These draft proposed revisions reflect the changes to the science Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) that have been recommended by State Board of Education-appointed TEKS streamlining committees for Kindergarten - Grade 2. Proposed deletions are shown in red font with strikethroughs (deletions). Text proposed to be moved from its current student expectation is shown in purple font with strikethrough (moved text) and is shown in the proposed new location in purple font with underlines (new text location). Recommendations to clarify language are shown in blue font with underlines (clarifying language). Green text identifies (technical edits).

Comments identified on the left-hand side link to explanations for the proposed changes. To view a comment, click on the number of the comment or scroll to the end of the grade level or course.

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§112.11. Science, Kindergarten, **Adopted 2017.** [Beginning with School Year 2010-2011.]

(a) Introduction.

(1) In Kindergarten, students observe and describe the natural world using their five senses. Students do science as inquiry in order to develop and enrich their abilities to understand scientific concepts and processes. Students develop vocabulary through their experiences investigating properties of common objects, earth materials, and organisms.

(A) A central theme throughout the study of scientific investigation and reasoning; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and environment is active engagement in asking questions, communicating ideas, and exploring with scientific tools. Scientific investigation and reasoning involves practicing safe procedures, asking questions about the natural world, and seeking answers to those questions through simple observations and descriptive investigations.

(B) Matter is described in terms of its physical properties, including relative size, shape, color, and texture. The importance of light, heat, and sound energy is identified as it relates to the students’ everyday life. The location and motion of objects are explored.

(C) Weather is recorded and discussed on a daily basis so students may begin to recognize patterns in the weather. Other patterns are observed in the appearance of objects in the sky.

(D) In life science, students recognize the interdependence of organisms in the natural world. They understand that all organisms have basic needs that can be satisfied through interactions with living and nonliving things. Students will investigate the life cycle of plants and identify likenesses between parents and offspring.

(2) Science, as defined by the National Academy of Sciences, is the "use of evidence to construct testable explanations and predictions of natural phenomena, as well as the knowledge generated through this process."

(3) Recurring themes are pervasive in sciences, mathematics, and technology. These ideas transcend disciplinary boundaries and include patterns, cycles, systems, models, and change and constancy.

(4) The study of elementary science includes planning and safely implementing classroom and outdoor investigations using scientific processes, including inquiry methods, analyzing information, making informed decisions, and using tools to collect and record information, while addressing the major concepts and vocabulary, in the context of physical, earth, and life sciences. Districts are encouraged to facilitate classroom and outdoor investigations for at least 80% of instructional time.
(C) Weather is recorded and discussed on a daily basis so students may begin to recognize patterns in the weather. Other patterns are observed in the appearance of objects in the sky.

(D) In life science, students recognize the interdependence of organisms in the natural world. They understand that all organisms have basic needs that can be satisfied through interactions with living and nonliving things. Students will investigate the life cycle of plants and identify likenesses between parents and offspring.

(5) Statements containing the word "including" reference content that must be mastered, while those containing the phrase "such as" are intended as possible illustrative examples.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student conducts classroom and outdoor investigations following home and school safety procedures and uses environmentally appropriate and responsible practices. The student is expected to:

(A) identify, discuss, and demonstrate safe and healthy practices as outlined [described] in the TEA-approved safety standards [Texas Safety Standards] during classroom and outdoor investigations, including wearing safety goggles, washing hands, and using materials appropriately; and

(B) discuss the importance of safe practices to keep self and others safe and healthy; and

(C) demonstrate how to use, conserve, and dispose of natural resources and materials such as conserving water and reusing or recycling paper, plastic, and metal.

(2) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student develops abilities to ask questions and seek answers in classroom and outdoor investigations. The student is expected to:

(A) ask questions about organisms, objects, and events observed in the natural world;

(B) plan and conduct simple descriptive investigations [such as ways objects move];

Comment 1

(C) collect data and make observations using simple [equipment such as hand lenses, primary balances, and non-standard measurement] tools;

Comment 2

(D) record and organize data and observations using pictures, numbers, and words; and

(E) communicate observations [with others] about simple descriptive investigations.

(3) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student knows that information and critical thinking are used in scientific problem solving. The student is expected to:

(A) identify and explain a problem, such as the impact of littering, [on the playground] and propose a solution [in his/her own words];

(B) make predictions based on observable patterns in nature [such as the shapes of leaves]; and

(C) explore that scientists investigate different things in the natural world and use tools to help in their investigations.

