

**Table of Contents**

**Great Study and Testing Tips** ..... i  
**Study Tips**.....i  
**Testing Tips** .....iv

**SUBAREA I. FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY**

**COMPETENCY 1.0 UNDERSTAND THE PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**..... 1

Skill 1.1 Developing valid experimental designs for collecting data and testing hypotheses..... 1  
Skill 1.2 Recognizing the role of control groups in experiments .....2  
Skill 1.3 Understanding procedures for collecting and interpreting data to minimize bias.....2  
Skill 1.4 Identifying procedures used in setting up and conducting scientific investigations in the field and in the laboratory ..... 3  
Skill 1.5 Recognizing variables being held constant, being manipulated (i.e., independent variables), and responding (i.e., dependent variables) .5  
Skill 1.6 Identifying the most effective method for presenting data for a given purpose (e.g., graph, table, map) ..... 5  
Skill 1.7 Evaluating simple descriptive statistics..... 6  
Skill 1.8 Interpreting data presented in different formats ..... 6  
Skill 1.9 Evaluating the validity of conclusions; and assessing the reliability of sources of information ..... 9

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

---

### **COMPETENCY 2.0 APPLY KNOWLEDGE OF METHODS AND MATERIALS USED IN SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS** ..... 10

- Skill 2.1 Identifying procedures and sources of information (e.g., MSDS sheets, chemical hygiene plans) for the safe use and storage of materials related to scientific investigations (e.g., chemicals, biohazards, equipment) ..... 11
- Skill 2.2 Understanding the practices and requirements related to the handling and ethical use of living organisms ..... 11
- Skill 2.3 Applying procedures for selecting and using measurement devices (e.g., rulers, balance scales, thermometers) ..... 11

### **COMPETENCY 3.0 UNDERSTAND THE NATURE AND HISTORY OF SCIENTIFIC THOUGHT AND INQUIRY** ..... 13

- Skill 3.1 Being aware of the reliance of scientific inquiry on empirical data, verifiable evidence, and logical reasoning ..... 13
- Skill 3.2 Recognizing the limits of science..... 14
- Skill 3.3 Evaluating the effect of researcher bias on scientific investigations and the interpretation of data..... 14
- Skill 3.4 Demonstrating an awareness of the contributions made in biology by individuals of diverse backgrounds ..... 14
- Skill 3.5 Analyzing the dynamic nature of scientific knowledge, including ways in which scientific knowledge is acquired, modified, and disseminated ..... 15

### **COMPETENCY 4.0 UNDERSTAND THE RELATIONSHIP OF BIOLOGY TO CONTEMPORARY, HISTORICAL, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND SOCIETAL ISSUES** ..... 18

- Skill 4.1 Demonstrate an awareness of the differences between science and technology ..... 18
- Skill 4.2 Analyzing historical, political, and social factors affecting developments in biology, including current societal issues related to developments in biology and technology..... 18
- Skill 4.3 Recognizing ethical issues related to biological research (e.g., cloning, genetic engineering)..... 19

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

---

Skill 4.4 Evaluating the credibility of scientific claims made in various forums (e.g., the popular media, professional journals, advertising) ..... 20

**COMPETENCY 5.0 UNDERSTAND INTERRELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE LIFE, PHYSICAL, AND EARTH/SPACE SCIENCES AND AMONG SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, AND TECHNOLOGY ..... 21**

Skill 5.1 Recognizing major unifying themes and concepts in the various scientific disciplines (e.g., classification, cause and effect, conservation of energy, entropy) ..... 21

Skill 5.2 Understanding the interdisciplinary connections among science, mathematics, and technology and their applications in real-world contexts ..... 22

**SUBAREA II. CELLULAR FUNCTION**

**COMPETENCY 6.0 UNDERSTAND CELL THEORY AND CELLULAR STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION ..... 23**

Skill 6.1 Recognizing the basic tenets of cell theory ..... 23

Skill 6.2 Comparing prokaryotic (i.e., archaea, eubacteria) and eukaryotic cells ..... 23

Skill 6.3 Recognizing the structures, functions, and interactions of cellular components common to all cells (e.g., membranes, metabolism, genetic information) and those that are unique to some cells (e.g., nucleus, lysosomes, chloroplasts) ..... 26

Skill 6.4 Relating the structures of specialized cells to their functions (e.g., red blood cells, guard cells, neurons) ..... 28

