Plankton Activities

Explore and discover the amazing wold of plankton without the need of a microscope.

Grade level	Academic Standards			
	Preformance Expectation	**Sci. & Engineering Practice**	**Disciplinary Core Idea**	**Crosscutting Concept**
K-2				
3-5	**3-3- LS4-2** Physical Characteristics help survival **4-4-LS1-1** Structure supports function	Constructing explanations and designing solutions: Support an explanation using evidence (e.g., measurements, observations, patterns). Construct an explanation using evidence (e.g., measurements, observations, patterns). Use a model to support an argument.	NATURAL SELECTION Sometimes the differences in characteristics between individuals of the same species provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing. (**UE.LS4B.a**) STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION Plants and animals have both internal and external structures that serve various functions in growth, survival, behavior, and reproduction. (**UE.LS1A.a**)	STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION SYSTEMS AND SYSTEM MODELS A system can be described in terms of its components and their interactions.
6-8	**MS-LS1-4** Animal Structure and function as applies to reproduction and defense Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth of organisms (**MS-LS1-5**)	Construct an explanation that includes qualitative relationships to predict and describe a phenomena.	Within every population, there are variations of organisms.. (**MS.LS4B.a**) Growth and development of organisms. Genetic factors as well as local conditions affect the growth of an organism. (**LS1.B.**)	PATTERNS STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION CAUSE AND EFFECT Phenomena may have more than one cause, and some cause and effect relationships in systems can only be described using probability.
9-12	**HS-LS1-2** Develop and use a model to illustrate the hierarchical organization of interacting systems that provide specific functions within multicellular organisms Evaluate the claims, evidence, and reasoning that the complex interactions in ecosystems maintain relatively consistent numbers and types of organisms in stable conditions but changing conditions may result in a new ecosystem. (**HS-LS2-6**)	Developing and using models: Develop, revise, and/or use a model based on evidence to illustrate and/or predict the relationships between systems or between components of a system.	Multicellular organisms have a hierarchical structural organization, in which any one system is made up of numerous parts and is itself a component of the next level. (**HS.LS1A.b**) Ecosystem Dynamics, Functioning and Resilience. Exploring fluctuation evidence in an ecosystem (**LS2.C.**)	SYSTEMS AND SYSTEM MODELS Models (e.g., physical, mathematical, computer models) can be used to simulate systems and interactions—including energy, matter, and information flows— within and between systems at different scales.

Can be paired with activities: Squid Anatomy Scramble, Sponge Hunt, ZooPlankton Anatomy/ Identification