

Start Strong Science Reporting Performance Level Descriptor

HS (High School) Strong Support Needed Performance Descriptor

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

To a limited degree, students at this level are typically able to:

- Identify/ask questions that examine relationships, frame a hypothesis, and evaluate/revise an investigation that includes data collecting and the effects of independent variables on dependent variables.
- Organize/use/compare simple data sets and models to identify relationships, mathematical concepts, and components of a system.
- Identify evidence obtained from multiple sources, identify counter arguments and evidence that supports or refutes a scientific claim.
- Critically read and compare scientific texts to describe patterns, and assess the credibility of a claim.

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

- Ask questions to clarify a model, determine qualitative relationships, or to counter arguments/data.
- Conduct investigations that test a model, identify constraints/variables, produce data, and identify hypotheses on how independent variables affect dependent variables.
- Organize/use/compare data sets and models, describe when to use qualitative versus quantitative data, apply mathematical concepts, use data and apply statistics to solve scientific problems.
- Use a model to predict relationships.
- Compare and communicate information from multiple sources.
- Identify main points of an argument, and defend a claim based on evidence.