(4) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student uses age-appropriate tools and models to investigate the natural world. The student is expected to:

(A) collect information using tools, including computers, hand lenses, primary balances, cups, bowls, magnets, collecting nets, and notebooks; timing devices, [including clocks and timers]; non-standard measuring items [such as paper clips and clothespins]; weather instruments such as demonstration thermometers [and wind socks]; and materials to support observations of habitats of organisms such as terrariums and aquariums; and
(B) use the senses as a tool of observation to identify properties and patterns of organisms, objects, and events in the environment.

(5) Matter and energy. The student knows that objects have properties and patterns. The student is expected to:

Comment 3 (A) observe and record properties of objects, including [relative size and mass, such as] bigger or smaller [and] , heavier or lighter, shape, color, and texture; and
(B) observe, record, and discuss how materials can be changed by heating or cooling.

(6) Force, motion, and energy. The student knows that energy, force, and motion are related and are a part of their everyday life. The student is expected to:

Comment 3 (A) use the five senses to explore different forms of energy such as light, heat, and sound;
(B) explore interactions between magnets and various materials;
(C) observe and describe the location of an object in relation to another such as above, below, behind, in front of, and beside; and
(D) observe and describe the ways that objects can move such as in a straight line, zigzag, up and down, back and forth, round and round, and fast and slow.

(7) Earth and space. The student knows that the natural world includes earth materials. The student is expected to:

(A) observe, describe, [and compare,] and sort rocks by size, shape, color, and texture;
(B) observe and describe physical properties of natural sources of water, including color and clarity; and
(C) give examples of ways rocks, soil, and water are useful.

(8) Earth and space. The student knows that there are recognizable patterns in the natural world and among objects in the sky. The student is expected to:

(A) observe and describe weather changes from day to day and over seasons;
(B) identify events that have repeating patterns, including seasons of the year and day and night; and
(C) observe, describe, and illustrate objects in the sky such as the clouds, Moon, and stars, including the Sun.

(9) Organisms and environments. The student knows that plants and animals have basic needs and depend on the living and nonliving things around them for survival. The student is expected to:

Comment 3 (A) differentiate between living things, once living things such as fallen leaves, and nonliving things based upon whether they have or have had basic needs and produce offspring; and
(B) examine evidence that living organisms have basic needs such as food, water, and shelter for animals and air, water, nutrients, sunlight, and space for plants.

(10) Organisms and environments. The student knows that organisms resemble their parents and have structures and processes that help them survive within their environments. The student is expected to:

Comment 3 (B) identify basic parts of plants [such as roots, stem, and leaves] and [parts of] animals [such as head, eyes, and limbs];
(C) identify ways that young plants resemble the parent plant; and
(D) observe changes that are part of a simple life cycle of a plant: seed, seedling, plant, flower, and fruit.

1 “Such as” statement removed to better support all SEs
2 “Such as” statement removed to streamline – tools listed in K(4)(A)
3 Vertical meetings across committees supported the removal of mass – concept not developmentally appropriate for Kinder. Heavier and lighter can be directly experienced through senses.
4 Public comments recommended clarification of “once living”. Once living added to reduce misconception between alive/dead and living/non-living. Vertical committee supported addition for clarification and vertical alignment.
5 Addition of “Basic” clarifies the scope without limiting it.
§112.12. Science, Grade 1, Adopted 2017. [Beginning with School Year 2010-2011.]

(a) Introduction.

(1) In Grade 1, students observe and describe the natural world using their five senses. Students do science as inquiry in order to develop and enrich their abilities to understand the world around them in the context of scientific concepts and processes. Students develop vocabulary through their experiences investigating properties of common objects, earth materials, and organisms.

(A) A central theme in first grade science is active engagement in asking questions, communicating ideas, and exploring with scientific tools in order to explain scientific concepts and processes like scientific investigation and reasoning; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and environment. Scientific investigation and reasoning involves practicing safe procedures, asking questions about the natural world, and seeking answers to those questions through simple observations and descriptive investigations.

(B) Matter is described in terms of its physical properties, including relative size, mass, shape, color, and texture. The importance of light, heat, and sound energy is identified as it relates to the students’ everyday life. The location and motion of objects are explored.

(C) Weather is recorded and discussed on a daily basis so students may begin to recognize patterns in the weather. In addition, patterns are observed in the appearance of objects in the sky.

(D) In life science, students recognize the interdependence of organisms in the natural world. They understand that all organisms have basic needs that can be satisfied through interactions with living and nonliving things. Students will investigate life cycles of animals and identify likenesses between parents and offspring.

(2) Science, as defined by the National Academy of Sciences, is the "use of evidence to construct testable explanations and predictions of natural phenomena, as well as the knowledge generated through this process."

