CONCEPT AND SKILL ANALYSIS AND ALLOCATION OF NGSS STANDARDS: HIGH SCHOOL (Grades 9-11)

The NGSS standards have been allocated to transferable concepts and skills embedded within comprehensive structures for each. Both comprehensive structures are organized cognitively according to generality, complexity, and abstractness, three properties that characterize intellectual growth.

BASIC CONCEPT	SUB-CON	CEPT	SUB-SUB-CONCEPT
LANGUAGE OF SCIENCE A nature of matter 	 ENTITY, SYSTEM, MATTER A things and substances (intensive, extensive properties) delineation, naming wave as entity system environment, context 	 HIERARCHY OF MATTER A elements, compounds, mixtures kinetic theory of matter Periodic table 	BULK SCALE A HS-PS1-3 Structure of bulk-scale substances depend on the inter-molecular forces. MOLECULAR SCALE B HS-PS2-6 The molecular-level structure affects the functioning of designed materials. ATOMS AND ATOMIC STRUCTURE C HS-PS1-1 Relative properties of elements are based on the patterns of the valence electrons. NUCLEUS AND ELEMENTARY PARTICLES • Radioactivity d HS-ESS1-3 Stars, over their life cycles, produce the elements.
		HIERARCHY OF LIFELIFEAHS-LS1-1 DNA determines the proteins that carry out life's functions in specialized cells.HS-LS1-2 The hierarchy of life provides specific functions to interacting systems 	MOLECULAR LEVEL OF LIFE a CELLULAR LEVEL OF LIFE B • organelles B TISSUE ORGAN ORGAN SYSTEM ORGANISM POPULATION COMMUNITY
	PROPERTY/MEASUREMENT	А	
	 CHANGE/ PROCESS change-over-time HS-ESS1-2 The Big Bang th spectra, galaxy motion, and t universe. HS-ESS1-5 Plate tectonics. HS-ESS1-6 Earth's formatio be inferred from rocks, meter surfaces. HS-ESS2-1 Earth's surface f 	he composition of the n and early history can prites, and planetary	RATIO, PERCENTAGE A SEQUENCE of EVENTS, TIME, RATE A CYCLE B • input-output B • dynamic equilibrium B HS-ESS2-5 The water and rock cycles are linked through the effects of water. HS-ESS2-6 Carbon cycles among the hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere.
	HS-ESS2-1 Earth's surface r wide variety of processes. HS-ESS2-2 Feedback from a surface can induce changes in	a change to Earth's	CORRELATION, CAUSALITYB• (in)dependent, controlled variableHS-ESS3-6 The relationships among Earth's systems are being modified by human activity.

HS-ESS2-3 Matter cycles by convection in Earth's interior.		
HS-ESS2-4 Climate changes are induced by variations in energy flow through Earth's systems.		
HS-ESS2-7 Earth's systems and life have evolved in tandem.	GRAPH, EQUATION B	
HS-ESS3-5 Both the magnitude and rate of climate change will cause impacts to Earth's systems.		

SUB-CONCEPT	SUB-SUB-CONCEPT
	HABITAT, NICHE A
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT A	RESOURCE, POLLUTANT A
surroundings, contextbiome	DESIGNED or CONSTRUCTED ENVIRONMENT b
	CONSERVATION, RESTORATION B
DIVERSITY A • community	SPATIAL , TEMPORAL DISTRIBUTION B STATISTICAL DISTRIBUTION b
	Normal (bell) distribution
COMPLEMENTARITY B • equilibrium of flows and reservoirs	FORM AND FUNCTION A
HS-LS2-6 Equilibrium flows and reservoirs may be altered to produce new ecosystems.	CARRYING CAPACITY (NATURAL LIMITS) A HS-LS2-1 Various factors affect carrying capacity at various scales.
healthy human populations are inter-dependent.	SUCCESSION, CLIMAX a
	CYCLE B
	HS-LS2-5 Photosynthesis and cellular respiration affect the carbon cycle.
	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT A • surroundings, context • biome A DIVERSITY A • community B • equilibrium of flows and reservoirs HS-LS2-6 Equilibrium flows and reservoirs may be altered to produce new ecosystems. HS-ESS3-3 Biodiversity, resource management and

