

**Content Standards & Benchmarks: Science**  
**Grade 7**  
**West Des Moines Community School District**

- Standard #1: Students will understand major concepts in earth science and how these apply to society.
- 7.1.a explain how natural cycles contribute to life on Earth.
  - 7.1.b explain why all life on Earth is dependent on the sun.
- Standard #2: Students will understand major concepts in life science and how these apply to society.
- 7.2.c determine the major characteristics of living organisms
  - 7.2.d classify organisms.
  - 7.2.e explain how organs allow major systems to function.
  - 7.2.f explain how adaptations allow organisms to survive.
  - 7.2.g compare and contrast characteristics of plants and animals.
- Standard #3: Students will understand major concepts in physical science and how these apply to society.
- 7.3.h recognize properties and changes as physical or chemical.
  - 7.3.i describe matter and give examples of elements, compounds, and mixtures.
  - 7.3.j describe motion in terms of change of position and velocity of an object.
- Standard #4: Students will use scientific inquiry processes (e.g. questioning, observing, predicting, experimenting, controlling variables, concluding) to understand the natural world.
- 7.4.k measure metrically using appropriate tools.
  - 7.4.l pose questions for scientific investigations, hypothesize and state conclusions.
  - 7.4.m collect and organize data.
  - 7.4.n recognize controls and variables.
- Standard #5: Students will recognize the inter-relationships among the earth, life, and physical sciences and their effect on the environment.
- 7.5.o explain how the parts of an ecosystem interact.
  - 7.5.p analyze humans' positive and negative impacts on Earth's environment.
- Standard #6: Students will know the needs, functions, and systems of the human body, as it develops into an adult.
- 7.6.q describe how alcohol and tobacco affect the human body.