TEXAS ASSESSMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS (TAKS)

BLUEPRINT FOR GRADE 5 SCIENCE

Objectives	Number of Items
1—Nature of Science	13
2—Life Science	9
3—Physical Science	9
4—Earth Science	9
Total number of items	40

Curriculum Rationale

Objective 1 focuses on an understanding of scientific processes and includes design of investigations, accurate data collection, the use of models to represent the natural world, and data analysis. Because an understanding of the nature of science is critical to scientific literacy, this objective is given slightly more emphasis (13 items) than Objectives 2, 3, and 4.

Objectives 2, 3, and 4 include the primary content strands of science—life, earth, and physical—and are therefore given equal emphasis (9 items each) on the assessment.

A 40-item science test will provide an accurate snapshot of students' understanding of elementary science concepts and skills.