Virginia Standards of Learning Assessment
Grade 3 Science Performance Level Descriptors

Fail/Does Not Meet	Pass/Proficient	Pass/Advanced
A student performing at this level should be able to: • Identify scientific investigations and recognize the nature of science. • List the physical properties, changes, and phases of matter. • Identify properties of magnets, and sort examples of simple and compound machines. • Identify examples of adaptations of aquatic and terrestrial organisms in their environments. • Select examples of resource conservation and identify Earth's resources and natural cycles.	A student performing at this level should be able to: • Interpret a scientific investigation and clearly communicate the outcome using a systematic approach. • Describe the physical properties, changes, and phases of matter. • Demonstrate and explain the functions of magnets, simple machines, and compound machines. • Explain how aquatic and terrestrial organisms adapt and interact in their environments. • Describe Earth's resources, natural cycles, and the importance of conservation.	A student performing at this level should be able to: • Evaluate a scientific investigation interpret results, make inferences, and communicate results. • Analyze the changes in the physical properties and phases of matter. • Create a scenario or a model that illustrates the functions of magnets, simple machines, or compound machines. • Make predictions and draw conclusions about how aquatic and terrestrial organisms adapt and interact in their environments. • Evaluate Earth's resources, natural cycles, and the importance of conservation.