

Glossary

Elementary School Level Science Glossary

English / Spanish

Translation of Science Terms Based on the
Coursework for Science Grades 3 to 5.



This glossary is to PROVIDE PERMITTED TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS of ELL/MLL students. It should also be used for INSTRUCTION during the school year. The glossary may be downloaded, printed and disseminated to educators, parents and ELLs/MLLs.

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THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

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**Science Glossary Translation in Spanish
- Elementary school level**

| English | Spanish |
|----------------|--|
| A | |
| absorb | absorber |
| acceleration | aceleración |
| acid rain | lluvia ácida |
| adapt | adaptar |
| adaptation | adaptación |
| adjust | ajustar |
| adult | adulto |
| air | aire |
| air pressure | presión del aire (presión atmosférica) |
| air resistance | resistencia del aire |
| alto | alto |
| amount | cantidad |
| amphibian | anfibio |
| analyze | analizar |
| anemometer | anemómetro |
| animal | animal |
| apply | aplicar |
| around | alrededor |
| arrange | ordenar |
| artery | arteria |
| arthropod | artrópodo |
| asteroid | asteroide |
| atmosphere | atmósfera |

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| atom | átomo |
| axis | eje |
| B | |
| balance | balance, equilibrio |
| balanced forces | fuerzas balanceadas |
| bar graph | gráfico de barras |
| barometer | barómetro |
| battery | pila, batería |
| behavior | conducta, comportamiento |
| beneficial | beneficioso |
| best | el/la/lo mejor |
| bird | ave |
| blink | parpadear, parpadeo |
| block | bloquear, bloque, bloqueo |
| blood tissue | tejido sanguíneo |
| blood vessel | vaso sanguíneo |
| body heat | calor corporal |
| bone | hueso |
| bone tissue | tejido óseo |
| brain | cerebro |
| breathe | respirar |
| bronchi | bronquios |
| buoyant force | fuerza boyante |
| C | |
| calculator | calculadora |
| camera | cámara |
| camouflage | camuflaje |

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| capillary | capilar |
| carnivore | carnívoro |
| caterpillar | oruga |
| cause-and-effect | causa y efecto |
| cell | célula |
| cell membrane | membrana celular |
| cell wall | pared celular |
| Celsius (C°) | grado Celsius (C°) |
| centimeter (cm) | centímetro (cm) |
| central nervous system | sistema nervioso central |
| change | cambiar, cambio |
| change of direction | cambio de dirección |
| change of motion | cambio de movimiento |
| change of speed | cambio de velocidad |
| characteristic | característica |
| chemical | químico |
| chemical change | cambio químico |
| chemical property | propiedad química |
| chemical weathering | desgaste químico |
| chlorophyll | clorofila |
| chloroplast | cloroplasto |
| choose | elegir |
| cinder cone volcano | volcán de cono de ceniza |
| circuit | circuito |
| circulatory system | aparato circulatorio |
| cirro- | cirro |
| cirrus cloud | nube cirro |

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| classification | clasificación |
| classify | clasificar |
| claws | garras |
| climate | clima |
| cloud | nube |
| collect | colecta, recolectar |
| color | color |
| column | columna |
| comet | cometa |
| common | común |
| community | comunidad |
| compare | comparar |
| compass | brújula |
| competition | competencia |
| composite volcano | volcán compuesto |
| compost pile | pila de compost |
| compound | compuesto |
| compound microscope | microscopio compuesto |
| computer | computadora |
| conclusion | conclusión |
| condensation | condensación |
| condition | condición |
| conduction | conducción |
| conductivity | conductividad |
| conductors | conductores |
| conservation | conservación |
| consumer | consumidor |

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| contain | contener |
| container | contenedor |
| content | contenido |
| convection | convección |
| crest | cresta |
| crust | corteza |
| crystal | crystal |
| cubic centimeter | centímetro cúbico |
| cycle | ciclo |
| cytoplasm | citoplasma |
| D | |
| dam | dique, represa, embalse |
| data | datos |
| data table | tabla de datos |
| decomposer | organismo saprofito |
| decrease | disminución |
| define | definir |
| definite | definitivo |
| density | densidad |
| deposition | deposición |
| derived | derivado |
| describe | describir |
| design | diseñar, diseño |
| development | desarrollo |
| diagram | diagrama |
| die | morir |
| difference | diferencia |

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| digestive system | aparato digestivo |
| direction | dirección |
| directly | directamente |
| discuss | conversar |
| disperse | dispersar |
| distance | distancia |
| distribute | distribuir |
| draw | dibujar |
| E | |
| earth | tierra |
| earthquake | terremoto |
| earthworm | lombriz |
| eat | comer |
| echo | eco |
| ecosystem | ecosistema |
| effect | efecto |
| efficient | eficiente |
| egg | huevo |
| electric | eléctrico |
| electric current | corriente eléctrica |
| electrical energy | energía eléctrica |
| electromagnet | electroimán |
| electromagnetism | electromagnetismo |
| electron | electrón |
| elements | elementos |
| elevation | elevación |
| eliminate | eliminar |

