

STAAR ALTERNATE 2 INSTRUCTIONAL TERMS FOR SCIENCE

For all subject areas, TEA provides a list of specific instructional terms that students will need exposure to during classroom instruction because the terms may be used on the assessment. However, the lists do not reference all the content a student would be responsible for. Students must become familiar with these terms as they are developmentally able to comprehend the content. Students in higher grades need to also know the terms presented in earlier grades.

Grade 5	Grade 8	Biology
adapt, adaptation, adapted, migrate, migrating, migration, survive, survival	applied, apply, function	abiotic, abiotic factors, biotic, biotic factors
chart, diagram, table	axis, crescent moon, full moon, night, noon, rotate(s), solar, sun, telescope	absorb, absorption, convert, process, promote, transport
classified, classify, investigate, investigated, investigation, observe, observation, observing	basic needs: energy (food), shelter, sun, water	anther, blossom, cells, chloroplast(s), flower, fruit, leaf, photosynthesis, roots, root system, sepal, stem, vascular system
conserve, conservation	biological change, chemical change, physical change	autotroph, autotrophic, heterotroph, heterotrophic
consumer, producer, predator, prey, ecosystem	burrow, dormant, hibernate, hibernation, migrate, migration	bacteria, microorganism(s), mammal
cool, cooled, cooling, heat, heated, heating, freeze, freezing, frozen, ice, melt, melted, melting	camouflage	biodiversity
cycle, day, Earth, moon, morning, night/evening, noon, orbit, phase(s), reflect, revolve, rotate, shadow, shine, solar system, stars, sun, sunlight, sunrise, sunset, sky	canyon, flood, volcanic rock/lava	body systems: circulatory, digestive (intestinal), integumentary, muscular, nervous, respiratory, skeletal
day, morning, night/evening, noon, reflect, sun, sunlight, shadow, shine, solar system, sunrise, sunset	chemically combine	by-product
depend/ dependence	cold climate, cold-water habitat, warm climate, environmental conditions	cells: atom(s), eukaryotic/prokaryotic, intracellular, molecule, multicellular, nucleus, red/white blood cells, specialized, unicellular
Earth materials: rocks, sand (dunes), soil particles	conductivity, conductor, solubility, mass, mixture, solution	deforestation, extinct, extinction, fossil, pollution
earthquake, landslide, volcano/volcanic eruption	data, experiment, observation(s), pattern, predict, prediction	endoskeleton, exoskeleton
east, north, south, west	eroding, erosion, deposit, deposition, weather, weathering	evidence
environment/habitat: desert, grassland, mountains, rain forest, rocky, wetland	force and movement: back and forth, effort, motion, up and down, resting/rest	intestinal cells, muscle cells, nerve cells
food chain, food web, flow of energy	heat, heated, heating, insulator	kingdoms
force and movement: apply/applied, direction, distance, gravity/gravitational, magnetic, pull/pulling, push/ pushing, vibrate/vibration	inherited traits, learned behavior, parent, young	life cycle, stage(s) of development, chrysalis, embryo, larva(e), metamorphosis, offspring, reproduce(s), sexually, asexually
interact, interacting, interaction	interdependence	nutrients
life cycle: adult/parent, continuous, produce(s), stage, young	natural sources of: clouds, energy, water (freshwater, saltwater)	symbiotic relationship: commensalism, mutualism, parasitism

Grade 5	Grade 8
matter: state/type of, gas, liquid, solid, steam	particle(s), substance(s)
cold-blooded, living, nonliving, organism, warm-blooded	phase(s)
physical characteristics/ properties: color, flexibility, hard/soft, hot/cold, liquid/solid, shape, sink/float, texture (smooth/rough), weight (heavy/light),	population, species
reflect, reflecting, reflected	recycle, recycling, landfill
resources: man-made, natural	regulate
seasons: spring, summer, fall, winter	state of matter: gas, liquid, solid
source of/ flow of energy: electrical, light, mechanical, sound, thermal (heat)	temperature(s), boil/boiling, heat/heating, melt/melting, warm/warming
structures: external, internal	water cycle, condensation, precipitation, collection, evaporation, water vapor, clouds
water sources: lake, river, stream, ocean	weather: forecast, rainfall
temperature and weather: below freezing, breeze/breezy, clear, clouds/cloudy, condition, Fahrenheit, freezing temperature, lightning, pattern, rain/rainy, snow/snowy, storm/ thunderstorm, sunny, wind/windy, wind speed	