(3) Recurring themes are pervasive in sciences, mathematics, and technology. These ideas transcend disciplinary boundaries and include patterns, cycles, systems, models, and change and constancy.

(4) The study of elementary science includes planning and safely implementing classroom and outdoor investigations using scientific processes, including inquiry methods, analyzing information, making informed decisions, and using tools to collect and record information, while addressing the major concepts and vocabulary, in the context of physical, earth, and life sciences. Districts are encouraged to facilitate classroom and outdoor investigations for at least 80% of instructional time.

(4) In Grade 1, students observe and describe the natural world using their five senses. Students do science as inquiry in order to develop and enrich their abilities to understand the world around them in the context of scientific concepts and processes. Students develop vocabulary through their experiences investigating properties of common objects, earth materials, and organisms.

(A) A central theme in first grade science is active engagement in asking questions, communicating ideas, and exploring with scientific tools in order to explain scientific concepts and processes like scientific investigation and reasoning; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and environment. Scientific investigation and reasoning involves practicing safe procedures, asking questions about the natural world, and seeking answers to those questions through simple observations and descriptive investigations.

(B) Matter is described in terms of its physical properties, including relative size and mass, shape, color, and texture. The importance of light, heat, and sound energy is identified as it relates to the students’ everyday life. The location and motion of objects are explored.
Weather is recorded and discussed on a daily basis so students may begin to recognize patterns in the weather. In addition, patterns are observed in the appearance of objects in the sky.

In life science, students recognize the interdependence of organisms in the natural world. They understand that all organisms have basic needs that can be satisfied through interactions with living and nonliving things. Students will investigate life cycles of animals and identify likenesses between parents and offspring.

Statements containing the word "including" reference content that must be mastered, while those containing the phrase "such as" are intended as possible illustrative examples.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student conducts classroom and outdoor investigations following home and school safety procedures and uses environmentally appropriate and responsible practices. The student is expected to:

(A) identify, discuss, recognize and demonstrate safe and healthy practices as outlined described in the TEA-approved safety standards Texas Safety Standards during classroom and outdoor investigations, including wearing safety goggles, washing hands, and using materials appropriately;

(B) recognize the importance of safe practices to keep self and others safe and healthy; and

(C) identify and learn how to use natural resources and materials, including conservation and reuse or recycling of paper, plastic, and metals.

(2) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student develops abilities to ask questions and seek answers in classroom and outdoor investigations. The student is expected to:

(A) ask questions about organisms, objects, and events observed in the natural world;

(B) plan and conduct simple descriptive investigations such as ways objects move;

(C) collect data and make observations using simple equipment such as hand lenses, primary balances, and non-standard measurement tools;

(D) record and organize data using pictures, numbers, and words; and

(E) communicate observations and provide reasons for explanations using student-generated data from simple descriptive investigations.

(3) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student knows that information and critical thinking are used in scientific problem solving. The student is expected to:

(A) identify and explain a problem such as finding a home for a classroom pet and propose a solution in his/her own words;

(B) make predictions based on observable patterns; and

(C) describe what scientists do.

(4) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student uses age-appropriate tools and models to investigate the natural world. The student is expected to:

(A) collect, record, and compare information using tools, including computers, hand lenses, primary balances, cups, bowls, magnets, collecting nets, notebooks, and safety goggles; timing devices including clocks and timers; non-standard measuring items such as paper clips and clothespins; weather instruments such as classroom demonstration thermometers and wind socks; and materials to support observations of habitats of organisms such as aquariums and terrariums; and

(B) measure and compare organisms and objects using non-standard units.
Matter and energy. The student knows that objects have properties and patterns. The student is expected to:

Comment 3(A) classify objects by observable properties [of the materials from which they are made] such as larger and smaller, heavier and lighter, shape, color, and texture and the materials from which they are made; and
(B) predict and identify changes in materials caused by heating and cooling [such as ice melting, water freezing, and water evaporating].

Force, motion, and energy. The student knows that force, motion, and energy are related and are part of everyday life. The student is expected to:

(A) identify and discuss how different forms of energy such as light, heat, and sound are important to everyday life;
(B) predict and describe how a magnet can be used to push or pull an object; and
Comment 4(C) describe the change in the location of an object such as closer to, nearer to, and farther from; and
(D) demonstrate and record the ways that objects can move [such as in a straight line, zig zag, up and down, back and forth, round and round, and fast and slow].

Earth and space. The student knows that the natural world includes rocks, soil, and water that can be observed in cycles, patterns, and systems. The student is expected to:

(A) observe, compare, describe, and sort components of soil by size, texture, and color;
(B) identify and describe a variety of natural sources of water, including streams, lakes, and oceans; and
Comment 5(C) identify [gather evidence of] how rocks, soil, and water are used [help] to make [useful] products.

