

Summary Page

Performance Task Title: School Building Systems Tour

Grade Level(s): Nat'l 5-8, MA 5	Discipline: Earth/Space Science
Enduring Understanding: Living things have basic needs, and require certain environment conditions, which must be met in order to survive. Man-made environments simulate natural environments by providing systems and conditions (structures) necessary to support life as well as specific purposes (function).	
Unifying Concepts: systems, order, organization, evidence, models, explanations, form, and function	
Interpret: Given a specific system (the school building), students will identify the components of that system and explain how they interrelate.	
Essential Question: What systems make up a school building and how well do they function with each other to support educational and life supporting functions?	
National Standard: <i>Organisms have basic needs. Organisms can survive only in environments in which their needs can be met.</i>	
Massachusetts Framework: <i>Recognize how organisms meet some of their needs in an environment by using behaviors in response to stimuli received from the environment.</i>	
Thinking Skills:	Focus Questions Connecting Content to the Thinking Skills:
<p>Prior Ideas: students describe and give examples of systems they are familiar with</p> <p>Developing an Interpretation: make and support inferences about systems</p> <p>Making Connections: detailed observations that connect prior ideas about systems to new information gathered</p> <p>Critical Stance: evaluate efficiency of interrelationships (dynamics) between school building systems</p>	<p>How do the systems we have observed in the school building work together efficiently to support life and also support the educational functions of the school?</p> <p>What changes, updates, or improvements might be made to more efficiently support life as well as the educational functions of the school?</p>
Problem Solving: Data collection, observations, graphic organizer, floor plan	
Work Habit(s): Paying attention to detail, collaborating, managing time, and neatness.	
Adult Role Situation/Simulation	
Format of Product(s) and/or Performance(s): Floor plan, including photographs and descriptions, of the various school building systems and how they interrelate.	
Audience: Building Principal	Purpose: Inform principal and update information about building systems.
Role of the Learner in this Task: Member of a systems analysis team	

