

Oklahoma School Testing Program
Oklahoma Modified Alternate Assessment Program
Performance-Level Descriptors
End-of-Instruction Biology I

Advanced: Students performing at the Advanced level on the Oklahoma Modified Alternate Assessment demonstrate a more thorough understanding of the knowledge, skills, and application of the science concepts expected of students at the End-of-Instruction in Biology I. Students performing at this level also consistently demonstrate their ability to recognize and use scientific processes (e.g., observing and measuring, classifying, experimenting, interpreting, communicating, and modeling) and understand Biology I content. Students regularly demonstrate a working knowledge of the science processes and biology concepts, applying different strategies for selecting, identifying, organizing, comparing, and interpreting scientific data.

Satisfactory: Students performing at the Satisfactory level on the Oklahoma Modified Alternate Assessment demonstrate a general understanding of science concepts expected at the End-of-Instruction in Biology I. Students performing at this level also demonstrate the ability to apply understandings to practical situations. Students performing at the Satisfactory level will:

- identify qualitative and quantitative changes;
- use observable properties to make biological classifications;
- recognize the correct designs of scientific investigations, identify variables, use mathematics, identify hypotheses, and recognize hazards;
- make predictions, interpret data, accept or reject hypotheses, draw conclusions, and select an appropriate graph or chart from data;
- select and make appropriate predictions based on biological models;
- identify cell structures and functions;
- understand the cell cycle, replication, mitosis, and gene recombination;
- identify evidence of common ancestry related to biological diversity and adaptations;
- understand biosphere structure, organism and species interaction in an ecosystem, and how populations change and are limited;
- identify the basic inputs and outputs of photosynthesis and cellular respiration.

Limited Knowledge: Students performing at the Limited Knowledge level on the Oklahoma Modified Alternate Assessment demonstrate a partial understanding of the knowledge, skills, and application of the science concepts expected of students at the End-of-Instruction in Biology I. These students are partially able to interpret information, to recognize the correct design of simple investigations, and to understand scientific processes and experimental procedures in biological investigations.

Unsatisfactory: Students performing at the Unsatisfactory level on the Oklahoma Modified Alternate Assessment do not demonstrate even a Limited Knowledge level of the knowledge, skills, and application of the science concepts expected of students at the End-of-Instruction in Biology I. Students scoring at the Unsatisfactory level should be given additional comprehensive science instruction.