

Fall 2012



Item Descriptors

Grade 8

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Science – Grade 8 Item Descriptors

DIRECTIONS: Read each question. Choose the **BEST** answer for each question.

1 P.ME.FI.EB.IV.1.m.1a:

Describe and compare objects in terms of weight and width

Based on the illustrations, identify the pair of plants having equal amounts of a physical characteristic

- A selects a pair with unequal amounts of the characteristic
- **B** selects a pair with unequal amounts of the characteristic
- c selects the pair having equal amounts of the characteristic

2 R.RO.FI.EB.II.1.e.3ADDm:

Identify and/or describe ways in which technology is used in everyday life

Recognize which of 3 listed electronic devices enables a person to accomplish a specified task

- A selects a device that could provide access to the necessary technology but does not enable task completion
- B selects the device that enables a person to complete the specified task
- c selects a device that does not enable a person to complete the specified task

3 C.CN.FI.EB.I.1.m.3a: Identify and/or use tools and equipment appropriate to scientific investigations

Recognize the appropriate tool to use to accomplish a specified task

- A selects a tool that would not enable a person to complete the specified task
- **B** selects a tool that is appropriate for use to complete the specified task
- c selects a tool that would not enable a person to complete the specified task

4 L.CE.FI.EB.III.1.m.1a:

Recognize that all living things are made of cells

Distinguish plant cells from other types of cells

- A selects cells that are not plant cells
- **B** selects the drawing that represents plant cells
- **C** selects cells that are not plant cells

Science – Grade 8 Item Descriptors

L.OR.FI.EB.III.2.m.1a:

Compare and/or classify organisms in major groups based on their structure

Given 3 drawings of different organisms, recognize which organism is a specified type

- Α selects an organism that is not an example of the specified type
- В selects the drawing that is an example of the specified type of organism
- C selects an organism that is not an example of the specified type

6 L.OR.FI.EB.III.2.m.1a:

Compare and/or classify organisms in major groups based on their structure

Recognize which animal is an example of a specified animal classification

- Α selects an animal not included within the specified classification
- В selects an animal not included within the specified classification
- C selects the animal that is a member of the specified animal classification

L.OR.FI.EB.III.2.m.2a: 7 Identify stages of the life cycle

of flowering plants

Based on a procedure list, recognize the step in the procedure that follows the step illustrated by the drawing

- Α selects a step that precedes the step illustrated by the drawing
- В selects a step that is beyond the step that follows the step illustrated by the drawing
- C selects the step in the procedure that immediately follows the step illustrated by the drawing

8 L.OR.FI.EB.III.2.m.2a:

Identify stages of the life cycle of flowering plants

Identify the process a flowering plant, in a specified life-cycle stage, follows to proceed with its development

- A does not correctly identify the process the plant, in its specified life-cycle stage, follows
- B recognizes the process that the plant, in this stage of its life-cycle, follows to proceed with its development
- does not correctly identify the process the plant, in its specified life-cycle stage, follows

9 L.OR.FI.EB.III.2.m.4a:

Identify how selected systems and processes work together in animals

Recognize which body system primarily carries out the specified purpose

- A selects a body system that is not primary for the specified purpose
- **B** selects a body system that is not primary for the specified purpose
- c selects the body system that primarily carries out the specified purpose

10 L.OR.FI.EB.III.2.m.3a:

Explain where plants make and store food

Recognize which part of a specified plant is used to store its food

- A selects a plant part that does not primarily store food
- **B** selects the plant part where food is primarily stored
- c selects a plant part that does not primarily store food

11 L.OR.FI.EB.III.2.m.3a:

Explain where plants make and store food

Recognize which part of a specified plant is used to store its food

- A selects a plant part that does not primarily store food
- B selects a plant part that does not primarily store food
- **C** selects the plant part where food is primarily stored

12 R.RO.FI.EB.II.1.m.2a:

Recognize limitations in personal knowledge

Classify the type of scientific information provided by a given statement

- A selects the correct type of scientific information provided by the statement
- **B** selects a type of scientific information not provided by the statement
- c selects a type of scientific information not provided by the statement

13 L.EV.FI.EB.III.4.m.1a:

Explain how fossils provide evidence about the nature of ancient life

Recognize scientific facts that are based on fossil evidence

- A selects a past process for which fossils do not provide evidence
- **B** selects a past process for which fossils do not provide evidence
- c selects the scientific facts that can be derived from fossils

