

7th Grade Core Essential Questions

Standard 4: Students will understand that offspring inherit traits that make them more or less suitable to survive in the environment.

Objective 1: Compare how sexual and asexual reproduction passes genetic information from parent to offspring.

Enduring Understanding:

Reproduction passes information from parent to offspring. Asexual reproduction requires one parent and produces nearly identical offspring. Sexual reproduction requires two parents, and provides variety in a species.

Essential Questions

1. How are traits from parents passed on to offspring?
2. What is the difference between inherited and acquired traits?
3. Which form of reproduction results in identical offspring to the parent?
4. Give examples of two organisms that reproduce sexually and two that reproduce asexually.
5. What structural traits do offspring have that are similar to their parents?

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Standard 4: Students will understand that offspring inherit traits that make them more or less suitable to survive in the environment.

Objective 2: Relate the adaptability of organisms in an environment to their inherited traits and structures.

Enduring Understanding:

Genetic variation allows a species to adapt to changes in the environment and help the species survive. A species may change due to the passing of traits naturally or by techniques used and developed by science. Genetic information is passed on in a predictable manner.

Essential Questions

1. How do species adapt to changes in their environments?
2. How do structures like sharp teeth and long legs help a wolf survive?
3. What traits help a deer survive in a forest? What would happen if the deer were moved to a desert?
4. What genetic traits of a cow have been altered by people?