## Trimester Focus:

• Evolution and Traits of Organisms

## **Big Ideas:**

Traits are influenced by both genetics of the individual and the environment.

- Traits can be classified as either inherited or acquired.
- Each organism (plants and animals) have specific behavioral and physical characteristics allowing them to better survive in a given environment.
- As environments change over time, these characteristics may change (adaptations) to allow them to continue to survive or flourish in their environment.
- Fossils provide evidence that life forms have changed over time and were influenced by changes in environmental conditions including catastrophic events.
- Organisms that are similar in anatomical structures are more likely to be more closely related than those whose structures are less similar to one another.

GLCEs	Vocabulary	Resources	Assessment/Activities
		(See Curriculum Calendar for	
		` Details)	
Explain the influence of	anatomical	Textbook:	Formative Assessment
environment and	features	<ul> <li>National Geographic Life Science</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Evaluate student presentation of information on</li> </ul>
Genetics on individuals	genetic	Chapter 4	environmental influences affecting plants traits.
	relatedness	(chapter 1 - review vocabulary as an	<ul> <li>Evaluate student design and investigations of the</li> </ul>
Distinguish between inherited	adaption	introduction)	classroom habitat and presentations.
and acquired traits	heredity		Evaluate student diagrams/illustrations depicting
Explain how behavioral	innerited traits	<u>Suggested Trade Books:</u> Eossils by App O. Squiro	characteristics allowing survival in particular
characteristics (adaptation	acquireu traits	• Tossiis by Ann O. Squire	<ul> <li>Evaluate student research and presentations of</li> </ul>
instinct, learning, habit) of		Website, Video Streaming, &	organisms' changes over time.
animals help them to survive		Smartboard Activities:	<ul> <li>Evaluate students' ability to identify characteristics</li> </ul>
in their environment		<ul> <li>myNGconnect.com</li> </ul>	allowing organisms to survive in their environment.
		<ul> <li>See grade level resource packet</li> </ul>	• Evaluate the list of appropriate characteristics to help
Describe the physical			scientists classify organisms.
characteristics or traits of		Grade Level Resource Packet:	• Evaluate students' completed Venn diagrams.
organisms that help the		<ul> <li>See unit Evolution and Traits of Organisms</li> </ul>	Summative Assessment
survive in their environment		Organishis	Give each student 3 separate index cards and label
Describe how fossils provide			the first with an A (Acquired), the second with an I
evidence of how living things			(Inherited) and the third with a B (Both). Read different
and environmental conditions			traits aloud and have each student independently choose
have changed			which type of trait it represents. V isually s can the room
			to determine each students understanding (or
Analyze the relationship of			misunderstanding) of the Content Expectation.
environmental change and			<ul> <li>Design matching type questions for inherited and acquired traits</li> </ul>
eruntion esteroid impacts			<ul> <li>Describe situations in which the environment would</li> </ul>
tsunami) to species extinction			affect a trait of a plant or animal and have student
			describe how the trait would be affected in the given
Relate degree of similarity in			situation.
anatomical features to the			Choose an organism to have students identify the
classification of contemporary			behavioral and physical characteristics that allow it to
organisms			survive in its particular environment.
*See inquiry and reflection			<ul> <li>Students analyze rossil evidence to determine now onvironmental conditions changed over time.</li> </ul>
GLCEs			<ul> <li>List organisms that would be placed into a similar</li> </ul>
			group based on characteristics and have students
			determine the similarity.
			Give students different organisms to determine the
			degree of relatedness.
			List organisms that would be placed into a similar
			group based on characteristics and have students
			determine the similarity.