Oklahoma School Testing Program
Core Curriculum Tests
Performance-Level Descriptors
End-of-Instruction Biology I

Advanced: Students demonstrate a superior performance and understanding of the subject matter knowledge and skills of the science concepts expected of the measured standards and objectives included in the Biology I Oklahoma C^3 framework, and they have the ability to apply their understanding to challenging situations. Students performing at the Advanced performance level can thoroughly demonstrate the ability to recognize and use scientific processes as defined in Oklahoma C^3. They analyze research questions and evaluate the design of investigations for a scientific problem; solve nonroutine problems that demand multi-step reasoning, integrating Biology I content knowledge and mathematical skills; and form conclusions from experimental data, justifying the reasoning for the conclusions.

Proficient: Students demonstrate a mastery of Biology I concepts expected of all measured standards and objectives included in the Biology Oklahoma C^3 framework, and the ability to apply science process skills to biological situations. Proficient students are ready for the next course, or level of education, as applicable. Proficient students can identify qualitative and quantitative changes; use observable properties to make biological classifications; identify experimental variables, identify possible hypotheses and recognize hazards; make predictions, interpret data, draw conclusions and identify a graph or chart from data; use mathematical skills when appropriate; describe biological models; identify cell structures and functions; understand the cell cycle, replication, transcription, mitosis, and gene recombination; identify evidence of common ancestry related to biological diversity and adaptations; understand organism and species interaction in an ecosystem, and population dynamics; and identify the basic processes within photosynthesis and respiration.

Limited Knowledge: Students demonstrate partial mastery of the essential knowledge and skills expected of all measured standards and objectives included in the Biology I Oklahoma C^3 framework. Students performing at Limited Knowledge are inconsistent in applying the general Biology I concepts and science process skills necessary to perform investigations and reason scientifically. Students are partially able to interpret information, design simple investigations, and explain scientific processes and experimental procedures in biological investigations.

Unsatisfactory: Students have not performed at least at the Limited Knowledge level and will require remediation.