

NATURAL SCIENCES

GRADE 8 TERM 1

Tracker



Week 1											
CAPS Concepts and Activities	CAPS Page no.	Year:					Year:				
		Class					Class				
		Date Completed					Date Completed				
Week 1 Lesson A											
Topic: Photosynthesis and respiration Content & Concepts: Photosynthesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interactions and interdependence in an ecosystem are driven by the need for energy to sustain life The Sun is the most important source providing this energy in the form of light and heat 	35										
Week 1 Lesson B											
Topic: Photosynthesis and respiration Content & Concepts: Photosynthesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plants use carbon dioxide (from the air), water (from the soil) and energy from the Sun in a series of chemical reactions to produce glucose (food). This process is called photosynthesis 	35										
Week 1 Lesson C											
Topic: Photosynthesis and respiration Content & Concepts: Photosynthesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plants change glucose into starch, cellulose and other chemical compounds to enable processes, such as growth and reproduction 	35										
Reflection											
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Week 2 Lesson A											
Topic: Photosynthesis and respiration Content & Concepts: Respiration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food contains energy (potential energy). This energy can be released from food by a series of chemical reactions. This process is called respiration 	35										
Week 2 Lesson B											
Topic: Photosynthesis and respiration Content & Concepts: Respiration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respiration (in all living organisms) is the process by which energy is released from food in a series of chemical reactions 	35										
Week 2 Lesson C											
Topic: Photosynthesis and respiration Content & Concepts: Respiration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respiration (in all living organisms) is the process by which energy is released from food in a series of chemical reactions 	35										
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Week 5 Lesson A											
Topic: Interactions and interdependence within the environment Content & Concepts: Energy Flow – food chains and food webs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plants and algae play an important role in the ecosystem, as they capture energy from the Sun by the process of photosynthesis Each stage of a food chain is called a trophic level Energy transfer and energy loss occur at each trophic level 	38										
Week 5 Lesson B											
Topic: Interactions and interdependence within the environment Content & Concepts: Energy Flow – food chains and food webs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This energy is passed along a food chain from producers to consumers; decomposers are the last link in this transfer of energy and release energy as heat to the environment 	38										
Week 5 Lesson C											
Topic: Interactions and interdependence within the environment Content & Concepts: Energy Flow – food chains and food webs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interlinked food chains together form food webs 	38										
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Week 6 Lesson A										
Topic: Interactions and interdependence within the environment Content & Concepts: Balance in an ecosystem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ecosystem can only accommodate as many organisms as its resources (food, water and shelter) can carry and it will fail if it does not remain in balance • This balance can be disrupted by natural and human factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natural factors include extreme changes in patterns of weather and climate, such as floods, drought, extreme and sudden changes in temperature ○ Human factors include removing organisms from the ecosystem (such as poaching), human induced pollution 	38									
Week 6 Lesson B										
Topic: Interactions and interdependence within the environment Content & Concepts: Balance in an ecosystem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These factors can contribute to an imbalance in an ecosystem, seriously impacting on its components and altering its nature 	38									
Week 6 Lesson C										
Topic: Interactions and interdependence within the environment Content & Concepts: Adaptations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptation is the change in the structural, functional and behavioural characteristics of an organism 	38									

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Week 7 Lesson A											
Topic: Interactions and interdependence within the environment Content & Concepts: Adaptations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptation allows the organism to survive as it adapts to changing conditions within the environment Organisms that are unable to adapt to changes within the environment die out (become extinct) 	38										
Week 7 Lesson B											
Topic: Interactions and interdependence within the environment Content & Concepts: Conservation of the ecosystem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmentalists and others work towards managing ecosystems, such as control of alien vegetation and preservation of wetlands 	38										
Week 7 Lesson C											
Topic: Interactions and interdependence within the environment Content & Concepts: Conservation of the ecosystem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals can contribute to conservation in various ways, such as appropriate waste disposal (including recycling, reusing) 	38										
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Week 8 Lesson A											
Topic: Micro-organisms Content & Concepts: Types of micro-organisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro-organisms are living things • They are too small to see with the naked eye (they can only be seen under a microscope) 	39										
Week 8 Lesson B											
Topic: Micro-organisms Content & Concepts: Types of micro-organisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a variety of micro-organisms, including viruses, bacteria, protista and fungi 	39										
Week 8 Lesson C											
Topic: Micro-organisms Content & Concepts: Harmful micro-organisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some micro-organisms cause diseases, such as TB (caused by bacteria), AIDS (caused by the HI virus) and malaria (caused by a protest) • Disease causing organisms are found almost everywhere, such as at ATM's, handrails of staircases and toilets 	39										
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Week 9 Lesson A											
Topic: Micro-organisms Content & Concepts: Harmful micro-organisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterborne diseases (such as cholera and diarrhoea) account for many child deaths Effective methods of preventing the spread of diseases caused by micro-organisms include washing hands and sterilising modern scientists such as Louis Pasteur play an important role in identifying and developing cures for some diseases 	39										
Week 9 Lesson B											
Topic: Micro-organisms Content & Concepts: Useful micro-organisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some micro-organisms play an essential role in ecosystems, such as decomposing dead plants and animal matter, thereby recycling nutrients in the soil Some micro-organisms are used by people for making certain foods (such as yoghurt) and medicines (such as penicillin) 	39										
Week 9 Lesson C											
Topic: Micro-organisms Content & Concepts: Harmful micro-organisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some micro-organisms are used by people for making certain foods (such as yoghurt) and medicines (such as penicillin) 	39										
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Week 10 Lesson A												
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Week 10 Lesson B												
Topic: Revision	47-63											
Week 10 Lesson C												
Topic: Revision	47-63											
Reflection												
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