**COMPETENCY 7.0 UNDERSTAND THE BASIC CHEMICAL COMPONENTS AND REACTIONS OF CELLS. .... 30**

Skill 7.1 Identifying the basic chemical structures of carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids, the interactions among these compounds, their roles in cells, and their roles in living systems ..... 30

Skill 7.2 Demonstrating knowledge of the reactions by which biological macromolecules are metabolized ..... 35

Skill 7.3 Recognizing the physical and chemical properties of water and its role in living organisms ..... 36

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

---

Skill 7.4 Analyzing the structure and function of enzymes and factors that affect enzyme function..... 38

### **COMPETENCY 8.0 ANALYZE THE PHYSIOLOGICAL PROCESSES OF CELLS..... 39**

Skill 8.1 Applying knowledge of the biochemical pathways used to synthesize and break down macromolecules, including photosynthesis and respiration, and comparing the transformations of energy and flow of matter during photosynthesis and respiration.. 39

Skill 8.2 Analyzing the roles of active and passive transport processes in cellular homeostasis ..... 44

### **COMPETENCY 9.0 UNDERSTAND THE PROCESSES OF CELL DIVISION, GROWTH, AND DIFFERENTIATION ..... 47**

Skill 9.1 Identifying the stages of the cell cycle, the characteristics of each stage, and the processes, roles, and outcomes of mitosis and meiosis ..... 47

Skill 9.2 Evaluating the roles of cell growth and division in the growth of multicellular organisms ..... 51

Skill 9.3 Recognizing characteristics of the process of cell differentiation and its role in development..... 51

Skill 9.4 Analyzing factors that affect cell division, growth, and differentiation 51

### **SUBAREA III. HEREDITY AND EVOLUTIONARY CHANGES**

### **COMPETENCY 10 UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES OF MENDELIAN GENETICS..... 53**

Skill 10.1 Evaluating evidence that certain characteristics are inherited ..... 53

Skill 10.2 Analyzing the significance of Mendel's experiments and their role in formulating the basic principles of heredity (e.g., segregation, independent assortment)..... 53

Skill 10.3 Relating the behavior of chromosomes during meiosis and fertilization to inheritance patterns; recognizing the relationship between genotype and phenotype ..... 55

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

---

Skill 10.4 Applying knowledge of dominance, recessiveness, incomplete dominance, and sex linkage to solve problems involving genetic crosses .....	56
Skill 10.5 Analyzing the effects of crossing-over on genotypes and phenotypes .....	57
<b>COMPETENCY 11.0 UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES OF MOLECULAR GENETICS. ....</b>	<b>58</b>
Skill 11.1 Identifying the structures and functions of DNA and RNA in organisms .....	58
Skill 11.2 Relating the structure of DNA and RNA to the processes of replication, transcription, and translation; analyzing steps in the process of protein synthesis .....	60
Skill 11.3 Recognizing current models of gene structure and function and how gene expression is regulated in various organisms .....	63
Skill 11.4 Identifying characteristics of the genetic code .....	64
Skill 11.5 Analyzing types of mutations and their consequences .....	65
Skill 11.6 Identifying the role of nonnuclear inheritance (e.g., mitochondrial DNA) in phenotypic expression .....	66
<b>COMPETENCY 12.0 UNDERSTAND THE TECHNIQUES AND APPLICATIONS OF MODERN GENETICS.....</b>	<b>67</b>
Skill 12.1 Recognizing techniques used in the isolation, manipulation, and expression of genetic material (e.g., electrophoresis, DNA fingerprinting, recombinant DNA technology) .....	67
Skill 12.2 Relating the applications of genetic engineering to medicine (e.g., gene therapy) and agriculture (e.g., transgenic crops) .....	68
<b>COMPETENCY 13.0 UNDERSTAND CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES OF POPULATION GENETICS.....</b>	<b>70</b>
Skill 13.1 Recognizing the concept of a gene pool, demonstrating knowledge of the concept of Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium and applying the Hardy-Weinberg equation to solve problems involving genotypic and phenotypic frequencies in populations.....	70