Earth and space. The student knows that the natural world includes the air around us and objects in the sky. The student is expected to:

(A) record weather information, including relative temperature, such as hot or cold, clear or cloudy, calm or windy, and rainy or icy;
(B) observe and record changes in the appearance of objects in the sky such as [clouds], the Moon, and stars, including the Sun;
(C) identify characteristics of the seasons of the year and day and night; and
(D) demonstrate that air is all around us and observe that wind is moving air.

Organisms and environments. The student knows that the living environment is composed of relationships between organisms and the life cycles that occur. The student is expected to:

Comment 6(A) sort and classify living, once living, and nonliving things based upon whether [or not] they have or have had basic needs and produce offspring;
(B) analyze and record examples of interdependence found in various situations such as terrariums and aquariums or pet and caregiver; and
(C) gather evidence of interdependence among living organisms such as energy transfer through food chains or [and] animals using plants for shelter.

Organisms and environments. The student knows that organisms resemble their parents and have structures and processes that help them survive within their environments. The student is expected to:

(A) investigate how the external characteristics of an animal are related to where it lives, how it moves, and what it eats;
(B) identify and compare the parts of plants;
(C) compare ways that young animals resemble their parents; and
(D) observe and record life cycles of animals such as a chicken, frog, or fish.

1 “Such as” statement removed to better support all SEs
2 “Such as” statement removed to streamline – tools listed in 1(4)(A)
3 Move made to clarify the concept – differentiate between properties of an object and properties of the material from which it was made.
4 1(6)C The concept is addressed grade 3.
5 The committee made revisions to make the SE more age appropriate.
6 Public comments recommended clarification of “once living”. Once living added to reduce misconception between alive/dead and living/non-living. Vertical committee supported addition for clarification and vertical alignment.

(a) Introduction.

(1) In Grade 2, careful observation and investigation are used to learn about the natural world and reveal patterns, changes, and cycles. Students should understand that certain types of questions can be answered by using observation and investigations and that the information gathered in these may change as new observations are made. As students participate in investigation, they develop the skills necessary to do science as well as develop new science concepts.

(A) A central theme throughout the study of scientific investigation and reasoning; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and environment is active engagement in asking questions, communicating ideas, and exploring with scientific tools. Scientific investigation and reasoning involves practicing safe procedures, asking questions about the natural world, and seeking answers to those questions through simple observations and descriptive investigations.

(B) Within the physical environment, students expand their understanding of the properties of objects such as shape, mass, temperature, and flexibility then use those properties to compare, classify, and then combine the objects to do something that they could not do before. Students manipulate objects to demonstrate a change in motion and position.

(C) Within the natural environment, students will observe the properties of earth materials as well as predictable patterns that occur on Earth and in the sky. The students understand that those patterns are used to make choices in clothing, activities, and transportation.

(D) Within the living environment, students explore patterns, systems, and cycles by investigating characteristics of organisms, life cycles, and interactions among all the components within their habitat. Students examine how living organisms depend on each other and on their environment.

(2) Science, as defined by the National Academy of Sciences, is the "use of evidence to construct testable explanations and predictions of natural phenomena, as well as the knowledge generated through this process."

(3) Recurring themes are pervasive in sciences, mathematics, and technology. These ideas transcend disciplinary boundaries and include patterns, cycles, systems, models, and change and constancy.

(4) The study of elementary science includes planning and safely implementing classroom and outdoor investigations using scientific processes, including inquiry methods, analyzing information, making informed decisions, and using tools to collect and record information, while addressing the major concepts and vocabulary, in the context of physical, earth, and life sciences. Districts are encouraged to facilitate classroom and outdoor investigations for at least 60% of instructional time.
Within the living environment, students explore patterns, systems, and cycles by investigating characteristics of organisms, life cycles, and interactions among all the components within their habitat. Students examine how living organisms depend on each other and on their environment.

Statements containing the word "including" reference content that must be mastered, while those containing the phrase "such as" are intended as possible illustrative examples.

(b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student conducts classroom and outdoor investigations following home and school safety procedures. The student is expected to:
   
   (A) identify, describe, and demonstrate safe practices as outlined [described] in the TEA-approved safety standards [Texas Safety Standards] during classroom and outdoor investigations, including wearing safety goggles, washing hands, and using materials appropriately; and
   
   (B) describe the importance of safe practices; and
   
   (C) identify and demonstrate how to use, conserve, and dispose of natural resources and materials such as conserving water and reuse or recycling of paper, plastic, and metal.