14 L.EV.FI.EB.III.4.m.1a:

Explain how fossils provide evidence about the nature of ancient life

Recognize the best reason to explain how dinosaurs became extinct

- A selects a statement not supported by evidence
- B selects a reason that would not lead to extinction of all dinosaurs
- c selects the most tenable statement for dinosaur extinction

15 L.EC.FI.EB.III.5.m.5a:

Identify how humans use and benefit from plant and animal materials

Given 3 drawings of different products, recognize the product that is made from two types of organisms

- A selects the product that can be made from both types of organisms
- **B** selects the product made from just 1 type of organism
- **C** selects the product made from just 1 type of organism

16 L.EC.FI.EB.III.5.m.2a:

Identify and/or describe that organisms acquire energy directly or indirectly from sunlight

Distinguish a producer organism among consumer organisms

- **A** selects the organism that is a producer
- **B** selects an organism that is a consumer
- **C** selects an organism that is a consumer

17 L.EC.FI.EB.III.5.m.1a:

Describe common patterns of relationships among populations

Recognize a relationship between organisms in a food chain under a specified condition

- A selects a condition not likely to occur based on the specified condition
- **B** selects the condition likely to occur for the predator population
- c selects a condition not likely to occur based on the specified condition

18 L.EC.FI.EB.III.5.m.5a:

Identify how humans use and benefit from plant and animal materials

Recognize type of Earth resource used by human beings to produce the listed products

- A selects a resource that does not provide material to make the products
- **B** selects the resource that provides the raw material used to make the products
- **C** selects a resource that does not provide material to make the products

19 P.ME.FI.EB.IV.1.m.1a:

Describe and compare objects in terms of weight and width

Based on the illustration, determine if 1 object weighs more than another object

- A selects an incorrect conclusion about the weight of the 2 objects
- **B** selects an incorrect conclusion about the weight of the 2 objects
- c selects the correct conclusion about the weight of the 2 objects

20 P.ME.FI.EB.IV.1.m.2a:

Identify when length, weight, area, volume, or temperature is appropriate to describe objects or substances

Recognize which property of a substance is measured using the specified tool

- A selects a property of a substance not measured by the tool
- **B** selects the property of a substance measured by the specified tool
- c selects a property of a substance not measured by the tool

21 P.ME.FI.EB.IV.1.m.2a:

Identify when length, weight, area, volume, or temperature is appropriate to describe objects or substances

Recognize the correct measure required to carry out a specified task

- A selects an incorrect measure for the specified task
- B selects the correct measure which provides the necessary information for the specified task
- **C** selects an incorrect measure for the specified task

22 C.CN.FI.EB.I.1.m.1a: Identify and/or generate questions about the world based on observation

Recognize how a measure changes for a specified situation

- A selects a measured change in the opposite direction of the specified change
- **B** selects a measured change in the opposite direction of the specified change
- change that meets the specified change conditions

23 P.ME.FI.EB.IV.1.m.6a:

Investigate electrical devices, using instructions and appropriate safety precautions

Recognize best safety precautions when working with electricity

- A selects an action that is unrelated to electrical safety
- **B** selects the best action to assure safety when working with electricity
- c selects an action that does not provide the best safety when working with electricity

24 P.ME.FI.EB.IV.1.m.5a:

Construct simple circuits and/or identify how they work in terms of the flow of current

Recognize examples of complete and incomplete circuits

- A selects an incorrect example of a complete circuit
- **B** selects the correct example of a complete circuit
- c selects an incorrect example of a complete circuit

25 P.ME.FI.EB.IV.1.m.6a:

Investigate electrical devices, using instructions and appropriate safety precautions

Identify the appropriate behavior for using a specified type of electrical equipment

- A selects an inappropriate behavior for safety using the specified equipment
- **B** selects appropriate behavior for safety using the specified equipment
- c selects an inappropriate behavior for safety using the specified equipment

26 P.CM.FI.EB.IV.2.m.1a:

Describe common physical changes in matter

Recognize the physical change that occurs in a specified substance as temperature changes

- A selects the change that does occur in the substance as temperature changes
- B selects a change that involves such a minute amount of matter as to not be perceptible
- c selects a change that is the opposite of what will occur as temperature changes

27 P.CM.FI.EB.IV.2.m.4a:

Identify common energy transformations in everyday situations

Recognize which component is necessary for a physical change to occur

- A selects a component that is not necessarily applicable for a physical change
- B selects the component that is necessary in the situation for a physical change in matter to occur
- c selects a component that is not necessarily applicable for a physical change

