Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

Standard	Learning Objective	Clarification Statement
3.LS4.1 Analyze and interpret data from fossils to provide evidence of the organisms and the environments in which they lived long ago. 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.*	**1.0** Analyze **fossils** to **connect organisms to their environment**.	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.
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. Assessment Boundary: *None.*	**2.0** Explain how **variations in species help them survive**.	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.
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. Assessment Boundary: *None.*	**3.0** Explain how **habitat affects an organism's survival**.	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.
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. Assessment Boundary: *Assessment is limited to a single environmental change. Assessment does not include the greenhouse effect or climate change.*	**4.0** Assess the **solution to a problem** caused by **environmental changes** that affect the organisms living there.	Examples of environmental changes could include changes in land characteristics, water distribution, temperature, food, and other organisms.

Grade 3 – Earth & Space Sciences

Earth's Systems

Standard	Learning Objective	Clarification Statement
3.ESS2.1 Represent data in tables and graphical displays to describe typical weather conditions expected during a particular season. Assessment Boundary: *Assessment of graphical displays is limited to pictographs and bar graphs. Assessment does not include climate change.*	**1.0** Describe **weather conditions** expected in a season.	Examples of data could include average temperature, precipitation, and wind direction.
3.ESS2.2 Obtain and combine information to describe climates in different regions of the world. Assessment Boundary: *None.*	**2.0** Describe **climates** in different regions of the world.	Not available.