(2) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student develops abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry in classroom and outdoor investigations. The student is expected to:

   (A) ask questions about organisms, objects, and events during observations and investigations;
   
   (B) plan and conduct descriptive investigations [such as how organisms grow] ;
   
   Comment **(C) collect data from observations using scientific [simple equipment such as hand lenses, primary balances, thermometers, and non-standard measurement] tools;**
   
   (D) record and organize data using pictures, numbers, and words;
   
   (E) communicate observations and justify explanations using student-generated data from simple descriptive investigations; and
   
   (F) compare results of investigations with what students and scientists know about the world.

(3) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student knows that information and critical thinking, scientific problem solving, and the contributions of scientists are used in making decisions. The student is expected to:

Comment **(A) identify and explain a problem [in his/her own words] and propose a task and solution for the problem [such as lack of water in a habitat];**

   (B) make predictions based on observable patterns; and
   
   (C) identify what a scientist is and explore what different scientists do.

(4) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student uses age-appropriate tools and models to investigate the natural world. The student is expected to:

   (A) collect, record, and compare information using tools, including computers, hand lenses, rulers, primary balances, plastic beakers, magnets, collecting nets, notebooks, and safety goggles; timing devices [including clocks and stopwatches]; weather instruments such as thermometers, wind vanes, and rain gauges; and materials to support observations of habitats of organisms such as terrariums and aquariums; and
   
   (B) measure and compare organisms and objects [using non-standard units that approximate metric units].

(5) Matter and energy. The student knows that matter has physical properties and those properties determine how it is described, classified, changed, and used. The student is expected to:
Comment 3(A) classify matter by physical properties, including shape, relative mass, relative temperature, texture, flexibility, and whether material is a solid or liquid;

(B) compare changes in materials caused by heating and cooling;

(C) demonstrate that things can be done to materials such as cutting, folding, sanding, and melting to change their physical properties such as cutting, folding, sanding, and melting; and

(D) combine materials that when put together can do things that they cannot do by themselves such as building a tower or a bridge and justify the selection of those materials based on their physical properties.

(6) Force, motion, and energy. The student knows that forces cause change and energy exists in many forms. The student is expected to:

(A) investigate the effects on objects by increasing or decreasing amounts of light, heat, and sound energy such as how the color of an object appears different in dimmer light or how heat melts butter;

(B) observe and identify how magnets are used in everyday life; and

Comment 4(C) trace and compare patterns of movement of objects such as sliding, rolling, and spinning over time, such as a cup rolling on the floor and a car rolling down a ramp; and

(D) compare patterns of movement of objects such as sliding, rolling, and spinning.

(7) Earth and space. The student knows that the natural world includes earth materials. The student is expected to:

(A) observe, describe, and compare rocks by size, texture, and color;

(B) identify and compare the properties of natural sources of freshwater and saltwater; and

(C) distinguish between natural and manmade resources.

(8) Earth and space. The student knows that there are recognizable patterns in the natural world and among objects in the sky. The student is expected to:

(A) measure, record, and graph weather information, including temperature, wind conditions, precipitation, and cloud coverage, in order to identify patterns in the data;

(B) identify the importance of weather and seasonal information to make choices in clothing, activities, and transportation; and

(C) explore the processes in the water cycle, including evaporation, condensation, and precipitation, as connected to weather conditions; and

(D) observe, describe, and record patterns of objects in the sky, including the appearance of the Moon.

(9) Organisms and environments. The student knows that living organisms have basic needs that must be met for them to survive within their environment. The student is expected to:

(A) identify the basic needs of plants and animals;

(B) identify factors in the environment, including temperature and precipitation, that affect growth and behavior such as migration, hibernation, and dormancy of living things; and

(C) compare the ways living organisms depend on each other and on their environments such as through food chains within a garden, park, beach, lake, and wooded area.
Organisms and environments. The student knows that organisms resemble their parents and have structures and processes that help them survive within their environments. The student is expected to:

(A) observe, record, and compare how the physical characteristics and behaviors of animals help them meet their basic needs [such as fins help fish move and balance in the water];
(B) observe, record, and compare how the physical characteristics of plants help them meet their basic needs such as stems carry water throughout the plant; and
(C) investigate and record some of the unique stages that insects such as grasshoppers and butterflies undergo during their life cycle.

1 “Such as” statement removed to better support all SEs
2 Committee decided to keep 2(3)(A) due to its connection to engineering and problem solving.
3 Removing mass because it is not developmentally appropriate. Not including heavier and lighter because this concept is mastered in Kinder and 1st.
4 Concept of change in location will be addressed in grade 3.