BASIC CONCEPT	SUB-CONCEPT	SUB-SUB-CONCEPT	
ENERGY B • energy resources and uses	 ENERGY FORMS & TRANSFORMATION A groupings: potential, mechanical photosynthesis, cellular respiration 	POSITION (GRAVITATIONAL) ENERGY, KINETIC ENERGY A • mechanical energy	
	metabolism/respiration	THERMAL, CHEMICAL ENERGIES A	
	HS-PS3-1 An object's energy is calculated from	ELASTIC ENERGY A	
	energy inputs, outputs or changes in other objects' energy.	WAVE ENERGY B	
	HS-PS3-2 The forms of energy are based in particle motion or field potential energy.	ELECTRICAL-MAGNETIC ENERGY B	
	 HS-PS3-3 Many devices convert one form of energy into another. HS-PS3-5 Changing forces between electromagnetically interacting objects changes their potential energies. HS-LS1-5 Photosynthesis transforms light to chemical energy. 	NUCLEAR/MASS ENERGYBHS-PS1-8 The atomic nucleus changes composition and releases energy during decay, fission, and fusionBHS-ESS1-1 Nuclear fusion, the sun's radiant emissions and life cycle.B	
		CONDUCTION A	
	HEAT TRANSFER a	CONVECTION A	
		RADIATION B ADVECTION b • transfer thru latent heat	
	CONSERVATION OF ENERGY B		
	EFFICIENCY C		
	ENERGY FLOW, WORK C • bulk flow vs. molecular flow		
	POWER D		
	ENERGY DEGRADATION d	ENTROPY A • molecular disorder • 2 nd law of thermodynamics	

BASIC CONCEPT	SUB-CONCEPT	SUB-SUB-CONCEPT
 WAVES C representation type/media: surface, sound, light/radiation, vibration properties: wavelength, frequency, amplitude, speed, direction, energy HS-PS4-1 Properties of waves 	 PRODUCTION, ABSORPTION, PROPAGATION A color of things and substances transmission and capture of information/energy transverse, longitudinal, polarized waves perception, spectra HS-PS4-4 Different frequencies of EM radiation have varying effects when absorbed by matter. HS-PS4-5 Devices can absorb or emit waves to transmit on contrast information or energy 	INTERFACE A partial reflection, transmission, absorption
and their relationships. HS-PS4-2 Digital transmission and storage of information is advantageous.	transmit or capture information or energy.	SUPERPOSITION, INTERFERENCE, RESONANCE B DOPPLER EFFECT C • shock wave, wake
	OPTICS A • focus • optical instruments	
	REFLECTION A • luster/sheen	
	REFRACTION B • Snell's Law • total internal reflection	DISPERSION a
	DIFFRACTION c	
	DUALITY (WAVE-PARTICLE) a HS-PS4-3 EM radiation can be described as either	
	wave or particle, whichever is more useful.	

BASIC CONCEPT	SUB-CONCEPT	SUB-SUB-CONC	EPT
GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT C	STAGE/PHASE A embryo, infancy, childhood, adolescence, adult, elder life cycle 	GENESIS MATURATION METAMORPHOSIS • molting DEGENERATION, SENESCENCE REGENERATION	A A A a b
	DIFFERENTIATION, SPECIALIZATIONB• cell division (mitosis)HS-LS1-4 Cellular division and differentiation produce and maintain complex systems.		
	LINEAR, EXPONENTIAL, GEOMETRICAL INCREASE B		

