

Draft National Unit Specification



Unit title: Living Things (Access 2)
SCQF: level 2 (6 SCQF credit points)
Unit code: to be advised

Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to develop learners' awareness and knowledge of living things. Learners will explore the diversity of living things and the dependence between them. Learners will also develop an awareness of themselves as a living being by exploring the main parts of the human body and factors that affect their health and wellbeing. By exploring living things through practical activities, learners will begin to develop their scientific literacy.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Carry out practical activities to explore living things
- 2 Carry out practical activities to explore the human body and factors that affect health and wellbeing

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the Access 2 Science in the Environment Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit Specification should be read in conjunction with the *Unit Support Notes* which provide advice and guidance on delivery, assessment approaches and development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in the *National Assessment Resource*.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. In terms of prior learning and experience, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Unit. Further information on relevant experiences and outcomes will be given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Equality and inclusion

This Unit Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information please refer to the *Unit Support Notes*.

Standards

Outcomes and assessment standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

1 Carry out practical activities to explore living things by:

- 1.1 Distinguishing between living and non-living things
- 1.2 Classifying living things according to their characteristics
- 1.3 Building simple food chains

Outcome 2

The learner will:

2 Carry out practical activities to explore the human body and factors that affect health and wellbeing by:

- 2.1 Identifying the basic function and position of the main parts of the human body
- 2.2 Finding out about a range of factors that affect health and wellbeing
- 2.3 Producing a basic lifestyle plan for personal health and wellbeing

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners, to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used.

Evidence is expected to be generated from practical activities provided by the teacher/lecturer. Evidence can be presented in a variety of formats, such as written, oral, or pictorial, and may be gathered using the learner's usual means of communication.

For Outcome 1, evidence will include:

- ◆ a range of living and non-living things
- ◆ classifying living things according to their characteristics from at least three of the following groups: insects, fish, birds, amphibians, reptiles, plants, and mammals
- ◆ a simple food chain using at least three layers

For Outcome 2, evidence will include:

- ◆ the function and position of at least two of the following human body parts: heart, lungs, brain, stomach and bones
- ◆ factors that impact positively and negatively on health and wellbeing
- ◆ a basic lifestyle plan over the period of a day

It is expected that learners will receive support throughout the delivery of this Unit.

There are many ways in which the requirements of the Unit can be generated. Evidence may be gathered using different assessments and more than one context for each Outcome, or it may be gathered for the Unit as a whole through one assessment. If the latter approach is used, it must be clear how the evidence covers each Outcome.

Exemplification of assessment will be provided in the *National Assessment Resource*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Draft

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Unit. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Unit are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

2 Numeracy

2.3 Information handling

5 Thinking skills

5.1 Remembering

5.3 Applying

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level of the Unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work is given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Administrative information

Published: December 2011 (draft version 1.0)

Superclass: to be advised

History of changes

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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