

**Content Area: Science**  
**Standard: Life Science**

**Prepared Graduates:**

- Analyze the relationship between structure and function in living systems at a variety of organizational levels, and recognize living systems' dependence on natural selection

**Grade Level Expectation: Kindergarten**

**Concepts and skills students master:**

1. Organisms can be described and sorted by their physical characteristics

**Evidence Outcomes**

**Students can:**

- a. Sort a group of items based on observable characteristics
- b. Communicate and justify an evidence-based scientific rationale for sorting organisms into categories

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills and Readiness Competencies**

**Inquiry Questions:**

- What do living things have in common?
- What characteristics are useful for sorting and classifying organisms?

**Relevance and Application:**

- There are patterns in the natural world.
- There are many ways to classify a group of organisms.

**Nature of Science:**

- Ask questions about physical characteristics that will help them sort organisms.
- Share scientific ideas verbally in a clear way.
- Question peers about reasons for how they sort organisms, and encourage them to use evidence to support their ideas.
- Use scientific tools such as magnifying glasses, sorting blocks, and rulers in investigations and play.

**Content Area: Science**  
**Standard: Physical Science**

**Prepared Graduates:**  
➤ Apply an understanding of atomic and molecular structure to explain the properties of matter, and predict outcomes of chemical and nuclear reactions

**Grade Level Expectation: Kindergarten**

**Concepts and skills students master:**  
2. Objects can be sorted by physical properties, which can be observed and measured

**Evidence Outcomes**

**Students can:**

- a. Observe, investigate, and describe how objects can be sorted using their physical properties
- b. Explain why objects are sorted into categories
- c. Sort a set of objects based on their physical characteristics, and then explain how the objects are sorted

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills and Readiness Competencies**

**Inquiry Questions:**

- How can objects belong to more than one group?
- How do you decide which properties are most important when putting objects into groups?

**Relevance and Application:**

- Materials have uses based on properties such as whether they are glass or plastic.
- Machines such as coin sorting machines can be designed to sort things efficiently.

**Nature of Science:**

- Recognize that scientists try to be clear and specific when they describe things.
- Share observations with others; be clear and precise like scientists.