BASIC CONCEPT	SUB-CONCEPT	SUB-SUB-CONCEPT
CHEMICAL REACTION Dreactants, products		COMBUSTION A • reduction/oxidation
 the mole number/mass/volume stoichiometry 	 PATTERNS IN CHEMICAL REACTIONS a synthesis/decomposition single/dbl displacement 	POLYMERIZATION b • plastics • organic macro-molecules
• solutions stoichiometry		ACID/BASE, NEUTRALIZATION b
HS-PS1-2 Relative properties of elements are based on the patterns of the valence electrons. HS-PS1-7 Atoms and therefore mass are conserved	BONDING A • octet rule ionic/covalent bonds • molecular structure (Lewis, VSEPR) • inter-molecular forces (dipole, hydrogen, metallic and dispersion bonds) • solvent-solute interaction	CARBON-BASED BONDING A
during chemical reactions.	CHEMICAL ENERGY, THERMAL ENERGY b	
HS-LS1-6 Sugar molecules provide the atoms that form amino acids and other large molecules.HS-LS1-7 Cellular respiration breaks and forms molecular bonds for a net energy transfer.	 CHEMICAL ENERGY, THERMAL ENERGY 0 thermochemistry sensible, latent heat ionization energy, bond energy heat of reaction, heat of formation activation energy, exo/endothermic reactions Hess's Law HS-PS1-4 Heat flows during a chemical reaction depend on changes in bond energy. 	ENTROPY, FREE ENERGY a
	KINETICS b • catalyst	CHEMICAL EQUILIBRIUM a • Le Chatelier's principle
	HS-PS1-5 Changing the temp. or concentration affects the rate of a chemical reaction.	HS-PS1-6 Changing the conditions of a chemical reaction changes the equilibrium between reactants & products.

BASIC CONCEPT	SUB-CONCEPT	SUB-SUB-CONCEPT
REPRODUCTION, HEREDITY D	SEXUAL, ASEXUAL REPRODUCTION A • cellular reproduction	
• inherited traits		
 dominant/recessive traits Punnett squares succession, pedigree 	FERTILITY, FERTILIZATION a • pollination ovulation, menstruation	
, r		
	GENETIC CODE, CODE B • genetic variation, gene/allele	TRANSLATIONAtranscription, replicationRNA functions
	HS-LS3-1 DNA and chromosomes code the traits passed from parents to offspring.	TRANSMISSION b
	HS-LS3-2 Genetic variations result from meiosis,	EXPRESSION B • Epi-genetics
	replication errors, and/or externally-caused mutations. HS-LS3-3 The distribution of expressed traits	MUTATION b • genetic drift • environment affects
	varies in a population.	

BASIC CONCEPT	SUB-CONCEPT	SUB-SUB-CONCEPT
EVOLUTION D HS-LS4-1 Common ancestry and biological evolution are supported by empirical evidence.	SELECTIONA• natural selection• sexual selection• forced selectionHS-LS4-2 Natural selection: pop. increase + indiv. variation + competition = survival & reproduction.HS-LS4-3 Organisms with an advantageous	VARIATION, ADAPTATION A
	 heritable trait tend to increase relative to those without. HS-LS4-4 Natural selection leads to adaptation of populations. HS-LS4-5 Environmental changes may cause population changes, speciation, or extinction. 	EXTINCTION A
		SPECIATION B • convergence • co-evolution
	GENETIC EVOLUTION a	

