

Academic Vocabulary

CONTENT BUILDER FOR THE PLC

SCIENCE
GRADE 3

PLEASE NOTE: The words contained in **Academic Vocabulary** are words/concepts/terms essential for concept development; this list is not intended to be comprehensive. The “new to grade level” vocabulary suggestions are a starting point, and educators are encouraged to refer to their district curriculum resources for additional words/concepts/terms.

Physical Properties of Matter

3.5 Matter and energy. The student knows that matter has measurable physical properties and those properties determine how matter is classified, changed, and used.

important words for concept development				
subcluster	standards	new to grade level		previously introduced
Properties of Matter	3.5(A), 3.5(B), 3.5(C)	Celsius (C) condensation* Fahrenheit (F) states of matter* (solid, liquid, gas) water vapor*	cooling* evaporation* float force heating* magnetism (attracts)	mass matter physical property sink temperature
Mixtures	3.5(D)	mixture	combine ingredient	

Force, Motion, and Energy

3.6 Force, motion, and energy. The student knows that forces cause change and that energy exists in many forms.

important words for concept development				
subcluster	standards	new to grade level		previously introduced
Forms of Energy	3.6(A)	mechanical energy		energy
				light energy
				sound energy
				thermal energy
Force and Motion	3.6(B), 3.6(C)	repel		attract
		gravity		force*
				motion*
				position*
				pull
				push

Natural Resources and Changes to Earth's Surface

3.7 Earth and space. The student knows that Earth consists of natural resources and its surface is constantly changing.

important words for concept development			
subcluster	standards	new to grade level	previously introduced
Soil Formation	3.7(A)	decomposition soil formation weathering	soil
Changes to Earth's Surface	3.7(B)	earthquake* erupt landslide* volcano*	
Natural Resources	3.7(C)		conservation/conserve natural resource product

Space and Weather

3.8 Earth and space. The student knows there are recognizable patterns in the natural world and among objects in the sky.

important words for concept development				
subcluster	standards	new to grade level		previously introduced
Objects in the Sky	3.8(B), 3.8(C), 3.8(D)	inner planet	Earth*	rotate/rotation*
		model*	light energy	star*
Weather	3.8(A)	orbit*	Moon	Sun*
		outer planet*	revolve/revolution	thermal energy*
		planet* (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune)		
		relationship		
		solar system*		
		wind vane	atmosphere	rain gauge
			cloud cover*	temperature*
			degrees Celsius* °C	thermometer*
			degrees Fahrenheit °F	weather*
			precipitation*	wind*

Relationships Within Environments

3.9 Organisms and environments. The student knows and can describe patterns, cycles, systems, and relationships within the environments.

important words for concept development				
subcluster	standards	new to grade level		previously introduced
Environments and Ecosystems	3.9(A), 3.9(C)	community	flood	physical characteristic
		drought	perish	
Environments and Ecosystems	3.9(A), 3.9(C)	ecosystem	population	
		environment	species	
		environmental change	thrive	
Food Chains	3.9(B)	community		consumer
		decomposer		ecosystem
		population		food chain
				producer

Survival of Plants and Animals

3.10 Organisms and environments. The student knows that organisms undergo similar life processes and have structures that help them survive within their environments.

important words for concept development					
subcluster	standards	new to grade level		previously introduced	
Adaptations	3.10(A)	function		environment	
		structure		movement	
		survive		protection	
Life Cycles	3.10(B)	complete metamorphosis	metamorphosis	adult plant	larva*
		froglet*	stage*	egg*	life cycle*
		incomplete metamorphosis	tadpole*	flower	pupa
		lady beetle		frog*	seed*
				fruit	seedling*