

PACING CHART
G5 Matter and Energy in Ecosystems

| Day | Mini-Lesson | Inquiry Circles | Science Investigation | Standards |
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| 1 | Teacher introduces the “Inquiry Toolbox: and “Team Roles” anchor charts. | Teams explore and rank their interest in four food-disposal methods to be investigated throughout the unit. | The phenomenon of decomposition is introduced with videos of decomposing fruits, vegetables, and leaf litter. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.13(A) CCSS: SL.5(1)(b) NGSS: 5-LS2.A, LS2.B TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.5(F), 5.12(A)(B) |
| 2 | Teacher introduces the “Generating Questions” anchor chart and models the strategy. | Teams are introduced to the Inquiry Charts they will use in their investigation of a food-disposal method. | Each team is provided a modified Winogradsky column for daily observation. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.13(A) CCSS: W.5.7 NGSS: 5-LS1-1, LS2.B TEKS: 5.1(A)(E), 5.5(A) |
| 3 | Teacher introduces the “Evaluating Claims and Evidence in Online Media” anchor chart and models the strategy. | Teams work on answering their Inquiry Chart questions about their food-disposal method. | Teams examine a soil sample to separate and identify its components. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.9(E)(i)(ii) CCSS: RI.5.8 NGSS: 5-LS2-1 TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.3(B), 5.5(D)(F) |
| 4 | Teacher introduces the “Intratextual Synthesis” anchor chart and models the strategy. | Teams work on answering their Inquiry Chart questions about their food-disposal method. | Teams play the Soil Dwellers game as an introduction to the organisms that make up a soil ecosystem. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.9(D)(ii) CCSS: RI.5.3 NGSS: 5-LS2-1, LS2.A TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.3(B), 5.5(D)(E)(G), 5.12(A)(B), 5.13(A) |

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| 5 | Teacher introduces the features of a diagram and how to interpret the information a diagram contains. | Teams work on answering their Inquiry Chart questions about their food-disposal method. | Learners use their Tracking Log Soil Dwellers game cards to explore how matter is transferred in soil ecosystems. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.10(C) CCSS: W.5.7 NGSS: 5-LS2-1, LS2.A, LS2.B TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.3(B), 5.5(D)(E)(F), 5.12(A)(B) |
| 6 | Today, learners should have an additional 15 minutes to work in their inquiry circles. Teacher might also use this time to reteach a mini-lesson for learners who have been absent. | Teams work on answering their Inquiry Chart questions about their food-disposal method. | Teams observe what happens when yeast cells are given a source of food (sugar). | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.13(C) CCSS: RI.5.7 NGSS: 5-LS2.B TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.3(B), 5.5(B)(E),(G), 5.6(D) 5.12(A) |
| 7 | Teacher introduces the genre of scientific reports and why scientists write them. | Teams work on answering their Inquiry Chart questions about their food-disposal method. | Teams compare and contrast their modified Winogradsky columns. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.9 CCSS: W.5.7 NGSS: 5-LS2-1, LS1.C, LS2.A, LS2.B TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.3(B), 5.5(E)(F)(G), 5.12(A)(B) |
| 8 | Teacher introduces how scientists create diagrams to represent a complex process or system they are investigating. | Teams use key information from the mini-lesson to plan and create a diagram about their food-disposal method. | Teams synthesize what they know about the cycling of matter and transfer of energy then apply it to the process of decomposition. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.10(C) CCSS: W.5.7 NGSS: 5-LS2-1 TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.3(B), 5.5(D)(E),(F) 5.12(A)(B), 5.13(A) |
| 9 | Learners use the Kiddle search engine to find answers to their inquiry questions. | Teams find additional information to complete their diagrams. | Teams consider the differences between two methods of garbage disposal: landfills and composting. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.13(C) CCSS: RI.5.7 NGSS: 5-LS2-1 TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.3(B), 5.5(B)(E)(F) (G), 5.11, 5.12(A)(B)(C) |

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| 10 | Teacher introduces the “Synthesizing” anchor chart and models how to write synthesis statements. | Teams write synthesis statements for each question on their Inquiry Charts. | Teams are introduced to the process of vermicomposting and compare it to other methods for managing waste. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.13(E) CCSS: RI.5.9 NGSS: 5-LS2-1 TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.3(B), 5.5(E)(G), 5.11, 5.12(A)(B)(C) |
| 11 | Teacher introduces the “Organizing a Reference List” anchor chart and the Reference List Graphic Organizer. | Teams work to complete a Reference List Graphic Organizer. | Teams use information from newsclips to compare incineration to other methods of waste disposal. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.13(G) CCSS: W.5.8 NGSS: 5-LS2.B TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.3(B), 5.5(E)(G), 5.11, 5.12((A)(B)(C) |
| 12 | Teacher introduces the two-part culminating project for the unit: the scientific report and the letter of recommendation to a school official. | | Teams analyze waste decomposition and disposal methods in preparation for the culminating activity. | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.11(A) CCSS: W.5.2(A)(D) NGSS: LS2.B TEKS: 5.1(A)(D)(E), 5.3(B), 5.5(E)(G), 5.11, 5.12(A)(B)(C) |
| 13 | Teams continue to make connections between their text-based inquiry and science investigations to complete work on their reports and diagrams. | | | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.11(B)(i) CCSS: W.5.2(A)(D) NGSS: 5-LS2-1, 5-PS3-1 TEKS: 5.3(A)(B)(C) |
| 14 | In Part 1 of the culminating project, teams present their reports (including their diagrams) to the rest of the class. | | | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.13(H) CCSS: RI.5.9 NGSS: 5-LS2-1, 5-PS3-1 TEKS: 5.3(A)(B)(C) |
| 15 | In Part 2 of the culminating project, teams combine their knowledge about existing solutions to food waste to draft a letter to a school official, recommending a plan to reduce food waste in their school. | | | ELA and Reading TEKS: 5.13(E) CCSS: RI.5.9 NGSS: 5-LS2-1, 5-PS3-1 TEKS: 5.3(A)(B)(C) |