

Start Strong Science Reporting Performance Level Descriptor

HS (High School) Less Support Needed Performance Descriptor

Students at this level demonstrated appropriate understanding of the High School scientific concepts and practices in the three tested content domains: Earth & Space, Life, and Physical Science.

Students at this level are typically able to:

- Ask questions to revise/refine a model and determine quantitative relationships.
- Frame a hypothesis based on a model/theory, evaluate simple questions that challenge an argument, and plan an investigation.
- Develop simple models, revise various models, apply/analyze data and statistics, and apply/use mathematical representations to see if a model is viable or to decide if qualitative or quantitative data meet criteria for success.
- Make/revise claims, evaluate/defend a claim, choose between competing arguments, and integrate information from multiple sources.

Students at this level will likely need minimal support to learn more advanced concepts and be able to:

- Analyze/evaluate/revise questions to determine relationships or to provide explanations.
- Develop/revise complex models that test and predict relationships.
- Revise/evaluate an investigation in which an independent variable is manipulated or in which an unsatisfactory performance is found.
- Evaluate data and statistics to solve problems, to make claims, or to design solutions.
- Create a model or justify the choice of qualitative versus quantitative data through the use of mathematical computations.
- Evaluate/construct/critique claims, and evaluate information from multiple sources to determine the usefulness of evidence.