MCAS Review by Biology High School Standards

1. The Chemistry of Life

Broad Concept: Chemical elements form organic molecules that interact to perform the basic functions of life.

1.1 Recognize that biological organisms are composed primarily of very few elements. The six most common are C, H, N, O, P, S

- Element-a substance made of only one kind of atom. A pure substance that cannot be broken down by chemical means.
- Carbon, Hydrogen, Nitrogen, Oxygen, Phosphorous, and Sulfur are used to construct the 4 major organic compounds of life.
- Compound-a substance made of two or more elements chemically combined in definite proportions. 2 types:
- Organic Compound-compounds that contain carbon; associated with living organisms
- Inorganic Compound-compounds that do not contain carbon

1.2 Describe the basic molecular structures and primary functions of the four major categories of organic molecules

- **Carbohydrate-**an organic compound composed of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen atoms; stores energy and provides shape or structure to organisms. Types include: **Monosaccharide** (glucose), **Disaccharide** (sucrose), **& Polysaccharide** (starch).
- Lipid- an organic compound such as fats, oils, waxes, phospholipids, steroids; lipids tend to be insoluble in water (non-polar); lipids such as fats and oils store energy very efficiently-more than twice the energy per gram as carbohydrates.
- **Protein-**a complex macromolecule composed of chains of amino acids
 - Amino Acid-organic molecules that are the building blocks of proteins
 - Enzyme-catalytic proteins that control chemical reactions in living organisms
- Nucleic Acid-a large complex organic molecule made of nucleotides (subunits of nucleic acids consisting of a nitrogen base, a 5carbon sugar, and a phosphate group) molecule that carries hereditary or genetic information for cell function
 - **DNA**-Deoxyribonucleic acid-a double-stranded helical shaped nucleic acid that stores hereditary information. Nucleotides: Nitrogen Base (**ATGC**), phosphate group, deoxyribose.
 - RNA-Ribonucleic acid-a single-stranded nucleic acid involved in protein synthesis. AUGC, Ribose
- 1.3 Explain the role of enzymes as catalysts that lower the activation energy of biochemical reactions. Identify factors, such as pH and temperature, which have an effect on enzymes.
 - **Enzymes**-catalytic proteins that speed up chemical reactions within living organisms. Enzymes provide activation energy in living organisms by increasing the speed of a chemical reaction.
 - Activation Energy-the minimum amount of energy that is needed to start a chemical reaction. Chemical reactions are frequently catalyzed by enzymes
 - Chemical Reaction-a process during which chemical bonds between atoms are broken and new ones are formed producing different substances.

Reactant-the starting materials for chemical reactions.

Product-newly formed substances.

• Enzymes function within a narrow range of environmental conditions, therefore changes in pH, temperature, salinity and other environmental conditions will effect the action of enzymes.

pH-When an ionic compound is placed in water, forming a solution, the compound breaks apart and releases ions...

Acid- a compound that forms hydrogen (H+) ions in water. 0-6.99999 on the pH scale. Base-a compound that produces hydroxide ions in water (OH-) 7.00001 on the pH scale Neutral-7 on the pH scale

2. Cell Biology

Broad Concept: Cells have specific structures and functions that make them distinctive. Processes in a cell can be classified broadly as growth, maintenance, and reproduction.

- 2.1 Relate cell parts/organelles (plasma membrane, nuclear envelope, nucleus, nucleolus, cytoplasm, mitochondrion, endoplasmic reticulum, Golgi apparatus, lysosome, ribosome, vacuole, cell wall, chloroplast, cytoskeleton, centriole, cilium, flagellum, pseudopod) to their functions. Explain the role of cell membranes as a highly selective barrier (diffusion, osmosis, facilitated diffusion, and active transport).
 - **Organelle-** "little organs" structures in eukaryotic cells that have a specialized function.
 - **Nucleus-**the organelle that houses DNA (genetic information) in eukaryotic cells.