BASIC CONCEPT	SUB-CONCEPT	SUB-SUB-CONCEPT
MOTION, FORCES E	VELOCITY, DISPLACEMENT A	FRAMES OF REFERENCE b
• types of motion	Displacement versus path distancespeed plus direction	SPECIAL RELATIVITY c
(ir/regular, repetitive, accelerated, etc.)	speed plus direction	
 interaction 		FRICTION A
• types of forces (contact,		GRAVITY A
gravity, elastic, electro-	FORCES, NET FORCE, NEWTON'S 1 st and 3 RD	Universal gravitation
magnetic, etc.)	LAWS A	ELECTROSTATIC FORCE b
• gravity, weight, mass	• types of forces	STATIC FLUID FORCES b
	• force vector manipulation: scaled diagram,	DYNAMIC FLUID FORCES b
	components	• Lift, drag
	HS-PS2-4 Universal gravitation and electrostatic	SURFACE TENSION, CAPILLARY EFFECT b
	forces.	TORQUE/MOMENTS, CENTER OF GRAVITY b • balance
		PRESSURE b
	HS-ESS1-4 The motion of orbiting objects can be	tension, compression
	predicted mathematically.	• shear
		liftstatic fluid forces
		STRENGTH c • stress, strain
		LAMINAR FLOW, TURBULENCE A
	FLUID FLOW a	current, streamlines BOUNDARY CONDITIONS b
		BOUNDART CONDITIONS 0
	ACCELERATION, NEWTON'S 2 ND LAW B	
	kinematics	
	linear dynamics	
	• impulse-momentum	FICTITIOUS FORCE a
	HS-PS2-1 Newton's Second law.	Accelerated frames of reference
	113-132-1 INCWION'S Second law.	Coriolis force
	HS-PS2-3 Solutions can be designed to minimize	
	the forces during a collision.	
	2- & 3-DIMENSIONAL MOTION C	
	2- & 3-DIMENSIONAL MOTION C • vectors for d, v, & a	PROJECTILE MOTION A CIRCULAR MOTION B
	• central force, universal gravitation	HARMONIC MOTION b
	CONSERVATION OF MOMENTUM C	
	HS-PS2-2 Conservation of momentum.	
	ROTATIONAL DYNAMICS d	CONSERVATION OF ANGULAR MOMENTUM, ANGULAR ENERGY A
	• angular motion properties	
		ROLLING b
	QUANTUM MECHANICS e	

BASIC CONCEPT	SUB-CONCEP	Г	SUB-SUB-CONC	CEPT
REGULATION (CONTROL) E	SWITCH • trigger	А		
HS-LS1-3 Feedback mechanisms maintain homeostasis.	FEEDBACK positive, negative feedback connectivity	А		
	EQUILIBRIUM • homeostasis • health	В	RESTORING MECHANISM	А
			SUSTAINABILITY THRESHOLD, CRITICAL MASS • tipping point	a b
	PERTURBATION, MALFUNCTIONdiseaseabnormality	В	CONTAGION VECTOR • propagation of perturbation	А
			EPIDEMIC ADDICTION	a b

BASIC CONCEPT	SUB-CONCEPT	SUB-SUB-CONCEPT
ELECTRICITY, MAGNETISM E • charge, polarity • conductors, insulators • attraction/repulsion	SIMPLE CIRCUIT, OHM'S LAW A • load, source/supply current, resistance, voltage • open circuit, short circuit • • alternating and direct current	
 mapping elec & mag fields 	CONSERVATION OF CURRENT, VOLTAGE b • Kirchoff's Laws • series, parallel, combination circuits	CONTROL MECHANISM a • relay, diode, transistor/gate, integrated circuit, transformer
HS-PS2-5 Electric currents produce magnetic fields; Changing magnetic fields	ELECTRIC FORCE FIELD, ELECTRIC POTENTIAL c • Coulomb's Law; Inverse square law	GAUSS'S LAW a line of force flux CAPACITANCE b
produce electric currents.	MOTOR, GENERATOR , TRANSFORMER c	
	MAGNETIC FORCE FIELD d • Force on moving charges	AMPERE'S LAW a ELECTROMAGNETIC INDUCTANCE b • Lenz's Law magnetic flux • transformers AC inductance
	Bio-Savart law	FARADAY'S LAW c • (Self-) inductance c LR, LC, LRC CIRCUITS d MAXWELL'S EQUATIONS d

