



Teaching and Learning

Louisiana Guide to Piloting OpenSciEd: Grade 3

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Updated September 4, 2025

Purpose

To assist teachers with the pilot version of the OpenSciEd curriculum for grade 3, this document provides guidance for how OpenSciEd units correlate with the [Louisiana Student Standards for Science](#) (LSSS). The OpenSciEd curriculum provides ample instructional guidance for teachers. This Louisiana Guide to Piloting OpenSciEd takes it a step further by highlighting areas where teachers may need to make strategic decisions, considering student needs. This guide will be updated as OpenSciEd K-5 units are [released](#).

The OpenSciEd Grade 3 units are intentionally designed to provide students the opportunity to incrementally make sense of phenomena to build understanding and abilities over time through a coherent storyline. Modifications to the sequence or content of lessons within these units could undermine the design; therefore, they should be approached with caution and careful consideration.

This guidance document is considered a 'living' document, reflecting the expectation that teachers and other educators will continue to identify opportunities for improvement as it is applied in practice. Please send your feedback to STEM@la.gov so that the LDOE can incorporate your suggestions when updating this guide.

Standards by Unit

	3.1 Forces and Interactions	3.2 Weather and Hazards	3.3 Trait Variations	3.4 Ecosystem Change and Survival
Number of Lessons	14 Lessons	12 Lessons	<i>Pending release</i>	<i>Pending release</i>
Anchor Phenomenon Question	How can we design objects to balance and move in different ways?	Why do plants only grow well in certain places, and how can we protect them?	Why do animals look and act the way that they do?	How do changes to ecosystems affect what lives there?
Standards	3-PS2-1 3-PS2-2 3-PS2-3 3-PS2-4	3-ESS2-1 3-ESS2-2 3-ESS3-1	3-LS1-1 3-LS3-1 3-LS3-2 3-LS4-1 3-LS4-2	3-LS2-1 3-LS4-3 3-LS4-4
Unit Resources	Unit Materials	Unit Materials	Unit Materials	<i>Available Winter 2026</i>

LDOE Formative Assessment Resources

LDOE formative assessment resources include a library of Louisiana educator-created discrete items and sets, LEAP Practice Test Items, and LEAP Assessment Guide Items correlated to the Louisiana Student Standards for Science. These resources can be used alongside guidance from a high-quality curriculum to provide opportunities for students to showcase their learning.

Unit	Discrete Items	Item Sets
Unit 3.1 Forces and Interactions	<u>LDOE Formative Assessment Items</u> (Password - Educate2020): • Cradle, Volleyball, Skateboard (3-PS2-1) • Ball Type (3-PS2-2) <u>LEAP Practice Test Standalone Items:</u> • 35 (3-PS2-1) • 36 (3-PS2-2) • 31 & 32 (3-PS2-3) • 15 & 39 (3-PS2-4) <u>LEAP Assessment Guide Items:</u> • Experiment with Toy Truck (3-PS2-1) <u>LEAP Science Released Items:</u> • Magnets (3-PS2-4)	<u>LDOE Formative Assessment Sets</u> (Password - Educate2020): • Oil Spill (3-PS2-2 and 3-PS2-3) • Bowling (3-PS2-1 and 3-PS2-2) <u>LEAP Practice Test Items:</u> • Seesaws (3-PS2-1 and 3-PS2-2) <u>LEAP Assessment Guide Sets:</u> • N/A <u>LEAP Science Released Items:</u> • Items Set: Forces and Cabinet Doors (3-PS2-1 and 3-PS2-4)
Unit 3.2 Weather and Hazards	<u>LDOE Formative Assessment Items</u> (Password - Educate2020): • Climates, LA_BOS (3-ESS2-2) • Gr3 Tornadoes, Levees (3-ESS3-1) <u>LEAP Practice Test Standalone Items:</u> • 16 (3-ESS2-2) • 9 (3-ESS3-1)	<u>LDOE Formative Assessment Sets</u> (Password - Educate2020): • N/A <u>LEAP Practice Test Items:</u> • Winter Storms (3-ESS2-1 and 3-ESS3-1) • Plants and Heat (3-LS3-2 and 3-ESS2-1)

Unit	Discrete Items	Item Sets
Unit 3.2 <i>continued</i>	<u>LEAP Assessment Guide Items:</u> - Tornadoes (3-ESS3-1) <u>LEAP Science Released Items:</u> - Rainfall (3-ESS2-1)	<u>LEAP Assessment Guide Sets:</u> - Lightning and Static Electricity (3-PS2-3 and 3-ESS2-1) <u>LEAP Science Released Items:</u> - N/A
Unit 3.3 Trait Variations	<u>LDOE Formative Assessment Items (Password - Educate2020):</u> - Black Bears, Butterfly Cycle (3-LS1-1) - Fossils, Ashfall Fossil Bed, Shark Tooth (3-LS4-1) - Moth, Bowerbirds, Cat's Claw (3-LS4-2) <u>LEAP Practice Test Standalone Items:</u> 10 (3-LS3-1) 11 (3-LS3-2) 12 & 33 (3-LS4-1) 34 (3-LS4-2) <u>LEAP Assessment Guide Items:</u> - Spoonbills (3-LS3-2) - Hummingbirds (3-LS4-2) <u>LEAP Science Released Items:</u> - Eras in Earth's History (3-LS4-1)	<u>LDOE Formative Assessment Sets (Password - Educate2020):</u> - Pythons (3-LS3-1 and 3-LS3-2) <u>LEAP Practice Test Items:</u> - Rattlesnake (3-LS3-1 and 3-LS4-2) - Plants and Heat (3-LS3-2 and 3-ESS2-1)** <u>LEAP Assessment Guide Sets:</u> - N/A <u>LEAP Science Released Items:</u> - N/A
	<u>LDOE Formative Assessment Items (Password - Educate2020):</u> - Penguins, Lions & Tigers (3-LS2-1) - Gulf Birds, Snails (3-LS4-3)	<u>LDOE Formative Assessment Sets (Password - Educate2020):</u> N/A

Unit	Discrete Items	Item Sets
3.4 Ecosystem Change and Survival	- Red Snapper, Tortoises (3-LS4-4) <u>LEAP Practice Test Standalone Items:</u> 38 (3-LS2-1) 13 & 17 (3-LS4-3) 14 & 37 (3-LS4-4) <u>LEAP Assessment Guide Items:</u> - N/A <u>LEAP Science Released Items:</u> - N/A	<u>LEAP Practice Test Items:</u> - Amazon River Dolphins (3-LS2-1 and 3-LS1-1) <u>LEAP Assessment Guide Sets:</u> - Tundra Animals: Meet the Caribou and Musk Ox (3-LS2-1 and 3-LS4-3) <u>LEAP Science Released Items:</u> - Item Set: Salmon and River Dams (3-LS4-4)
Unit 3.4 <i>continued</i>		

****Contains performance expectation(s) from a previous unit.**