

STAAR Spring 2026 Elementary Science Answer Key

Item Position	Item Type	TEKS Assessed	Maximum Number of Points	Correct Answer(s)	Reporting Category	Readiness or Supporting
1	Multiple Choice	5.8(B)	1	D	2	Readiness
2	Multiple Choice	5.13(A)	1	A	4	Readiness
3	Multiple Choice	5.9(A)	1	C	3	Readiness
4	Multi Part	5.8(C)	2	C, A	2	Readiness
5	Multiple Choice	4.10(C)	1	A	3	Supporting
6	Multiple Choice	5.6(A)	1	C	1	Readiness
7	Multiple Choice	5.6(B)	1	D	1	Supporting
8	Multiple Choice	5.10(C)	1	C	3	Readiness
9	Multiple Choice	5.12(A)	1	D	4	Readiness
10	Short Constructed Response	4.9(A)	2	See Appendix 1.1	3	Supporting
11	Multiple Choice	5.10(B)	1	D	3	Readiness
12	Multiple Choice	5.6(C)	1	C	1	Supporting
13	Table Match	5.10(C)	2	See Appendix 1.2	3	Readiness
14	Multiple Choice	5.8(B)	1	D	2	Readiness

Item Position	Item Type	TEKS Assessed	Maximum Number of Points	Correct Answer(s)	Reporting Category	Readiness or Supporting
15	Multiple Choice	4.10(A)	1	C	3	Supporting
16	Multiple Choice	5.9(A)	1	D	3	Readiness
17	Drag and Drop	5.8(C)	1	See Appendix 1.3	2	Readiness
18	Multiple Choice	4.9(B)	1	A	3	Supporting
19	Multiple Choice	4.8(A)	1	B	2	Supporting
20	Multiple Choice	4.11(A)	1	A	3	Supporting
21	Multiple Choice	5.12(A)	1	C	4	Readiness
22	Multiple Choice	5.13(A)	1	A	4	Readiness
23	Multi Part	4.12(B)	2	C, D	4	Supporting
24	Multiple Choice	5.10(B)	1	D	3	Readiness
25	Drag and Drop	5.7(B)	1	See Appendix 1.4	2	Supporting
26	Multiple Choice	5.6(A)	1	A	1	Readiness

**STAAR Spring 2026 Elementary Science
Appendix**

1.1

For three days in a row, students recorded when the sun rose and when it set in the cities of Chicago, Illinois, and Sydney, Australia. The table shows their data.

Sunrise and Sunset Data

City	Day	Sunrise	Sunset
Chicago, Illinois	1	7:18 a.m.	4:30 p.m.
	2	7:18 a.m.	4:31 p.m.
	3	7:18 a.m.	4:32 p.m.
Sydney, Australia	1	5:47 a.m.	8:09 p.m.
	2	5:48 a.m.	8:09 p.m.
	3	5:49 a.m.	8:09 p.m.

Based on the data, which season is Sydney, Australia, **MOST LIKELY** experiencing, **AND** what evidence from the data table supports your answer?

Think about the information carefully. Then enter your response in the box provided.

The student identifies that Sydney is experiencing summer AND that Sydney is experiencing more daylight hours than Chicago is, which indicates that it is summer in Sydney.

1.2

Landforms are created by different processes and types of erosion. Which type of landform is created mainly by each erosion process in the table?

Select the correct answer in each row.

Erosion Process	Delta	U-Shaped Valley	V-Shaped Canyon	Sand Dune
Fast-moving river water	☐	☐	☒	☐
Slow-moving glacier	☐	☒	☐	☐
River water changing from fast to slow	☒	☐	☐	☐
Steady, low-speed winds	☐	☐	☐	☒

1.3

A teacher wears a bright-colored shirt to school. Why are the students able to see the bright-colored shirt?

Move the correct answer to the box.

reflects refracts absorbs produces

The students are able to see the bright-colored shirt because the shirt **reflects** light.

1.4

A student designs an investigation to examine how height affects the splash that water makes when it strikes a surface. The student fills a water dropper with 1 milliliter of water and releases the water over a piece of colored paper. Next the student observes the size of the splash left on the paper. The table shows some of the student's data.

Height of Water Dropper above Paper (cm)	Size of Splash
10	Small
50	Medium
100	Very large

Which **reasoning** about the relationship between the height of the water dropper and the size of the water splash is **BEST** supported by the student's investigation data?

Move the correct answer to the box.

mass gravity force volume

The change in the height of the dropper over the paper increases the **force** of the water striking the paper, causing the size of the splash to increase.