

Smithsonian Science Stories reading levels are carefully calibrated to grade level–appropriate Lexile measurements according to text complexity guidelines. To support students who read below grade level, each reader is available with a reduced complexity score for the text but with the same core content. **This page is for Smithsonian Science for the Classroom 2nd Edition.**

Reader Title and Corresponding Module		On-Grade Lexile Range	Below-Grade Lexile Range
Grade 1	<i>Survival Stories</i> Life Science: How Do Living Things Stay Safe and Grow?	390–470	340–390
	<i>Sky Patterns</i> Earth and Space Science: How Can We Predict When the Sky Will Be Dark?	330–420	280–350
	<i>Shining the Light</i> Physical Science: How Can We Light Our Way in the Dark?	400–520	360–400
	<i>Beats and Banjos</i> Engineering Design: How Can We Send A Message Using Sound?	270–480	270–410
Grade 2	<i>Blossoms, Bees, and Seeds</i> Life Science: How Can We Find the Best Place for a Plant to Grow?	470–550	390–480
	<i>Mapping Earth</i> Earth and Space Science: How Can We Map Land and Water on Earth?	480–540	390–480
	<i>Art in Science</i> Physical Science: How Can We Change Solids and Liquids?	450–540	360–460
	<i>Changing Earth</i> Engineering Design: How Can We Stop Land from Washing Away?	470–560	450–530
Grade 3	<i>Patterns of Life</i> Life Science: What Explains Similarities and Differences Between Organisms?	520–790	490–600
	<i>Raindrops and Rooftops</i> Earth and Space Science: How Do Weather and Climate Affect Our Lives?	560–770	510–560
	<i>Motion and Magnets</i> Physical Science: How Can We Use Patterns to Predict Motion?	500–790	480–550
	<i>Changing Habitats</i> Engineering Design: How Can We Protect Animals When Their Habitat Changes?	560–830	510–570
Grade 4	<i>Sending Signals</i> Life Science: How Can Animals Use Their Senses to Communicate?	690–860	560–730
	<i>Rock Stories</i> Earth and Space Science: How Can We Stay Safe on a Changing Earth?	730–840	560–700
	<i>Speed Bumps</i> Physical Science: How Does Energy Move from One Object to Another?	610–890	540–660
	<i>Everyday Energy</i> Engineering Design: How Can We Provide Energy to Meet Diverse Needs?	700–790	650–760
Grade 5	<i>Go with the Flow</i> Life Science: How Can We Predict Change in Ecosystems?	790–1050	630–800
	<i>Sailing Under the Stars</i> Earth and Space Science: How Can We Use the Sky to Navigate?	880–930	650–790
	<i>What's Cooking</i> Physical Science: How Can We Identify Materials Based on Their Properties?	880–900	720–800
	<i>Water Works</i> Engineering Design: How Can We Protect and Clean Earth's Water?	760–890	600–800



Smithsonian

SCIENCE

for the classroom

Life Science

Earth and Space Science

Physical Science

Engineering Design

Kindergarten

What Do Plants and Animals Need to Live?

K-LS1-1 • K-ESS2-2 • K-ESS3-1 • K-ESS3-3

How Can We Be Ready for the Weather?

K-ESS2-1 • K-ESS3-2 • K-PS3-1

How Can We Change an Object's Motion?

K-PS2-1 • K-PS2-2 • K-2-ETS1-3

How Can We Stay Cool in the Sun?

K-2-ETS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-2 • K-2-ETS1-3 • K-PS3-1 • K-PS3-2

Grade 1

How Do Living Things Stay Safe and Grow?

1-LS1-1 • 1-LS1-2 • 1-LS3-1 • K-2-ETS1-1

How Can We Predict When the Sky Will Be Dark?

1-ESS1-1 • 1-ESS1-2 • 1-PS4-2

How Can We Light Our Way in the Dark?

1-PS4-2 • 1-PS4-3 • 1-LS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-1

How Can We Send a Message Using Sound?

K-2-ETS1-2 • K-2-ETS1-3 • 1-PS4-1 • 1-PS4-4

Grade 2

How Can We Find the Best Place for a Plant to Grow?