Chromosome "colored body"-a structure made of DNA and associated proteins where genes are located **Nucleolus-**a specialized organelle in the nucleus which produces ribosomes

Nuclear Envelope/Membrane-a phospholipid bilayer which separates the nucleus from the cytoplasm

Nuclear Pores-channels in the nuclear envelope which pass substances made in the nucleus (proteins and RNA)

- **Cytoplasm-**a jelly-like material consisting primarily of water and organic compounds occupying the space between the cell membrane and the nucleus. Various organelles are suspended in the cytoplasm.
- **Cytoskeleton**-a network of protein filaments (fibers and tubes) extending throughout the cytoplasm. The cytoskeleton plays a role in cell movement, shape, division, and intracellular transport. The cell membrane and some organelles are anchored to the cytoskeleton

- Flagella/Cilia-long thread-like/short hair-like structures that protrude from the cells surface and enable movement
- Centriole-microtubules that assist in the division of chromosomes during cellular reproduction.
- Ribosome-cell organelles that produce proteins during a process called protein synthesis.
- Endoplasmic Reticulum (ER)-an extensive system of internal membranes that move proteins and other substances throughout the cell. The ER is often considered an extension of the outer Nuclear Membrane and therefore also consists of a lipid bilayer with embedded proteins.

Smooth ER- produces lipids and membrane proteins and helps to break down toxic substances like alcohol and drugs **Rough ER-**helps to transport proteins manufactured in the ribosomes, which dot its surface.

Proteins made in the ribosomes dotting the surface of Rough ER pass into the ER through the ER membrane. Then the ER membrane that contains this completed protein pinches off and forms a small membrane bound sac, known as a **vesicle**.

- **Golgi Apparatus**-a set of flattened membrane-bound sacs that serves as the packaging and distribution center of the cell.Some vesicles produced by Golgi Apparatus release their proteins from the cell, while other newly budded vesicles containing **lysosomes** act as the cells digestive enzymes. Enzymes inside the Golgi Apparatus modify proteins received in vesicles from the ER. The modified proteins are then repacked in new vesicles that bud from the surface of the Golgi Apparatus.
- Lysosomes-small spherical organelles that contain digestive enzymes, which help to break down large molecules of carbohydrates, proteins, and lipids for use by the cell. Lysosomes also digest old organelles and act as a cell's recycling center.
- **Mitochondria**-organelles that harvest energy from organic compounds to make **ATP**, the main energy currency of cells they are the power centers of the cell. Mitochondria are membrane-bound organelles with two membranes: a smooth outer membrane and greatly folded inner membranes called **cristae**, which form the compartments where ATP-producing chemical reactions combine sugar and oxygen to make ATP.
- .Plant Cells contain three additional structures that are not found in animal cells.
 - Chloroplasts are oganelles that contain chlorophyll and use light energy to make carbohydrates from carbon dioxide and water using a process called **photosynthesis**.
 - Cell Wall-provides shape, protection and interconnectivity to the cell. The cell wall consists of a mixture of proteins and carbohydrates, including cellulose.
 - Central Vacuole- a large organelle that stores water and may contain a variety of substances including ions, nutrients, and

wastes. Plant vs. Animal



Cytoso

Hydrophil

Peripheral proteins

Protein

Integral protein

Phospholipid

Fatty acv

tails

Hydrophilic polar

The cell membrane is fluid with the consistency of vegetable oil. Proteins found within and on the membrane form patterns/mosaics and move like slow-moving ships at sea resulting in its description in the Fluid Mosaic Model **Passive Transport-** the movement of substances across a cell membrane without the input of the cell's energy

- **Diffusion-** the movement of a substance from an area of high concentration to an area of low concentration, known as movement down a concentration gradient. Diffusion is caused by the random motion of particles. If diffusion is allowed to continue equilibrium results.
- Osmosis-the diffusion of water across a selectively permeable membrane cell



Carrier molec

specific substances (such as amino acids and sugars) are transported through proteins down their concentration gradient.

Active Transport-is the movement of a substance across a cell membrane against its concentration gradient. Active Transport requires the expenditure of energy, which is often supplied either directly or indirectly by ATP.

Sodium-Potassium Pump-a carrier protein that transports sodium ions out of a cell and potassium ions into the cell. This pump actively transports both sodium and potassium against their concentration gradients. The S-P Pump:

- 1. prevents the toxic build-up of sodium ions that have diffused into the cell through ion channels
- 2. helps maintain the concentration gradients of sodium and potassium ions across the cell membrane, which facilitates the transport of other substances.



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Vesicles-Substances that are too large to be transported by Carrier Proteins, such as proteins and polysaccharides, are moved across the cell membrane by vesicles.

