

Appendix 1: Implementing NC Essential Standards and Common Core Standards

The Essential Standards for North Carolina 7th Grade Science below will be emphasized during this unit as we focus on the human body and genetics. As students research the brain and its functions, they will focus on the nervous system and its interactions with other systems and organs. All of their research will culminate in the discussion of whether environment or inheritance are the determining factors in the development of a living being.

- 7.L.1.3. Summarize the hierarchical organization of multi-cellular organisms from cells to tissues to organs to systems to organisms.
- 7.L.1.4 Summarize the general functions of the major systems of the human body and ways that these systems interact with each other to sustain life.
- 7.L.2.2 Explain the impact of the environment and lifestyle choices on biological inheritance and survival.

The Language Arts Common Core Standards for North Carolina below will be emphasized during this unit as we focus on research, literacy, and writing. The research, specifically in Activities 2 and 6, will reinforce these literacy standards through using the internet, using EasyBib to organize thoughts and information, and conducting their research project by gathering information from multiple sources to answer questions.

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.1 Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.5 With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.6 Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and link to and cite sources as well as to interact and collaborate with others, including linking to and citing sources.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.7 Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.8 Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

The Essential Standards for North Carolina 7th Grade Social Studies below will be emphasized during this unit as we focus on the ethical implications of our research. As students research individually and work cooperatively with their peers, they will learn moral and ethical values in their research and how different demographic, geographic, and environmental conditions influence these values.

- 7.H.2 Understand the implications of global interactions.
- 7.G.1 Understand how geography, demographic trends, and environmental conditions shape modern societies and regions.