BASIC CONCEPT SUB-CONCEPT		SUB-SUB-CONCEPT		
BEHAVIOR E • stimulus-response • classical, operant conditioning	INSTINCT	А	MATING • female choice	А
• survival, self-interest, cooperation			AGGRESSION	А
• nature vs. nurture	COMMUNICATION	А	PERSUASION	a
			COGNITIONAccommodation, Assimilation, AdaptaThinking and reasoning	A
	LEARNING memory language 	b	KNOWLEDGE TRANSFERhigher-order thinkingproblem solving, decision making	В
			MOTIVATION, EMOTION • curiosity • hierarchy of needs	b
			COMPETENCE, INTELLIGENCE	С
	PERSONALITY	b	ALTRUISM • reciprocity	b
	 STATES OF CONSCIOUSNESS sleep and dreams hypnosis, meditation drug induced 	С		

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND DESIGN.

MAJOR CATEGORY	SUB-CATEGORY	SUB-SUB-CATEGORY
EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN / INQUIRY	QUESTION, HYPOTHESIS, PURPOSE	INDEPENDENT, DEPENDENT, CONTROLLED VARIABLES
		OBSERVATION, MEASUREMENT
		MODELING, SIMULATION TRIAL AND ERROR
		CONTROLLED EXPERIMENT
		SURVEY
	PROCEDURE, METHOD	PRIMARY SOURCEdiary & journals, interview, letter, periodical of time, oral
		tradition, official records.
		SECONDARY SOURCE
		• texts, reference books, author commentary, library/internet research.
	RESULTS, DATA, OBSERVATIONS	
	ANALYSIS, CONCLUSION	ERROR, VALIDITY, RELIABILITY
LAB SAFETY		
INFERENTIAL & PROCEDURAL PROBLEM SOLVING	SEQUENCE, COORDINATION	
	dating, timelines	
	AND, OR	
	IFTHEN	
THE DESIGN PROCESS	IDENTIFY PROBLEM/GOAL	CRITERIA, CONSTRAINTS
HS-PS3-3 Design, build, and	divide into smaller components	RESOURCES, MATERIALS
refine a device within given	GATHER INFORMATION	KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS
constraints that converts one	evidence	
form of energy into another.	DEVELOP MULTIPLE OPTIONS	
HS-LS2-7 Solutions can be	SELECT, REFINE, DESIGN a SOLUTION	
designed to reduce humans' impact on ecosystems.	CONSTRUCT SOLUTION or PROTOTYPE	
	EVALUATE SOLUTION	COSTS, BENEFITS, TRADE-OFFS
HS-ESS3-4 Solutions can be		HS-ESS3-2 Design solutions to energy and
designed that reduce the		resource problems are evaluated on cost-benefit
impact of humans on natural systems.		ratios. EFFICIENCY, EFFECTIVENESS
systems.	COMMUNICATE SOLUTION	
HS-ETS1-1 Quantitative and		
qualitative criteria and constraints for solutions to		
global challenges.		
HS-ETS1-2 Complex		
problems can often be solved by breaking them into		
smaller, component		
problems.	RE-DESIGN SOLUTION	
USETS1 2 Design for 1	AL PLOID JOLUTION	
HS-ETS1-3 Design trade- offs: cost, safety, reliability,		
aesthetics, social, cultural,		
envir. impacts.		
HS-ETS1-4 Computers can		
simulate complex real-world		
problems.		

MAJOR CATEGORY	SUB-CATEGORY	SUB-SUB-CATEGORY
MODELING	MAPPING	
picturing, 3-D modeling	• incl. topographical, political, social, resource, climatic	
faithfulness, accuracy, precision		
Perspective, labeling, scaling.		
	GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS	
	• diagram, flow chart, web, concept map	
	GRAPHIC DISPLAY	
	• pie, bar, line graphs	
MATHEMATICAL	BASIC OPERATIONS	
MANIPULATION	Add, subtract, multiply, divide	
	UNIT CONVERSION	
	ALGEBRAIC MANIPULATION	
	GEOMETRY	
	VECTORS, TRIGONOMETRY	
	DIFFERENTIALS, INTEGRALS	
	MISC. MATH SKILLS	