- **1. Endocytosis-**the movement of a substance into a cell by a vesicle a. Phagocytosis-"cell eating" is the ingestion of solid particles by endocytosis. The cytoplasmic membrane invaginates and pinches off placing the particle in a phagocytic vacuole. The phagocytic vacuole then fuses with lysosomes and the material is degraded .
- b. Pinocytosis-"cell drinking" is when a cell takes in liquids.
- 2. Exocytosis-the movement of a substance out of a cell by a vesicle

2.2 Compare and contrast, at the cellular level, prokaryotes and eukaryotes (general structures and degrees of complexity).

Prokarvote (before nucleus)-a single-celled organism that lacks a nucleus and other internal compartments (membrane-bound organelles). The Kingdoms Eubacteria and Archaeobacteria (the Monerans) are examples of prokaryotes. VS.

Eukaryote (true nucleus)-an organism whose cells have a membrane-bound nucleus and membrane-bound organelles. Members of the Kingdoms Protista, Fungi, Plantae, and Animalia are eukaryotes. They evolved about 1.5 bya





- 2.3 Use cellular evidence (such as cell structure, cell number, and cell reproduction) and modes of nutrition to describe six kingdoms (Archaebacteria, Eubacteria, Protista, Fungi, Plantae, Animalia).
 - Six Kingdom System of Taxonomy-Animal, Plant, Fungi, Protist, Eubacteria, & Archaebacteria

2.4 Identify the reactants, products, and basic purposes of photosynthesis and cellular respiration. Explain the interrelated nature of photosynthesis and cellular respiration in the cells of photosynthetic organisms.

Photosynthesis is the process by which autotrophs convert light energy to chemical energy by producing organic compounds. Photosynthesis occurs because of the

presence of pigments, which absorb certain wavelengths of light while reflecting others. **Photosynthesis**

 $6\text{CO}_2 + 6\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{Energy} \rightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6 + 6\text{O}_2$

Cellular Respiration

 $C_6H_{12}O_6 + 6O_2 \rightarrow 6CO_2 + 6H_2O + Energy$

Cellular Respiration- the process by which living organisms harvest the energy in food molecules. This occurs when glucose molecules are broken down through a series of chemical reactions which produces ATP. The foods we eat provide our bodies with the raw materials for cellular respiration, which converts proteins, carbohydrates, and lipids into ATP. The O_2 in the air that we breathe makes this process more efficient



Photosynthesis



2.5 Explain the important role that ATP serves in metabolism.

- **Energy and ATP-**When our bodies digest food some energy is released as heat, but the majority of the energy is stored temporarily in molecules like ATP, the energy "currency" utilized by cells. This energy is used to power chemical reactions.
- **ATP** (Adenosine Triphosphate)-an organic energy-storing molecule that consists of three distinct parts: ribose (a 5 carbon sugar), adenine (a nitrogen base), and three phosphates. The energy in a molecule of ATP is stored in the bonds between the phosphate groups. When the bonds are broken during ATP Hydrolysis energy is released and ADP (Adenosine Diphosphate) is created. Cells will continuously replace the supply of ATP by a attaching a phosphate to an ADP molecule during cellular respiration. ATP synthesis occurs at a rate of approximately 10 million molecules per second/per cell. This interplay is called the ATP/ADP Cycle. Energy from ATP is used to provide energy for mechanical functions like muscle cell contraction, to provide energy for Active transport, and to synthesize and break down molecules in cells.
- 2.6 Describe the cell cycle and the process of mitosis. Explain the role of mitosis in the formation of new cells, and its importance in maintaining chromosome number during asexual reproduction.
 - **Mitosis**-a process during cellular division in which the nucleus of a cell divides into two nuclei each with the same number and kind of chromosomes.



2.7 Describe how the process of meiosis results in the formation of haploid cells. Explain the importance of this process in sexual reproduction, and how gametes form diploid zygotes in the process of fertilization.

Haploid (n)-"single vessel" referring to a cell having one set of chromosomes. Haploid cells are gametes (sex cells)

Gamete-reproductive cells such as sperm or egg they are haploid cells that participate in fertilization by fusing with another haploid cell.

Diploid (2n)-"double vessel" referring to a cell having two sets of chromosomes. Diploid cells are somatic (body/non-sex cells)

Zygote-fertilzed egg. The fusion of two haploid cells forms a zygote.