28 P.CM.FI.EB.IV.2.m.1a:

Describe common physical changes in matter

Recognize the process by which matter changes state in the specified situation

- A selects a process that would not result in the matter disappearing
- B selects the process by which the matter disappeared from the focus of the specified situation
- c selects a process that would not result in the matter disappearing

29 P.MO.FI.EB.IV.3.m.2a:

Identify forces (push/pull) that speed up, slow down, stop, or change the direction of moving objects

Recognize the relationship between an object's weight and the force of gravity

- A selects an object representing a misconception regarding the relationship
- B selects an object representing a misconception regarding the relationship
- c selects the object representing a correct understanding of the relationship

30 P.MO.FI.EB.IV.3.m.3a:

Identify and/or describe patterns of interaction of magnetic materials

Given magnets experiencing a specified type of force, choose the description of the expected result

- A selects the correct description
- **B** selects a description that has nothing to do with magnetic movement
- c selects a description that is the opposite result of specified force

31 P.MO.FI.EB.IV.3.m.5a:

Identify which simple machine is best used in a given situation

Recognize the type of simple machine used and described in the drawing provided

- A selects a simple machine that is not described or used in the drawing
- **B** selects the simple machine used as displayed and described in the drawing
- c selects a simple machine that is not described or used in the drawing

32 P.WV.FI.EB.IV.4.m.1a:

Recognize how sounds travel through different media

Recognize the difference in sound intensity among different sound sources

- A selects a sound not having the greatest intensity at its source
- **B** selects a sound not having the greatest intensity at its source
- **C** selects the sound that has the greatest intensity at its source

33 E.GE.FI.EB.V.1.m.1a: Identify and/or describe major features of the earth's surface using maps

Based on a map, recognize the Earth-surface feature that is at most of Michigan's borders

- A selects the Earth surface feature that borders most of Michigan
- B selects an Earth surface feature that does not border Michigan
- **C** selects an Earth surface feature that does not border Michigan

34 E.GE.FI.EB.V.1.m.2a: Identify and/or describe major events in the rock cycle

Recognize the process that produces the specified Earth surface change

- A selects the process that produces the specified Earth surface change
- **B** selects a process that does not produce the specified Earth surface change
- **C** selects a process that does not produce the specified Earth surface change

35 E.HY.FI.EB.V.2.m.2a: Explain the behavior of surface water

Identify the process by which liquid water changed its state of matter in the specified situation

- A selects the process by which the water changed its state of matter
- B selects a process by which water did not change its state of matter in the specified situation
- c selects a process by which water did not change its state of matter in the specified situation

36 E.HY.FI.EB.V.2.m.4a: Identify sources of pollution in water

Recognize the pollution consequence of the specified action between 2 different bodies of water

- A selects an unlikely but possible consequence that does not pollute
- B selects a likely consequence of how material from 1 body of water could pollute another body of water
- consequence that would be considered an accident and not pollution

37 E.SS.FI.EB.V.4.m.1a:

Compare and contrast characteristics of the earth and other planets

Recognize planetary conditions necessary for life as we know and understand it

- A selects a condition on a planet not apparently necessary for life
- **B** selects a condition on a planet not apparently necessary for life
- c selects the condition on a planet that is necessary for life as we know it

38 E.SS.FI.EB.V.4.m.2a:

Demonstrate a basic and general awareness about the motion of the earth

Recognize a feature of the Sun when compared to the same feature of other objects in its solar system

- A selects an incorrect statement about the Sun's feature
- B selects the correct statement about the Sun's feature compared to the same feature of other solar-system objects
- c selects an incorrect statement about the Sun's feature

39 E.AW.FI.EB.V.3.m.1a:

Interpret temperature, precipitation, and cloud cover information

Recognize the purpose of a specified weather measurement tool

- A selects information not provided by the measurement tool
- **B** identifies the information about a weather condition that the measurement tool provides
- c selects information not provided by the measurement tool

40 E.AW.FI.EB.V.3.e.2ADDm:

Identify and/or describe seasonal changes in Michigan's weather

Identify the season of the year most associated with occurrence of the specified weather condition

- A selects the season during which the specified weather condition is most likely to occur
- **B** selects a season during which the specified weather condition is less frequent
- c selects a season during which the specified weather condition is less frequent



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