

**Florida Project Learning Tree Sunshine State Standards linkages for grades PreK-2, 3-5, and 6-8: NATURE'S RECYCLERS (#24; pp. 75-76 in old edition *PreK-8 Activity Guide*; pp. 108-110 new edition)**

**Subject Area: Language Arts**

**Strand: Writing**

**Standard 2:** The student writes to communicate ideas and information effectively.

- **Grades PreK-2:** No applicable benchmark
- **Grades 3-5** – Benchmark: writes notes, comments, and observations that reflect comprehension of content and experiences from a variety of media. [LA.B.2.2.1]
- **Grades 6-8** – Benchmark: writes text, notes, outlines, comments, and observations that demonstrate comprehension of content and experiences from a variety of media. [LA.B.2.3.1]

**Strand: Listening, Viewing, and Speaking**

**Standard 3:** The student uses speaking strategies effectively.

- **Grades PreK-2** – Benchmark: speaks clearly and at a volume audible in large- or small-group settings. [LA.C.3.1.1]
- **Grades 3-5** – Benchmark: speaks for specific occasions, audiences, and purposes, including conversations, discussions, projects, and informational or imaginative presentations. [LA.C.3.2.3]
- **Grades 6-8** – Benchmark: speaks for various occasions, audiences, and purposes, including conversations, discussions, projects, and informational, persuasive, or technical presentations. [LA.C.3.3.3]

**Subject Area: Science**

**Strand: The Nature of Matter**

**Standard 1:** The student understands that all matter has observable, measurable properties.

- **Grades PreK-2** – Benchmark: knows that objects can be described, classified, and compared by their composition (e.g., wood or metal) and their physical properties (e.g., color, size, and shape). [SC.A.1.1.1]
- **Grades 3-5** and **Grades 6-8:** No applicable benchmarks

**Strand: Processes that Shape the Earth**

**Standard 1:** The student recognizes that processes in the lithosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere interact to shape the Earth.

- **Grades PreK-2** and **Grades 3-5:** No applicable benchmarks
- **Grades 6-8** – Benchmark: knows that over the whole Earth, organisms are growing, dying, and decaying as new organisms are produced by the old ones. [SC.D.1.3.2]

- **Grades 6-8** – Benchmark: knows the ways in which plants and animals reshape the landscape (e.g., bacteria, fungi, worms, rodents, and other organisms add organic matter to the soil, increasing soil fertility, encouraging plant growth, and strengthening resistance to erosion). [SC.D.1.3.4]

**Strand: How Living Things Interact with Their Environment**

**Standard 1:** The student understands the competitive, interdependent, cyclic nature of living things in the environment.

- **Grades PreK-2** – Benchmark: knows that there are many different plants and animals living in many different kinds of environments (e.g., hot, cold, wet, dry, sunny, and dark). [SC.G.1.1.3]
- **Grades 3-5** – Benchmark: knows ways that plants, animals, and protist interact. [SC.G.1.2.1]
- **Grades 3-5** – Benchmark: knows that some organisms decompose dead plants and animals into simple minerals and nutrients for use by living things and thereby recycle matter. [SC.G.1.2.4]
- **Grades 3-5** – Benchmark: knows that animals eat plants or other animals to acquire the energy they need for survival. [SC.G.1.2.5]
- **Grades 3-5** – Benchmark: knows that organisms are growing dying, and decaying and that new organisms are being produced from the materials of dead organisms. [SC.G.1.2.6]
- **Grades 3-5** – Benchmark: knows that variations in light, water, temperature, and soil content are largely responsible for the existence of different kinds of organisms and population densities in an ecosystem. [SC.G.1.2.7]
- **Grades 6-8** – Benchmark: knows that the interactions of organisms with each other and with the nonliving parts of their environments result in the flow of energy and the cycling of matter throughout the system. [SC.G.1.3.4]