

K.Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems: Animals, Plants, and Their Environment

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Students who demonstrate understanding can:

- K-LS1-1. Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.** [Clarification Statement: Examples of patterns could include that animals need to take in food but plants do not; the different kinds of food needed by different types of animals; the requirement of plants to have light; and that all living things need water.]
- K-ESS2-2. Construct an argument supported by evidence for how plants and animals (including humans) can change the environment to meet their needs.** [Clarification Statement: Examples of plants and animals changing their environment could include a squirrel digs in the ground to hide its food and tree roots can break concrete.]
- K-ESS3-1. Use a model to represent the relationship between the needs of different plants or animals (including humans) and the places they live.** [Clarification Statement: Examples of relationships could include that deer eat buds and leaves, therefore, they usually live in forested areas; and grasses need sunlight so they often grow in meadows. Plants, animals, and their surroundings make up a system.]
- K-ESS3-3. Communicate solutions that will reduce the impact of humans on the land, water, air, and/or other living things in the local environment.*** [Clarification Statement: Examples of human impact on the land could include cutting trees to produce paper and using resources to produce bottles. Examples of solutions could include reusing paper and recycling cans and bottles.]

The performance expectations above were developed using the following elements from the NRC document *A Framework for K-12 Science Education*:

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
<p>Developing and Using Models Modeling in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to include using and developing models (i.e., diagram, drawing, physical replica, diorama, dramatization, or storyboard) that represent concrete events or design solutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use a model to represent relationships in the natural world. (K-ESS3-1) <p>Analyzing and Interpreting Data Analyzing data in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to collecting, recording, and sharing observations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use observations (firsthand or from media) to describe patterns in the natural world in order to answer scientific questions. (K-LS1-1) <p>Engaging in Argument from Evidence Engaging in argument from evidence in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to comparing ideas and representations about the natural and designed world(s).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construct an argument with evidence to support a claim. (K-ESS2-2) <p>Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information in K–2 builds on prior experiences and uses observations and texts to communicate new information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communicate solutions with others in oral and/or written forms using models and/or drawings that provide detail about scientific ideas. (K-ESS3-3) <p style="text-align: center;">----- Connections to Nature of Science</p> <p>Scientific Knowledge is Based on Empirical Evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scientists look for patterns and order when making observations about the world. (K-LS1-1) 	<p>LS1.C: Organization for Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All animals need food in order to live and grow. They obtain their food from plants or from other animals. Plants need water and light to live and grow. (K-LS1-1) <p>ESS2.E: Biogeology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plants and animals can change their environment. (K-ESS2-2) <p>ESS3.A: Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Living things need water, air, and resources from the land, and they live in places that have the things they need. Humans use natural resources for everything they do. (K-ESS3-1) <p>ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Things that people do to live comfortably can affect the world around them. But they can make choices that reduce their impacts on the land, water, air, and other living things. (secondary to K-ESS2-2),(K-ESS3-3) <p>ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Designs can be conveyed through sketches, drawings, or physical models. These representations are useful in communicating ideas for a problem’s solutions to other people. (secondary to K-ESS3-3) 	<p>Patterns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Patterns in the natural and human designed world can be observed and used as evidence. (K-LS1-1) <p>Cause and Effect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Events have causes that generate observable patterns. (K-ESS3-3) <p>Systems and System Models</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Systems in the natural and designed world have parts that work together. (K-ESS2-2),(K-ESS3-1)

Connections to other DCIs in kindergarten: **K.ETS1.A** (K-ESS3-3)

Articulation of DCIs across grade-bands: **1.LS1.A** (K-LS1-1),(K-ESS3-1); **2.LS2.A** (K-LS1-1); **3.LS2.C** (K-LS1-1); **3.LS4.B** (K-LS1-1); **4.ESS2.E** (K-ESS2-2); **4.ESS3.A** (K-ESS3-3); **5.LS1.C** (K-LS1-1); **5.LS2.A** (K-ESS3-1),(K-LS1-1); **5.ESS2.A** (K-ESS2-2),(K-ESS3-1); **5.ESS3.C** (K-ESS3-3)

Common Core State Standards Connections:

ELA/Literacy –

- W.K.1** Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose opinion pieces in which they tell a reader the topic or the name of the book they are writing about and state an opinion or preference about the topic or book. (K-ESS2-2)
- W.K.2** Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic. (K-ESS2-2),(K-ESS3-3)
- W.K.7** Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore a number of books by a favorite author and express opinions about them). (K-LS1-1)
- RI.K.1** With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text. (K-ESS2-2)
- SL.K.5** Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail. (K-ESS3-1)

Mathematics –

- MP.2** Reason abstractly and quantitatively. (K-ESS3-1)
- MP.4** Model with mathematics. (K-ESS3-1)
- K.CC** Counting and Cardinality (K-ESS3-1)
- K.MD.A.2** Directly compare two objects with a measurable attribute in common, to see which object has “more of”/“less of” the attribute, and describe the difference. (K-LS1-1)

*The performance expectations marked with an asterisk integrate traditional science content with engineering through a Practice or Disciplinary Core Idea.

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