2-LS2-1 • 2-LS2-2 • 2-LS4-1 • K-2-ETS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-2

How Can We Map Land and Water on Earth?

2-ESS2-2 • 2-ESS2-3 • 2-PS1-1

How Can We Change Solids and Liquids?

2-PS1-1 • 2-PS1-2 • 2-PS1-3 • 2-PS1-4 • K-2-ETS1-1

How Can We Stop Land From Washing Away?

K-2-ETS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-3 • 2-ESS1-1 • 2-ESS2-1

Grade 3

What Explains Similarities and Differences Between Organisms?

3-LS1-1 • 3-LS3-1 • 3-LS3-2 • 3-LS4-2 • 3-ESS2-2

How Do Weather and Climate Affect Our Lives?

3-ESS2-1 • 3-ESS2-2 • 3-ESS3-1 • 3-5-ETS1-3

How Can We Use Patterns to Predict Motion?

3-PS2-1 • 3-PS2-2 • 3-PS2-3 • 3-PS2-4 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Can We Protect Animals When Their Habitat Changes?

3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-LS2-1 • 3-LS4-1 • 3-LS4-3 • 3-LS4-4

Grade 4

How Can Animals Use Their Senses to Communicate?

4-LS1-1 • 4-LS1-2 • 4-PS4-2 • 4-PS4-3 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Can We Stay Safe on a Changing Earth?

4-ESS1-1 • 4-ESS2-1 • 4-ESS2-2 • 4-ESS3-2 • 4-PS4-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Does Energy Move From One Object to Another?

4-PS3-1 • 4-PS3-2 • 4-PS3-3 • 4-LS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Can We Provide Energy to Meet Diverse Needs?

3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • 3-5-ETS1-3 • 4-PS3-2 • 4-PS3-4 • 4-ESS3-1

Grade 5

How Can We Predict Change in Ecosystems?

5-LS1-1 • 5-LS2-1 • 5-PS1-1 • 5-PS3-1

How Can We Use the Sky to Navigate?

5-ESS1-1 • 5-ESS1-2 • 5-PS2-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Can We Identify Materials Based on Their Properties?

5-PS1-1 • 5-PS1-2 • 5-PS1-3 • 5-PS1-4 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Can We Protect and Clean Earth's Water?

3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • 3-5-ETS1-3 • 5-ESS2-1 • 5-ESS2-2 • 5-ESS3-1

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	<i>Beats and Banjos</i> Engineering Design: How Can We Send A Message Using Sound?	270–480	270–410
Grade 2	<i>Blossoms, Bees, and Seeds</i> Life Science: How Can We Find the Best Place for a Plant to Grow?	470–550	390–480
	<i>Mapping Earth</i> Earth and Space Science: What Can Maps Tell Us About Land and Water on Earth?	480–540	390–480
	<i>Art in Science</i> Physical Science: How Can We Change Solids and Liquids?	450–540	360–460
	<i>Changing Earth</i> Engineering Design: How Can We Stop Soil from Washing Away?	470–560	450–530
Grade 3	<i>Patterns of Life</i> Life Science: What Explains Similarities and Differences Between Organisms?	520–790	490–600
	<i>Raindrops and Rooftops</i> Earth and Space Science: How Do Weather and Climate Affect Our Lives?	560–770	510–560
	<i>Motion and Magnets</i> Physical Science: How Can We Predict Patterns of Motion?	520–760	500–580
	<i>Changing Habitats</i> Engineering Design: How Can We Protect Animals When Their Habitat Changes?	560–830	510–590
Grade 4	<i>Sending Signals</i> Life Science: How Can Animals Use Their Senses to Communicate?	690–940	560–730
	<i>Rock Stories</i> Earth and Space Science: What Is Our Evidence That We Live on a Changing Earth?	730–930	560–730
	<i>Speed Bumps</i> Physical Science: How Does Motion Energy Change in a Collision?	610–920	540–660
	<i>Everyday Energy</i> Engineering Design: How Can We Provide Energy to People’s Homes?	700–800	530–720
Grade 5	<i>Go with the Flow</i> Life Science: How Can We Predict Change in Ecosystems?	830–960	600–790
	<i>Sailing Under the Stars</i> Earth and Space Science: How Can We Use the Sky to Navigate?	850–980	650–790
	<i>What’s Cooking</i> Physical Science: How Can We Identify Materials Based on Their Properties?	830–890	620–790
	<i>Water Works</i> Engineering Design: How Can We Provide Freshwater to Those in Need?	590–890	550–800



