations.	Students will	
	a.Explain how the layers of sedimentary rock and their contained fossils provide evidence for the long history of changing life.	al.explain how the layers of sedimentary rock and their contained fossils provide evidence for the long history of changing life.	a1. Earth Study
	b.Describe how small differences between parents and offspring can lead to descendants who are very different from their ancestors.	b1.describe how small differences between parents and offspring can lead to descendants who are very different from their ancestors.	b1-d1. STC: Organisms

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	c.Describe how variations in the behavior and traits of an offspring may permit some of them to survive a changing environment.	c1.describe how variations in the behavior and traits of an offspring may permit some of them to survive a changing environment.	
	d.Explain that new varieties of cultivated plants and domestic animals can be developed through genetic modification and describe the impacts of the new varieties of plants and animals.	d1.explain that new varieties of cultivated plants and domestic animals can be developed through genetic modification and describe the impacts of the new varieties of plants and animals.	