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

---

Skill 13.2 Identifying factors that contribute to changing allele frequencies in a population.....	71
Skill 13.3 Analyzing how new traits become established in populations .....	71
Skill 13.4 Recognizing populations as the units of evolution.....	72
<b>COMPETENCY 14.0 UNDERSTAND PROCESSES OF EVOLUTIONARY CHANGE.....</b>	<b>73</b>
Skill 14.1 Recognizing the key points of Darwin's theory of evolution.....	73
Skill 14.2 Identifying sources of population variation on which natural selection can act (e.g., mutations, genetic drift) .....	73
Skill 14.3 Analyzing the role of natural selection in leading to genotypic and phenotypic changes in a population over time.....	74
Skill 14.4 Recognizing adaptations as products of selection of naturally occurring variations in populations .....	75
Skill 14.5 Analyzing factors that contribute to speciation (e.g., geographic isolation, reproductive isolation) .....	75
Skill 14.6 Evaluating observations in various areas of biology in terms of evolutionary theory (e.g., embryology, biochemistry, molecular genetics).....	76
<b>COMPETENCY 15.0 UNDERSTAND CHARACTERISTICS OF ANCIENT LIFE AND RELATED EVIDENCE.....</b>	<b>78</b>
Skill 15.1 Identifying theories regarding the origins and evolution of life .....	78
Skill 15.2 Evaluating evidence from various areas of biology (e.g., paleontology, molecular genetics) regarding the origins of life and evolutionary relationships among major groups of organisms.....	79
Skill 15.3 Evaluating the strengths and limitations of the fossil record .....	79
Skill 15.4 Recognizing characteristics of major extinction events in earth's history and evidence of their causes .....	80

**SUBAREA IV. ORGANIZATION OF LIVING THINGS**

**COMPETENCY 16.0 UNDERSTAND THE CHARACTERISTICS OF LIVING ORGANISMS AND HOW ORGANISMS ARE CLASSIFIED ..... 82**

Skill 16.1 Identifying the characteristics of life and requirements needed to sustain life ..... 82

Skill 16.2 Comparing living organisms and nonliving things..... 82

Skill 16.3 Analyzing criteria used to classify organisms (e.g., morphology, genetic similarities, evolutionary relationships) and recognizing the hierarchical structure of the taxonomic system..... 83

Skill 16.4 Interpreting phylogenetic trees of related species ..... 85

Skill 16.5 Classifying organisms based on given characteristics..... 85

**COMPETENCY 17.0 UNDERSTAND THE LIFE CYCLES OF ORGANISMS, INCLUDING REPRODUCTION, GROWTH, AND DEVELOPMENT ..... 88**

Skill 17.1 Recognizing the characteristics of sexual and asexual reproduction 88

Skill 17.2 Comparing the relative advantages and disadvantages of sexual and asexual reproduction ..... 88

Skill 17.3 Analyzing the reproductive strategies of various organisms..... 89

Skill 17.4 Recognizing characteristics of developing embryos of plants and animals and the processes related to development (e.g., cleavage, gastrulation)..... 91

Skill 17.5 Demonstrating knowledge of the life cycles of familiar organisms (e.g., bacteria, flowering plants, amphibians, insects) ..... 92

**COMPETENCY 18.0 UNDERSTAND THE STRUCTURES, ORGANIZATION, AND FUNCTIONS OF SYSTEMS IN ORGANISMS ..... 94**

Skill 18.1 Recognizing levels of organization in multicellular organisms and the relationships among the levels (i.e., cells, tissues, organs, systems) ..... 94

Skill 18.2 Comparing the organization and structures of diverse life forms, from single celled to complex multicellular organisms ..... 95

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

---

Skill 18.3 Analyzing anatomical structures and physiological processes of body systems in various organisms (e.g., plants, invertebrates, vertebrates) .....	96
Skill 18.4 Relating the function of a body part or system to its structure or organization.....	97
Skill 18.5 Evaluating the adaptive significance of given structures or physiological processes.....	97
<b>COMPETENCY 19.0 ANALYZE PROCESSES USED BY ORGANISMS TO OBTAIN, STORE, AND USE MATTER AND ENERGY AND TO MAINTAIN HOMEOSTASIS .....</b>	<b>98</b>
Skill 19.1 Understanding the need for organisms to obtain energy and cycle matter and comparing the processes by which different organisms do so.....	98
Skill 19.2 Identifying structures and processes used by organisms to store food and energy .....	98
Skill 19.3 Analyzing systems and processes involved in the distribution of nutrients to all parts of an organism.....	99
Skill 19.4 Recognizing the sources of energy used by various organisms (e.g., archaeobacteria, plants, animals).....	100
Skill 19.5 Analyzing anatomical structures, physiological responses, and behaviors that are involved in maintaining homeostasis.....	100
<b>COMPETENCY 20.0 UNDERSTAND HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY .....</b>	<b>101</b>
Skill 20.1 Identifying structures and functions of the various body systems.....	101
Skill 20.2 Recognizing the interrelationships of the different systems.....	105
Skill 20.3 Analyzing physiological processes (e.g., digestion, circulation, excretion) and their role in maintaining homeostasis.....	106
Skill 20.4 Demonstrating knowledge of human reproduction, growth, and development.....	110

