

Academic Vocabulary

CONTENT BUILDER FOR THE PLC

SCIENCE
GRADE 3

PLEASE NOTE: The words contained in **Academic Vocabulary** are words/concepts/terms essential for concept development; this list is not intended to be comprehensive. The “new to grade level” vocabulary suggestions are a starting point, and educators are encouraged to refer to their district curriculum resources for additional words/concepts/terms.

Properties of Matter

3.6 Matter and energy. The student knows that matter has measurable physical properties that determine how matter is identified, classified, changed, and used.

important words for concept development			
subcluster	standards	new to grade level	previously introduced
Physical Properties	3.6(A), 3.6(B), 3.6(C)	Celsius (C) condensation* evaporation* Fahrenheit (F) float gas mass sink states of matter* (solid, liquid, gas) water vapor*	cooling* heating* liquid magnetism (attracts) matter physical property solid temperature
Materials Science	3.6(D)	combine	ingredient mixture

Force and Motion

3.7 Force, motion, and energy. The student knows the nature of forces and the patterns of their interactions.

important words for concept development			
subcluster	standards	new to grade level	previously introduced
Force Interactions	3.7(A)	distance gravity	attract force magnetism pull push repel
Investigating Force and Motion	3.7(B)	friction gravity	force* motion* position* pull push

Energy

3.8 Force, motion, and energy. The student knows that energy is everywhere and can be observed in cycles, patterns, and systems.

important words for concept development			
subcluster	standards	new to grade level	previously introduced
Examples of Energy	3.8(A)	mechanical energy	energy light energy sound energy thermal energy
Mechanical Energy	3.8(B)	mechanical energy	motion speed

Space

3.9 Earth and space. The student knows there are recognizable objects and patterns in Earth's solar system.

important words for concept development			
subcluster	standards	new to grade level	previously introduced
The Solar System	3.9(A), 3.9(B)	inner planet (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars)	Moon
		model	Sun*
		orbit	
		outer planet* (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune)	
		planet* (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune)	
		solar system	

Earth's Processes

3.10 Earth and space. The student knows that there are recognizable processes that change Earth over time.

important words for concept development			
subcluster	standards	new to grade level	previously introduced
Weather	3.10(A)	atmosphere cloud cover degrees Celsius degrees Fahrenheit rain gauge wind vane	precipitation temperature thermometer weather wind
Soil Formation	3.10(B)	decomposition mechanical organic soil formation weathering	soil
Earth's Changing Surface	3.10(C)	earthquake* erupt/eruption landform landslide* natural hazard physical environment volcano*	natural resource

Earth's Resources

3.11 Earth and space. The student understands how natural resources are important and can be managed.

important words for concept development			
subcluster	standards	new to grade level	previously introduced
Natural Resources	3.11(A)		natural resource product
Conservation of Natural Resources	3.11(B), 3.11(C)	replenish	conserve/conservation natural resource product recycle reduce reuse

Organisms and Environments

3.12 Organisms and environments. The student describes patterns, cycles, systems, and relationships within environments.

important words for concept development				
subcluster	standards	new to grade level		previously introduced
Interdependence	3.12(A)	condition dormancy factor hibernate/hibernation migrate/migration		behavior environment precipitation* temperature*
Food Chains	3.12(B)	community decomposer population		consumer ecosystem food chain producer
Organisms and Environmental Change	3.12(C), 3.12(D)	drought environmental change evidence fossil*	paleontologist perish thrive	environment flood organism

Structure, Function, and Survival

3.13 Organisms and environments. The student knows that organisms undergo similar life processes and have structures that function to help them survive within their environments.

important words for concept development			
subcluster	standards	new to grade level	previously introduced
Structure and Function	3.13(A)	function	environment movement protection structure survive
Life Cycles	3.13(B)	germinate insect life cycle (egg*, larva*, pupa*, adult*) metamorphosis nymph	life cycle* plant life cycle seedling