

Next Steps to Support Student Progress in Science

Summative assessments are an important tool that provides valuable information about student learning. These assessments provide a snapshot of where a student stands in relation to the knowledge and skills expected at their grade level.

Summative assessment results, when combined with other student information, such as grades, classroom assignments, teacher observations and more, can provide a clearer picture of student performance and can help inform educational program decisions.

Below are the reporting achievement level descriptors and suggested next steps to support student progress in science.

Achievement Level Descriptors

Suggested Next Steps

Level 4: The student demonstrates **advanced** grade-level knowledge and skills and shows a sophisticated understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills associated with the performance expectations of the California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS).

Using additional performance information, students may benefit from engaging in activities like challenging projects and problem-solving tasks that encourage creative thinking and deeper application of their knowledge and skills.

Level 3: The student demonstrates **proficient** grade-level knowledge and skills and shows a thorough understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills associated with the performance expectations of the CA NGSS.

Using additional performance information, students may benefit from opportunities that build on their strengths, such as enrichment activities, while also receiving additional support in areas where they are still developing.

Level 2: The student demonstrates **developing** grade-level knowledge and skills and shows an initial understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills associated with the performance expectations of the CA NGSS.

Using additional performance information, students may benefit from the identification of their strengths and areas for growth, along with tailored instructional support to help them make meaningful progress.

Level 1: The student demonstrates **minimal** grade-level knowledge and skills and shows a limited understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills associated with the performance expectations of the CA NGSS.

Using additional performance information, students may benefit from focused time and personalized supports to strengthen essential grade-level skills and accelerate their learning journey.

