

**Virginia Standards of Learning Assessments  
Grade 5 Science Performance Level Descriptors  
Brief**

<b>Performance Level</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>
<b>Pass/Advanced</b>	The student demonstrates exceptional and consistent attainment of the knowledge and skills necessary to select appropriate measurement tools and record observations; organize, analyze and apply data; understand the concepts of light, sound, and matter; use a microscope to study plant and animal cells; understand the ocean's characteristics and Earth's changing surface as evidenced by rock types, fossils, earthquakes, volcanoes, weathering and erosion.
<b>Pass/Proficient</b>	The student demonstrates satisfactory attainment of the knowledge and skills necessary to select appropriate measurement tools and record observations; organize, analyze and apply data; understand the concepts of light, sound, and matter; use a microscope to study plant and animal cells; understand the ocean's characteristics and Earth's changing surface as evidenced by rock types, fossils, earthquakes, volcanoes, weathering and erosion.
<b>Fail</b>	The student demonstrates inconsistent attainment of the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary to select appropriate measurement tools and record observations; organize, analyze and apply data; understand the concepts of light, sound, and matter; use a microscope to study plant and animal cells; understand the ocean's characteristics and Earth's changing surface as evidenced by rock types, fossils, earthquakes, volcanoes, weathering and erosion.