Fertilization-The fusion of two haploid gametes to form a diploid zygote (a fertilized egg), the first cell of a new individual



Meiosis-a type of cellular reproduction in which the number of chromosomes is reduced by half so that daughter cells are haploid (n).

haploid

diploid

a. allows chromosome number to remain stable over multiple generationsb. in humans meiosis yields 4 haploid cells with 23 chromosomes

2.8 Compare and contrast a virus and a cell in terms of genetic material and reproduction.



3. Genetics

Broad Concept: Genes allow for the storage and transmission of genetic information. They are a set of instructions encoded in the nucleotide sequence of each organism. Genes code for the specific sequences of amino acids that comprise the proteins that are characteristic of that organism.

3.1 Describe the basic structure (double helix, sugar/phosphate backbone, linked by complementary nucleotide pairs) of DNA, and describe its function in genetic inheritance.



3.2 Describe the basic process of DNA replication and how it relates to the transmission and conservation of the genetic code. Explain the basic processes of transcription and translation, and how they result in the expression of genes. Distinguish among the end products of replication, transcription, and translation.



Adenine Guanine Uracil C-Cytosine P= phosphate R= Ribose	 RNA (Rribonucleic Acid) Difference from DNA 1. Single Strand not double 2. Ribose not Deoxyribose 3. Thymine replaced by Uracil Remember: mRNA codons tRNA anticodons codon table 	Protein Synthesis (Gene Expression)-the process of translating an organism's genotype to phenotype. Genes code for sequences of amino acids that make up proteins.2 Phases: 1. Transcription (nucleus)-information in a DNA molecule is copied to RNA (transcribe = copy) 2. Translation (cytoplasm/ribosomes)- mRNA is used to make a protein (nucleotides translated to amino acid sequences) DNA mRNA mRNA rest	Plasmamembrane Nucleus Cytoplasm Tren scription Polypeptide Ritiosome (RNA)
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3.3 Explain how mutations in the DNA sequence of a gene may or may not result in phenotypic change in an organism. Explain how mutations in gametes may result in phenotypic changes in offspring.



3.4 Distinguish among observed inheritance patterns caused by several types of genetic traits (dominant, recessive, incomplete dominance, codominant, sex-linked, polygenic, and multiple alleles).



Homozygous-if the alleles for a particular gene in an individual are the same (ie: PP or pp) Heterozygous-if the alleles for a particular gene in an individual are different (ie: Pp)



Incomplete Dominance-a condition in which a trait in an individual is intermediate between the phenotype of its two parents. Neither allele is fully expressed. Sickle Cell Anemia in humans is an example of incomplete dominance.





Sickle Cell Anemia AA- Not affected Aa-mildly affected aa-Affected



Codominance-a condition in which both alleles for a gene are expressed fully when present

Roan horses are born when a homozygous red horse mates

Multiple Alleles-In humans blood type is determined by the different carbohydrates that coat the surface of red blood cells. Type A, Type B, Type AB, Type O (no carbohydrates present)



3.5 Describe how Mendel's laws of segregation and independent assortment can be observed through patterns of inheritance (such as dihybrid crosses).

William

Laws of Heredity (Mendel's Laws)	2. Law of Independent Assortment-the alleles of different genes			
1. Law of Segregation-the two alleles for a trait segregate	separate randomly and independently of one another during gamete			
(separate) when gametes are formed (during meiosis). Because of	formation. (ie: the alleles associated with the color, size, flower			
segregation ¹ / ₂ of an organisms gametes contain one gene from a	position etc. are not linked to one another)			
homologous pair and 1/2 of the games contain the other gene.	3. Law of Dominance-if two alleles in a gene pair are different,			
	then one allele (dominant) can control the trait and the other one			
	can be hidden (recessive)			



3.6 Use a Punnett Square to determine the probabilities for genotype and phenotype combinations in monohybrid crosses.



4. Anatomy and Physiology

Broad Concept: There is a relationship between the organization of cells into tissues, and tissues into organs. The structure and function of organs determine their relationships within body systems of an organism. Homeostasis allows the body to perform its normal functions.
4.1 Explain generally how the digestive system (mouth, pharynx, esophagus, stomach, small and large intestines, rectum) converts macromolecules from food into smaller molecules that can be used by cells for energy and for repair and growth.