Smithsonian

SCIENCE

for the classroom

Life Science

Earth and Space Science

Physical Science

Engineering Design

Kindergarten

How Do Living Things Get What They Need From the Environment?*

K-LS1-1 • K-ESS3-1 • K-ESS2-2 • K-ESS3-3

How Can We Prepare for the Weather?*

K-ESS2-1 • K-ESS3-2 • K-PS3-1

How Can We Change an Object's Motion?*

K-PS2-1 • K-PS2-2 • K-2-ETS1-3

How Can We Stay Cool in the Sun?*

K-PS3-1 • K-PS3-2 • K-2-ETS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-2 • K-2-ETS1-3

Grade 1

How Do Living Things Stay Safe and Grow?

1-LS1-1 • 1-LS1-2 • 1-LS3-1 • K-2-ETS1-1

How Can We Predict When the Sky Will Be Dark?

1-ESS1-1 • 1-ESS1-2 • 1-PS4-2

How Can We Light Our Way in the Dark?

1-PS4-2 • 1-PS4-3 • 1-LS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-1

How Can We Send a Message Using Sound?

K-2-ETS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-2 • K-2-ETS1-3 • 1-PS4-1 • 1-PS4-4

Grade 2

How Can We Find the Best Place for a Plant to Grow?

2-LS2-1 • 2-LS2-2 • 2-LS4-1 • K-2-ETS1-1

What Can Maps Tell Us About Land and Water on Earth?

2-ESS2-2 • 2-ESS2-3 • 2-PS1-1

How Can We Change Solids and Liquids?

2-PS1-1 • 2-PS1-2 • 2-PS1-3 • 2-PS1-4 • K-2-ETS1-1

How Can We Stop Soil From Washing Away?

K-2-ETS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-2 • K-2-ETS1-3 • 2-ESS1-1 • 2-ESS2-1

Grade 3

What Explains Similarities and Differences Between Organisms?

3-LS1-1 • 3-LS3-1 • 3-LS3-2 • 3-LS4-2 • 3-ESS2-2

How Do Weather and Climate Affect Our Lives?

3-ESS2-1 • 3-ESS2-2 • 3-ESS3-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Can We Predict Patterns of Motion?

3-PS2-1 • 3-PS2-2 • 3-PS2-3 • 3-PS2-4 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Can We Protect Animals When Their Habitat Changes?

3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • 3-5-ETS1-3 • 3-LS2-1 • 3-LS4-1 • 3-LS4-3 • 3-LS4-4

Grade 4

How Can Animals Use Their Senses to Communicate?

4-LS1-1 • 4-LS1-2 • 4-PS4-2 • 4-PS4-3 • 3-5-ETS1-1

What Is Our Evidence That We Live on a Changing Earth?

4-ESS1-1 • 4-ESS2-1 • 4-ESS2-2 • 4-ESS3-2 • 4-PS4-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Does Motion Energy Change in a Collision?

4-PS3-1 • 4-PS3-2 • 4-PS3-3 • 4-LS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Can We Provide Energy to People's Homes?

3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • 3-5-ETS1-3 • 4-PS3-2 • 4-PS3-4 • 4-ESS3-1

Grade 5

How Can We Predict Change in Ecosystems?

5-LS1-1 • 5-LS2-1 • 5-PS1-1 • 5-PS3-1

How Can We Use the Sky to Navigate?

5-ESS1-1 • 5-ESS1-2 • 5-PS2-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1

How Can We Identify Materials Based on Their Properties?

5-PS1-1 • 5-PS1-2 • 5-PS1-3 • 5-PS1-4 • 5-LS1-1

How Can We Provide Freshwater to Those in Need?

3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • 3-5-ETS1-3 • 5-ESS2-1 • 5-ESS2-2 • 5-ESS3-1

*Working titles. Final modules available 2021.



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