

MS-LS1-1 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes

California Alternate Assessment for Science—Item Content Specifications

# MS-LS1-1 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes

| California Science Connector | Focal Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities | Essential Understanding |
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| Identify that living things are made of one cell or many and different types of cells. | 1. Ability to identify a representation of a living thing that is made of one cell. 2. Ability to identify a representation of a living thing that is made of different types of cells. | Distinguish between living and nonliving things. |

## **CA NGSS Performance Expectation**

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

**Conduct an investigation to provide evidence that living things are made of cells; either one cell or many different numbers and types of cells.** [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on developing evidence that living things **(\*\*including Bacteria, Archaea, and Eukarya)** are made of cells, distinguishing between living and non-living things, and understanding that living things may be made of one cell or many and varied cells. **\*\*Viruses, while not cells, have features that are both common with, and distinct from, cellular life.**]

## Mastery Statements

Students will be able to:

* Identify examples of living and nonliving things
* Differentiate between multicellular organisms and nonliving things
* Differentiate between unicellular organisms and multicellular organisms

## Possible Phenomena or Contexts

*Note that the list in this section is not exhaustive or prescriptive.*

**Possible contexts include the following:**

* Living organisms that are too small to be seen with the naked eye
* Models representing living organisms made of one cell compared to nonliving things
* Models representing multicellular living organisms compared to nonliving things
* Common living things that are made up of many cells, such as animals
* Distinguishing between unicellular and multicellular organisms

## Additional Assessment Boundaries

* Cell structures should not be labeled.

## Additional References

California Science Test Item Specification for MS-LS1-1

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/itemspecs-ms-ls1-1.docx>

The *2016 Science Framework for California Public Schools Kindergarten through Grade Twelve* <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/sc/cf/cascienceframework2016.asp>

Appendix 1: Progression of the Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts in Kindergarten through Grade Twelve

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/sc/cf/documents/scifwappendix1.pdf>

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