1. *Mouth*: Mechanical digestion (chewing) and chemical digestion (saliva).

Carbohydrate digestion begins with amylase in saliva.

2. *Pharynx and esophagus*: Bolus down pharynx (epiglottis closes entrance to the trachea) by muscular contractions called peristalsis. **3.** *Stomach*: Mechanical Digestion (stomach walls contract to churn food.) Chemical digestion (hydrochloric acid and the enzyme pepsin-which begins breakdown of proteins). Chyme a soft pulp of food is produced and released into the small intestine.

4. *Small Intestine*: (7 meters long with narrow diameter) Divided into three structural parts: duodenum, jejunum, and the ileum. Digestion of fats begins while digestion of carbohydrates and proteins are completed. The small intestine is also where nutrients are absorbed.

5. *Large Intestine*: (1.5 meters long with large diameter) Water and water-soluble vitamins are absorbed from Rectum-the final portion of the large intestine where feces is stored until it is eliminated through the anus.



4.2 Explain how the circulatory system (heart, arteries, veins, capillaries, red blood cells) transports nutrients and oxygen to cells and removes cell wastes. Describe how the kidneys and the liver are closely associated with the circulatory system as they perform the excretory function of removing waste from the blood. Recognize that kidneys remove nitrogenous wastes, and the liver removes many toxic compounds from blood

1. Pulmonary Circuit: (blood b/w heart and lungs)

2. Systemic Circuit: (blood b/w heart and body)

Human Blood Vessels: transport blood throughout the body

1. Arteries \rightarrow Arterioles: carry blood away from the heart.

High Pressure due to pumping of heart.

2. **Capillaries:** Most of the gases, nutrients, and wastes in the blood are exchanged with body cells by diffusion through the capillary walls.

3. Veins→Venules: carry blood to the heart (Low Pressure)



Human Heart: A muscular, four-chambered organ made of cardiac muscle that is responsible for pumping blood through the vessels. The top two chambers are the atria (atrium) and the bottom two chambers are the ventricles.

Right side of the heart: collects deoxygenated blood, in the right **atrium**, from the body and pump it, via the right ventricle, into the lungs so that carbon dioxide can be dropped off and oxygen picked up

Left side of the heart: collects oxygenated blood from the lungs into the left atrium. From the left **atrium** the blood moves to the left **ventricle** which pumps it out to the body

Kidnevs

1. Blood enters the kidneys through vessels that branch from the aorta 2. Kidneys filter wastes from the blood 3. Kidneys converts wastes into urine 4. Urine flows from each kidney through a long tube called the **ureter** 5. Ureters carry urine to the bladder 6. When the bladder is full, urine is expelled out of the body through the urethra







4.3 Explain how the respiratory system (nose, pharynx, larynx, trachea, lungs, alveoli) provides exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide.



Alveoli Gas Exchange Blood cell Gas exchange occurs by diffusion across the membrane of an alveolus and a capillary. Cells of alveolus In the alveoli, O₂ is more concentrated than in surrounding capillaries. Interior of In the capillaries of the lungs, CO₂ is more concentrated. alveolus Oxvgenated blood to heart Therefore: O₂ diffuses from the cell membrane of the alveoli to the blood in the capillaries Deoxygenated blood from hear and CO₂ diffuses out of the capillaries into the alveoli where it is exhaled from the lungs Plasma During cellular respiration, cells use O_2 while producing CO_2 , O_2 diffuses from the capillaries Smallest blood vessel into body cells and CO₂ diffuses out of body cells into capillaries.

4.4 Explain how the nervous system (brain, spinal cord, sensory neurons, motor neurons) mediates communication between different parts of the body and the body's interactions with the environment. Identify the basic unit of the nervous system, the neuron, and explain generally how it works.



- 2. Motor Neurons: conduct impulses away from the CNS
- 3. Interneurons: conduct impulses within the CNS. They connect
- with sensory, motor, and other interneurons.



4.5 Explain how the muscular/skeletal system (skeletal, smooth and cardiac muscle, bones, cartilage, ligaments, tendons) works with other systems to support and allow for movement. Recognize that bones produce both red and white blood cells.



Osteoblasts/Osteocytes-make new bone and maintain mineral concentrations of the bone.



