*Unless otherwise specified, "descriptions" referenced in the evidence statements could include but are not limited to written, oral, pictorial, and kinesthetic descriptions.

K-PS3-1 Energy

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

K-PS3-1. **Make observations to determine the effect of sunlight on Earth's surface.** [Clarification Statement: Examples of Earth's surface could include sand, soil, rocks, and water.] [*Assessment Boundary: Assessment of temperature is limited to relative measures such as warmer/cooler.*]

The performance expectation above was developed using the following elements from the NRC document *A Framework for K-12 Science Education*:

Science and Engineering Practices

Planning and Carrying Out Investigations

Planning and carrying out investigations to answer questions or test solutions to problems in K–2 builds on prior experiences and progresses to simple investigations, based on fair tests, which provide data to support explanations or design solutions.

- Make observations (firsthand or from media) to collect data that can be used to make comparisons.

Connections to Nature of Science

Scientific Investigations Use a Variety of Methods

- Scientists use different ways to study the world.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

PS3.B: Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer

- Sunlight warms Earth's surface.

Crosscutting Concepts

Cause and Effect

- Events have causes that generate observable patterns.

Observable features of the student performance by the end of the grade:		
1	Identifying the phenomenon to be investigated	
	a	From the given investigation plan, students describe* (with guidance) the phenomenon under investigation, which includes the following idea: sunlight warms the Earth's surface.
	b	Students describe* (with guidance) the purpose of the investigation, which includes determining the effect of sunlight on Earth materials by identifying patterns of relative warmth of materials in sunlight and shade (e.g., sand, soil, rocks, water).
2	Identifying the evidence to address the purpose of the investigation	
	a	Based on the given investigation plan, students describe* (with guidance) the evidence that will result from the investigation, including observations of the relative warmth of materials in the presence and absence of sunlight (i.e., qualitative measures of temperature; e.g., hotter, warmer, colder).
	b	Students describe* how the observations they make connect to the purpose of the investigation.
3	Planning the investigation	
	a	Based on the given investigation plan, students describe* (with guidance):
		i. The materials on the Earth's surface to be investigated (e.g., dirt, sand, rocks, water, grass).
		ii. How the relative warmth of the materials will be observed and recorded.
4	Collecting the data	
	a	According to the given investigation plan and with guidance, students collect and record data that will allow them to:
		i. Compare the warmth of Earth materials placed in sunlight and the same Earth materials placed in shade.
		ii. Identify patterns of relative warmth of materials in sunlight and in shade (i.e., qualitative measures of temperature; e.g., hotter, warmer, colder).
		iii. Describe* that sunlight warms the Earth's surface.