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

---

### **COMPETENCY 21.0 UNDERSTAND CHARACTERISTICS OF HUMAN DISEASES AND IMMUNOLOGY..... 112**

- Skill 21.1 Recognizing characteristics of common human diseases, including their causes, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment ..... 112
- Skill 21.2 Evaluating the effects of behaviors (e.g., smoking, exercising regularly) on short- and long-term health..... 114
- Skill 21.3 Demonstrating knowledge of the human immune system and the characteristics of immune responses ..... 115

### **SUBAREA V. ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS**

### **COMPETENCY 22.0 UNDERSTAND THE CHARACTERISTICS OF POPULATIONS AND COMMUNITIES..... 117**

- Skill 22.1 Identifying the basic requirements of organisms (e.g., nutrients, space)..... 117
- Skill 22.2 Demonstrating knowledge of the concept of an ecological niche ..... 118
- Skill 22.3 Evaluating conditions that affect population size and growth rate (e.g., birth rate, limiting factors) ..... 119
- Skill 22.4 Analyzing the interrelationships among organisms in a community (e.g., predator/prey, symbiosis) ..... 120
- Skill 22.5 Recognizing patterns and processes of ecological succession ..... 121

### **COMPETENCY 23.0 UNDERSTAND FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE HUMAN POPULATION GROWTH AND DIVERSITY..... 122**

- Skill 23.1 Recognizing characteristics and consequences of human population growth ..... 122
- Skill 23.2 Relating historical patterns of human population growth to changing patterns of resource use and availability ..... 122
- Skill 23.3 Recognizing factors that contribute to human diversity (e.g., adaptations to different environments) ..... 123

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

---

<b>COMPETENCY 24.0 ANALYZE THE TRANSFER OF ENERGY IN ECOSYSTEMS.....</b>	<b>124</b>
Skill 24.1 Identifying the ultimate source of energy for various types of ecosystems .....	124
Skill 24.2 Analyzing the flow of energy through the trophic levels of an ecosystem .....	124
Skill 24.3 Demonstrating knowledge of factors that affect ecosystem productivity and the efficiency with which energy is transferred from one level to the next .....	125
Skill 24.4 Comparing energy, numbers, and biomass pyramids for different types of ecosystems .....	126
<b>COMPETENCY 25.0 UNDERSTAND BIOGEOCHEMICAL CYCLES .....</b>	<b>127</b>
Skill 25.1 Recognizing characteristics and processes of biogeochemical cycles (e.g., water, carbon, nitrogen).....	127
Skill 25.2 Demonstrating knowledge of the roles of decomposers, producers, and consumers in the cycling of nutrients.....	127
Skill 25.3 Evaluating factors that affect the release and cycling of nutrients .....	128
<b>COMPETENCY 26.0 ANALYZE THE EFFECTS OF NATURAL PHENOMENA AND HUMAN ACTIVITIES ON ECOSYSTEMS.....</b>	<b>129</b>
Skill 26.1 Identifying the effects of natural phenomena on ecosystems (e.g., volcanic eruptions, floods) .....	129
Skill 26.2 Identifying types, sources, and effects of pollution .....	129
Skill 26.3 Analyzing the consequences of human activities, such as habitat destruction, introduction of exotic species, and burning of fossil fuels, on the environment and species diversity .....	131
Skill 26.4 Evaluating the effectiveness of methods and technologies designed to reduce or mitigate environmental damage.....	131

**TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE**

---

---

<b>COMPETENCY 27.0 UNDERSTAND RESOURCE USE AND MANAGEMENT BY HUMANS.....</b>	<b>133</b>
Skill 27.1 Identifying types of resources used by humans (e.g., mineral, plant, fossil fuels) .....	133
Skill 27.2 Recognizing the role of technology in obtaining and managing resources.....	134
Skill 27.3 Analyzing issues related to the availability, distribution, and use of resources.....	136
Skill 27.4 Recognizing strategies used to manage various types of resources .....	137
<b>Sample Test .....</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>Answer Key .....</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Rationales for Sample Questions .....</b>	<b>163</b>