

Parent Guide – Organism Unit

During this unit students will be learning about the classification of living organisms. Students will learn the difference between the 6 kingdoms and be able to explain patterns in the structures and functions of the different organisms in each kingdom. Additionally, students will be developing models called cladograms and phylogenetic trees to show patterns of common ancestry between organisms. Lastly, students will be studying the difference between living organisms and viruses – by the end of the unit your student should be able to tell you why antibiotics will not work for a viral infection, and they should be able to explain why viruses are not living organisms.