

DRAFT 3rd Grade Unit Guide

<p style="text-align: center;">How do equal and unequal forces on an object affect the object? How can magnets be used?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How do organisms vary in their traits (and life cycles)? How are plants, animals, and environments of the past similar or different from current plant, animals, and environments? What happens to organisms when their environment changes?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">What is typical weather in different parts of the world and during different times of the year? How can the impact of weather-related hazards be reduced?</p>
<p>3-PS2-1. Plan and conduct an investigation to provide evidence of the effects of balanced and unbalanced forces on the motion of an object. [Clarification Statement: Examples could include an unbalanced force on one side of a ball can make it start moving; and, balanced forces pushing on a box from both sides will not produce any motion at all.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to one variable at a time: number, size, or direction of forces. Assessment does not include quantitative force size, only qualitative and relative. Assessment is limited to gravity being addressed as a force that pulls objects down.]</p> <p>3-PS2-2. Make observations and/or measurements of an object's motion to provide evidence that a pattern can be used to predict future motion. [Clarification Statement: Examples of motion with a predictable pattern could include a child swinging in a swing, a ball rolling back and forth in a bowl, and two children on a see-saw.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include technical terms such as period and frequency.]</p> <p>3-PS2-3. Ask questions to determine cause and effect relationships of electric or magnetic interactions between two objects not in contact with each other. [Clarification Statement: Examples of an electric force could include the force on hair from an electrically charged balloon and the electrical forces between a charged rod and pieces of paper; examples of a magnetic force could include the force between two permanent magnets, the force between an electromagnet and steel paperclips, and the force exerted by one magnet versus the force exerted by two magnets. Examples of cause and effect relationships could include how the distance between objects affects strength of the force and how the orientation of magnets affects the direction of the magnetic force.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to forces produced by objects that can be manipulated by students, and electrical interactions are limited to static electricity.]</p> <p>3-PS2-4. Define a simple design problem that can be solved by applying scientific ideas about magnets.* [Clarification Statement: Examples of problems could include constructing a latch to keep a door shut and creating a device to keep two moving objects from touching each other.]</p>	<p>3-LS1-1. Develop models to describe that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles but all have in common birth, growth, reproduction, and death. [Clarification Statement: Changes organisms go through during their life form a pattern.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment of plant life cycles is limited to those of flowering plants. Assessment does not include details of human reproduction.]</p> <p>3-LS2-1. Construct an argument that some animals form groups that help members survive.</p> <p>3-LS3-1. Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence that plants and animals have traits inherited from parents and that variation of these traits exists in a group of similar organisms. [Clarification Statement: Patterns are the similarities and differences in traits shared between offspring and their parents, or among siblings. Emphasis is on organisms other than humans.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include genetic mechanisms of inheritance and prediction of traits. Assessment is limited to non-human examples.]</p> <p>3-LS3-2. Use evidence to support the explanation that traits can be influenced by the environment. [Clarification Statement: Examples of the environment affecting a trait could include normally tall plants grown with insufficient water are stunted; and, a pet dog that is given too much food and little exercise may become overweight.]</p> <p>3-LS4-1. Analyze and interpret data from fossils to provide evidence of the organisms and the environments in which they lived long ago. [Clarification Statement: Examples of data could include type, size, and distributions of fossil organisms. Examples of fossils and environments could include marine fossils found on dry land, tropical plant fossils found in Arctic areas, and fossils of extinct organisms.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include identification of specific fossils or present plants and animals. Assessment is limited to major fossil types and relative ages.]</p> <p>3-LS4-2. Use evidence to construct an explanation for how the variations in characteristics among individuals of the same species may provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing. [Clarification Statement: Examples of cause and effect relationships could be plants that have larger thorns than other plants may be less likely to be eaten by predators; and, animals that have better camouflage coloration than other animals may be more likely to survive and therefore more likely to leave offspring.]</p> <p>3-LS4-3. Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all. [Clarification Statement: Examples of evidence could include needs and characteristics of the organisms and habitats involved. The organisms and their habitat make up a system in which the parts depend on each other.]</p> <p>3-LS4-4. Make a claim about the merit of a solution to a problem caused when the environment changes and the types of plants and animals that live there may change.* [Clarification Statement: Examples of environmental changes could include changes in land characteristics, water distribution, temperature, food, and other organisms.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to a single environmental change. Assessment does not include the greenhouse effect or climate change.]</p>	<p>3-ESS2-1. Represent data in tables and graphical displays to describe typical weather conditions expected during a particular season. [Clarification Statement: Examples of data could include average temperature, precipitation, and wind direction.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment of graphical displays is limited to pictographs and bar graphs. Assessment does not include climate change.]</p> <p>3-ESS2-2. Obtain and combine information to describe climates in different regions of the world.</p> <p>3-ESS3-1. Make a claim about the merit of a design solution that reduces the impacts of a weather-related hazard.* [Clarification Statement: Examples of design solutions to weather-related hazards could include barriers to prevent flooding, wind resistant roofs, and lightning rods.]</p>