Bones and muscles of freely movable joints are bound together by bands of tough connective tissues.

Ligaments are connective tissues that join one bone to another.

Tendons are connective tissues that attach muscles to bones.



4.6 Recognize that the sexual reproductive system allows organisms to produce offspring that receive half of their genetic information from their mother and half from their father and that sexually produced offspring resemble, but are not identical to, either of their parents.

Sexual reproduction requires a special form of cell division (meiosis). The number of chromosomes is reduced by half to form gametes.								
Gamete-reproductive cells such as sperm or egg they are haploid			Meiosis-a type of cellular reproduction in which the number of					
cells that participate in fertilization by fusing with another			chromosomes is reduced by half so that daughter cells are haploid					
haploid cell.			(n).					
Fertilization-The fusion of two haploid gametes to form a			a. chromosome number remains stable over multiple generations					
diploid zygote (a fertilized egg), the first cell of a new individual.			b. in humans meiosis yields 4 haploid cells with 23 chromosomes					
						Meiosis II		
Crossing Over results in the exchange of reciprocal segments of DNA among homologous chromosomes.	Mo	iosis I	* ***	(a)	*		Cytokinesis n	
	5 5 5		*	Prophase II	Metaphase II	Anaphase II	Cytokinesis n Telophase II	
2n 2								
Prophase I	Metaphase I	Anaphase I	Telophase I/Cytokinesis	Prophase II	Metaphase II	Anaphase II	l'elophase II	
Prophase I	Metaphase I	Anaphase I	Telophase T	 new spindle forms around 	 chromosomes line up at equator 	 centromeres divide and 	nuclear envelopes form	
Chromosomes visible	 homologous pairs move to equator 	• homologous chromosomes move to poles	· chromosomes	chromosomes		chromosomes mov to opposite poles	/e • results in 4 haploid offspring	
 Nuclear envelope dissolves 			gather at poles				•Independent Assortment-the	
•Crossing over occurs			•Cytoplasm divides				random distribution of homologous chromosomes during meiosis.	

4.7 Recognize that communication between cells is required for coordination of body functions. The nerves communicate with electrochemical signals, hormones circulate through the blood, and some cells produce signals to communicate only with nearby cells.

Nerve Impulse Transmission

A nerve impulse is a wave of chemical and electrical change that moves along the membrane of a neuron. A neuron has a **membrane potential** which is an electrical charge difference across the cell membrane. The membrane potential can either be:



Steps in nerve impulse transmission:

1. At rest, the inside of the cell has a negative charge while the outside has a positive charge

2. Upon stimulation, channels in the membrane of the first region open, and sodium ions (Na+) flow into the cell. This causes the inside to be positive while the outside is negative.

3. After Na+ enters the first region of the cell, potassium ions (K+) flow out of the cell, restoring the first region to its resting potential. The reversal of charge opens the channels in the next region of the neuron.

4. A charge reversal in the second region starts a charge reversal in the third region, and so on, as the nerve impulse is transmitted along the neuron.



4.8 Recognize that the body's systems interact to maintain homeostasis. Describe the basic function of a physiological feedback loop. **Homeostasis-** the maintenance of stable internal conditions in spite of changes in the external environment. The nervous system and the endocrine system regulate and monitor organ systems within the body to ensure stability is maintained throughout the body. ie: the brainstem controls homeostasis in the human body by regulating temperature, respiration rates, etc. Hormones assist in maintaining homeostasis as it relates to nutrition, metabolism, excretion and water and mineral balances. (ie: human sweating to control temperature, dogs panting instead of sweationg to maintain temperature)

5. Evolution and Biodiversity

Broad Concept: Evolution is the result of genetic changes that occur in constantly changing environments. Over many generations, changes in the genetic make-up of populations may affect biodiversity through speciation and extinction.

5.1 Explain how evolution is demonstrated by evidence from the fossil record, comparative anatomy, genetics, molecular biology, and examples of natural selection.

Evolution-changes in populations over long periods of time. Evolution represents the change in a gene pool over time.



 Comparative Embryology-comparison of the embryonic forms of various living organisms
 Vestigial Structures-a structure that is unused but is homologous with structures in other species-thereby suggesting a common ancestry

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5.2 Describe species as reproductively distinct groups of organisms. Recognize that species are further classified into a hierarchical taxonomic system (kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species) based on morphological, behavioral, and molecular similarities. Describe the role that accorrent is classified into a new in speciation.



