

**Virginia Standards of Learning Assessments
Biology Performance Level Descriptors
Brief**

| Performance Level | Descriptor |
|------------------------|--|
| Pass/Advanced | The student demonstrates exceptional and consistent attainment of the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct controlled experiments; record and use data; and investigate and understand cell theory, biochemical life processes, cell structure, mechanisms of inheritance, classification systems, and how populations and ecosystems change. |
| Pass/Proficient | The student demonstrates satisfactory attainment of the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct controlled experiments; record and use data; and investigate and understand cell theory, biochemical life processes, cell structure, mechanisms of inheritance, classification systems, and how populations and ecosystems change. |
| Fail | The student demonstrates little if any attainment of the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary to conduct controlled experiments; record and use data; and investigate and understand cell theory, biochemical life processes, cell structure, mechanisms of inheritance, classification systems, and how populations and ecosystems change. |