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas
<p>Asking Questions and Defining Problems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asking questions and defining problems in grades 3–5 builds on grades K–2 experiences and progresses to specifying qualitative relationships. Ask questions that can be investigated based on patterns such as cause and effect relationships. (3-PS2-3) Define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool. (3-PS2-4) <p>Planning and Carrying Out Investigations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning and carrying out investigations to answer questions or test solutions in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to include investigations that control variables and provide evidence to support explanations or design solutions. Plan and conduct an investigation collaboratively to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence, using fair tests in which variables are controlled and the number of trials considered. (3-PS2-1) Make observations and/or measurements to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence for an explanation of a phenomenon or test a design solution. (3-PS2-2) <p>Developing and Using Models</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modeling in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to building and revising simple models and using models to represent events and design solutions. <p>Analyzing and Interpreting Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop models to describe phenomena. (3-LS1-1) Analyzing data in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to introducing quantitative approaches to collecting data and conducting multiple trials of qualitative observations. When possible and feasible, digital tools should be used. Represent data in tables and various graphical displays (bar graphs and pictographs) to reveal patterns that indicate relationships. (3-ESS2-1) Analyze and interpret data to make sense of phenomena using logical reasoning. (3-LS3-1), (3-LS4-1) <p>Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to the use of evidence in constructing explanations that specify variables that describe and predict phenomena and in designing multiple solutions to design problems. Use evidence (e.g., observations, patterns) to support an explanation. (3-LS3-2) Use evidence (e.g., observations, patterns) to construct an explanation. (3-LS4-2) <p>Engaging in Argument from Evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging in argument from evidence in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to critiquing the scientific explanations or solutions proposed by peers by citing relevant evidence about the natural and designed world(s). Make a claim about the merit of a solution to a problem by citing relevant evidence about how it meets the criteria and constraints of the problem. (3-ESS3-1) <p>Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to evaluating the merit and accuracy of ideas and methods. Obtain and combine information from books and other reliable media to explain phenomena. (3-ESS2-2) <p style="text-align: center;">Crosscutting Concepts</p> <p>Patterns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similarities and differences in patterns can be used to sort and classify natural phenomena. (3-LS3-1) Patterns of change can be used to make predictions. (3-PS2-2), (3-LS1-1), (3-ESS2-1), (3-ESS2-2) <p>Cause and Effect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cause and effect relationships are routinely identified, tested, and used to explain change. (3-PS2-1), (3-PS2-3), (3-LS2-1), (3-LS4-3), (3-LS3-2), (3-LS4-2), (3-ESS3-1) Observable phenomena exist from very short to very long time periods. (3-LS4-1) <p>Systems and System Models</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A system can be described in terms of its components and their interactions. (3-LS4-4) 	<p>PS2.A: Forces and Motion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each force acts on one particular object and has both strength and a direction. An object at rest typically has multiple forces acting on it, but they add to give zero net force on the object. Forces that do not sum to zero can cause changes in the object's speed or direction of motion. (Boundary: Qualitative and conceptual, but not quantitative addition of forces are used at this level.) (3-PS2-1) The patterns of an object's motion in various situations can be observed and measured; when that past motion exhibits a regular pattern, future motion can be predicted from it. (Boundary: Technical terms, such as magnitude, velocity, momentum, and vector quantity, are not introduced at this level, but the concept that some quantities need both size and direction to be described is developed.) (3-PS2-2) <p>PS2.B: Types of Interactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objects in contact exert forces on each other. (3-PS2-1) Electric and magnetic forces between a pair of objects do not require that the objects be in contact. The sizes of the forces in each situation depend on the properties of the objects and their distances apart and, for forces between two magnets, on their orientation relative to each other. (3-PS2-3), (3-PS2-4) <p>LS1.B: Growth and Development of Organisms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reproduction is essential to the continued existence of every kind of organism. Plants and animals have unique and diverse life cycles. (3-LS1-1) <p>LS2.C: Ecosystem Dynamics, Functioning, and Resilience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the environment changes in ways that affect a place's physical characteristics, temperature, or availability of resources, some organisms survive and reproduce, others move to new locations, yet others move into the transformed environment, and some die. (secondary to 3-LS4-4) <p>LS2.D: Social Interactions and Group Behavior</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being part of a group helps animals obtain food, defend themselves, and cope with changes. Groups may serve different functions and vary dramatically in size. (Note: Moved from K–2) (3-LS2-1) <p>LS3.A: Inheritance of Traits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many characteristics of organisms are inherited from their parents. (3-LS3-1) Other characteristics result from individuals' interactions with the environment, which can range from diet to learning. Many characteristics involve both inheritance and environment. (3-LS3-2) <p>LS3.B: Variation of Traits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different organisms vary in how they look and function because they have different inherited information. (3-LS3-1) The environment also affects the traits that an organism develops. (3-LS3-2) <p>LS4.A: Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some kinds of plants and animals that once lived on Earth are no longer found anywhere. (Note: Moved from K–2) (3-LS4-1) Fossils provide evidence about the types of organisms that lived long ago and also about the nature of their environments. (3-LS4-1) <p>LS4.B: Natural Selection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes the differences in characteristics between individuals of the same species provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing. (3-LS4-2) <p>LS4.C: Adaptation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For any particular environment, some kinds of organisms survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all. (3-LS4-3) <p>LS4.D: Biodiversity and Humans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Populations live in a variety of habitats, and change in those habitats affects the organisms living there. (3-LS4-4) <p>ESS2.D: Weather and Climate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientists record patterns of the weather across different times and areas so that they can make predictions about what kind of weather might happen next. (3-ESS2-1) Climate describes a range of an area's typical weather conditions and the extent to which those conditions vary over years. (3-ESS2-2) <p>ESS3.B: Natural Hazards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A variety of natural hazards result from natural processes. Humans cannot eliminate natural hazards but can take steps to reduce their impacts. (3-ESS3-1) (Note: This Disciplinary Core Idea is also addressed by 4-ESS3-2.)

¹ This content can be integrated into multiple units; mastery is expected at the end of the year.