5.3 Explain how evolution through natural selection can result in changes in biodiversity through the increase or decrease of genetic diversity from a population.



6. Ecology

Broad Concept: Ecology is the interaction among organisms and between organisms and their environment.

6.1 Explain how birth, death, immigration, and emigration influence population size.

Population Size- the total number of individuals in a population. The population size can affect a population's ability to survive. The smaller the population the more prone it is to extinction.

Population Density- the number of individuals in a given area. Population densities can impact reproduction, spread of disease, availability of resources, etc.

Dispersion-the way that a population is arranged in a space. Dispersion is determined by the interactions of a population and its environment

Population Models-In general populations grow when birth rates exceed death rates, populations decline when death rates exceed birth rates, and remain stable when birth and death rates are even.



6.2 Analyze changes in population size and biodiversity (speciation and extinction) that result from the following: natural causes, changes in climate, human activity, and the introduction of invasive, non-native species.

Factors that affect population size

Density Dependent Limiting Factors-limited resources whose rates of depletion depend upon the density of the population using them. ie: resources such as food & water, diseases, or predator-prey relationships.

Density Independent Limiting Factors-non-density dependent factors that affect the growth of populations. ie: weather, seasonal cycles, natural disasters, human activity "Bad Luck"

Reproductive Strategies

r-Strategists-species characterized by rapid growth, high fertility, short lifespan, and exponential population growth. R-strategists typically live in unstable environments.

K-Strategists-species characterized by slow maturation, few young, slow population growth, and reproduction late in life. K-strategists typically have small population sizes that hover near the carrying capacity. Many endangered species are K-strategists.

6.3 Use a food web to identify and distinguish producers, consumers, and decomposers, and explain the transfer of energy through trophic levels. Describe how relationships among organisms (predation, parasitism, competition, commensalism, and mutualism) add to the complexity of biological communities.



A Food Chain models the flow of energy through organisms in a community along a linear pathway. Organisms within a food chain are assigned to different levels within a food chain known as **Trophic Levels. Trophic Levels** consist of groups of organisms that have the same source of energy (a step in a food chain). The term trophic comes from the Greek "trophos" meaning food/to feed. **Symbiosis**-an ecological interaction in which two or more species live together in a close long-term association. The three types of symbiotic relationships are mutualism, commensalism, and parasitism. **Mutualism-**an ecological interaction in which both partners benefit.

Commensalism-an ecological interaction in which one species benefits and the other species is neither harmed nor helped.

Parasitism-an ecological interaction in which one species feeds on, but does not kill its host



A Food Web is a network of interconnected food chains in an ecosystem.

Autotrophs-organisms that use energy from sunlight or inorganic substances to make organic compounds via the process of photosynthesis or chemosynthesis. The foods made are primarily carbohydrates such as glucose.

Producer-autotrophs that provide food for a community. Heterotrophs/Consumers-organisms that cannot make their own food and therefore must obtain energy from outside food sources. Heterotrophs use this food to make ATP during cellular respiration.

Primary Consumers-organisms that feed directly on producers

Herbivore-a primary consumer that eats only plants.

Secondary/Tertiary/Quaternary Consumers-organisms that feed on organism below them in a food chain.

Carnivore-organisms that eat only meat

Omnivore-orgnanisms that eat both producers and other consumers

Scavenger-organisms that feed on the tissue of dead animals

Detrivore/Decomposer-organisms that feed on wastes and dead organic matter from all trophic levels

An Energy/Ecological pyramid shows the relationship between producers and

- consumers at the trophic levels in an ecosystem. Each trophic level contains only 10% of energy available in the trophic level below.
- 6.4 Explain how water, carbon, and nitrogen cycle between abiotic resources and organic matter in an ecosystem and how oxygen cycles through photosynthesis and respiration.



- 2. Ammonification-production of ammonia by bacteria during decay of urea from urine and feces.
- 3. Nitrification-production of nitrate from urea
- 4. Denitrification-conversion of nitrate (NO₃) to nitrogen gas (N₂)

Legumes such as pea plants have the ability to fix nitrogen.





n (NH.*)

Nitrates (NO.

Nitrites (NO₅")

1000 units of energy