

Correlations to the National Science Education Standards:

The *National Science Education Standards*,* written by the National Research Council, represents the work of scientists, science educators, teachers, and other experts across the Nation. The *Standards* outline what students in grades K-8 must know, comprehend, and be able to do in order to be scientifically literate. The excerpts below were taken directly from the Science Content Standards: K-4 section of the *Standards*. The correlation of these standards to the activities in this guide is entirely our own.

Activity 1, 2, 3:

"Because the child's world at grades K-4 is closely associated with the home, school, and immediate environment, the study of organisms should include observations and interactions within the natural world of the child."

Activity 2 extension:

"Changes in the environment can be natural or influenced by humans."

Activity 1, 2, 4, 5:

"During their early years, children's natural curiosity leads them to explore the world by observing and manipulating common objects and materials in their environment. Children compare, describe, and sort as they begin to form explanations of the world."

Activity 3, 5 extension, 7, 8, 9 extension:

"In the earliest years, investigations are based on systematic observations. Later on, students may design and conduct simple experiments to answer questions."

Activity 6:

"All animals depend on plants. Some animals eat plants for food. Others eat animals that eat plants."

Activity 8, 10:

"The supply of many resources is limited. If used, they can be extended through recycling and decreased use."

Activity 9:

"Humans change environments in ways that can either be beneficial or detrimental for themselves and other organisms"

Activity 11,12:

"Children develop the ability to explain a problem in their own words and identify a specific task and solution related to the problem."

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