

Science -- Benchmarks for Science Grade 4 By Theme

The 4th grade science curriculum has been arranged into themes. It is recommended the benchmarks be taught in the clustered identified below.

The following benchmarks are to be taught by all 4th grade teachers in the Coloma Community School District. Required Assessments are listed. All 4th grade teachers will assess all students using the format and scoring guides (rubrics) specified in the assessment descriptions.

Theme	Standard	Benchmark	Assessment Required
Evolution	III.4.1 All students will explain how scientists construct and scientifically test theories concerning the origin of life and evolution of species.	Explain how fossils provide evidence about the nature of ancient life.	
Ecosystems	III.5.3 All students will investigate and explain how communities of living things change over a period of time	Design systems that encourage growing of particular plants or animals.	
	III.5.4 All students will analyze how humans and the environment interact.	Describe positive and negative effects of humans on the environment.	
Matter and Energy	IV.1.1 All students will measure and describe the things around us.	Classify common objects and substances according to their observable attributes/properties.	Performance Assessment Test Module C
	IV.1.2 “	Identify properties of materials that make them useful.	
	IV.1.3 All students will identify and describe forms of energy	Identify forms of energy associated with common phenomena.	
Changes in Matter	IV.1.4 All students will explain how electricity and magnetism interact with matter.	Construct simple, useful electrical circuits.	
	IV.2.2 All students will investigate, describe and analyze ways in which matter changes.	Prepare mixtures and separate them into their component parts.	
Geosphere	V.1.1 All students will describe the earth’s surface.	Describe major features of the Earth’s surface.	
	V.1.2 “	Recognize and describe different types of earth materials.	Performance Assessment Test Module B
	V.1.3 All students will describe and explain how the earth’s features change over time	Describe natural changes to the earth’s surface.	
	V.1.4 “	Explain how rocks and fossils are used to understand the history of the Earth.	Chapter 3 Test A

Theme	Standard	Benchmark	Assessment Required
Hydrosphere	V.2.1 All students will describe the characteristics of water and demonstrate where water is found on earth.	Describe how water exists on earth in 3 states.	
	V.2.2 All students will describe how water moves.	Trace the path that rain water follows after it falls.	
	V.2.3 All students will analyze the interaction of human activities with the hydrosphere.	Identify sources of water and their uses.	
Atmosphere and Weather	V.3.1 All students will investigate and describe what makes up weather and how it changes from day to day, from season to season and over long periods of time.	Describe weather conditions	
Space	V.4.1 All students will compare and contrast our planet and sun to other planets and star systems.	Compare and contrast characteristics of the sun, moon, and earth.	Technology Project Planet Report
	V.4.2 All students will describe and explain how objects in the solar system move.	Describe the motion of the earth around the sun, and the moon around the earth.	Performance Assessment Test Module A