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| emit | emitir |
| energy | energía |
| energy resources | recursos energéticos |
| environment | entorno, medio ambiente |
| equal | igual |
| erosion | erosión |
| error | error |
| eruption | erupción |
| esophagus | esófago |
| establish | establecer |
| estimate | calcular |
| estimation | estimación, cálculo |
| evaluate | evaluar |
| evaporate | evaporar |
| evaporation | evaporación |
| evidence | evidencia |
| example | ejemplo |
| exercise | ejercicio |
| exoskeleton | exoesqueleto, dermatoesqueleto |
| experiment | experimento, experimentar |
| explain | explicar |
| external | externo |
| eyes | ojos |
| F | |
| fact | hecho |
| factor | factor |
| Fahrenheit (°F) | grado Fahrenheit (°F) |

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| fault | falla, encontrar defectos |
| feather | pluma |
| feature | rasgo, característica |
| features | rasgos, características |
| fins | aletas |
| fish | pez |
| fixed pulley | polea fija |
| float | flotar |
| flood | aluvión, inundación |
| flowers | flor |
| food chain | cadena de alimentos |
| food web | red de alimentos |
| force | fuerza |
| form | forma, formulario, formar |
| former | anterior |
| formula | fórmula |
| fossil | fósil |
| fossil fuel | combustible fósil |
| frequency | frecuencia |
| friction | fricción |
| fruit | fruta |
| fulcrum | fulcro |
| function | función |
| fur | pelaje |
| G | |
| galaxy | galaxia |
| gas | gas |

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| generation | generación |
| generator | generador |
| germinate | germinar |
| germination | germinación |
| glacier | glaciar |
| graduated cylinder | probeta |
| gram (g) | gramo (g) |
| graph | gráfico |
| graphic | descriptivo |
| gravity | gravedad |
| greatest | el mayor, mejor, más importante |
| green plant | planta verde |
| ground | suelo |
| groundwater | agua subterránea |
| grow | crecer |
| growth | crecimiento |
| H | |
| habitat | hábitat |
| hail | granizo |
| hair | pelo |
| hand lens | lupa de mano |
| hardness | dureza |
| harmful | nocivo, dañino |
| health | salud |
| healthy habit | hábito saludable |
| heart | corazón |
| heart muscle | músculo cardíaco |

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| heat | calor |
| heat energy | energía térmica |
| herbivore | herbívoro |
| hibernation | hibernación |
| host | huésped |
| human | humano |
| humidity | humedad |
| hurricane | huracán |
| hygrometer | higrómetro |
| hypothesis | hipótesis |
| I | |
| identify | identificar |
| identical | idéntico |
| igneous rock | roca ígnea |
| illuminate | iluminar |
| illustrate | ilustrar |
| inclined plane | plano inclinado |
| increase | aumentar, aumento |
| independent variable | variable independiente |
| indicate | indicar |
| inference | inferencia |
| information | información |
| inherit | heredar |
| inherited adaptation | adaptación heredada |
| inherited trait | rasgo hereditario |
| inquiry | indagación |
| insect | insecto |

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| insulator | aislante |
| interact | interactuar |
| internal | interno |
| interpret | interpretar |
| interval | intervalo |
| invertebrate | invertebrado |
| investigate | investigar |
| J | |
| jaw | mandíbula |
| jellyfish | medusa |
| joint | unión, articulación, en conjunto |
| journal | diario |
| K | |
| kilogram (kg) | kilogramo (kg) |
| kiloliter (kl) | kilolitro (kl) |
| kilometer (km) | kilómetro (km) |
| kinetic energy | energía cinética |
| kingdom | reino |
| kitten | gatito |
| knowledge | conocimiento |
| L | |
| label | identificar, identificación |
| land | terreno, tierra |
| landslide | avalancha de tierra |
| large intestine | intestino grueso |
| larva | larva |
| latitude | latitud |
| lava | lava |
| leaf | hoja |
| learned | aprender, aprendido, erudito |
| learned adaptation | adaptación asimilada |
| least | lo menor, lo mínimo |

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| leaves | hojas |
| leg | pierna |
| length | longitud |
| levee | dique |
| lever | palanca |
| life cycle | ciclo de vida |
| life span | duración de vida |
| light | luz |
| lighting | iluminación |
| line graph | gráfico lineal |
| lines of force | líneas de fuerza |
| liquid | líquido |
| list | lista, enumerar |
| liter (L) | litro (L) |
| live | vivir |
| living | viviente |
| living thing | ser viviente |
| location | lugar, ubicación |
| lunar eclipse | eclipse lunar |
| lungs | pulmones |
| luster | lustre, brillo |
| M | |
| magma | magma |
| magnet | imán |
| magnetic field | campo magnético |
| magnetic force | fuerza magnética |
| magnetism | magnetismo |
| magnifier | magnificador |
| maintain | mantiene |
| major | principal, muy importante |
| mammal | mamífero |
| mass | masa |
| mates | parejas, compañeros |
| matter | materia |

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| measure | medir, medida |
| mechanical | mecánico |
| mechanical energy | energía mecánica |
| metamorphic rock | roca metamórfica |
| metamorphosis | metamorfosis |
| meter (m) | metro (m) |
| meter stick | varilla métrica |
| method | método |
| metric ruler | regla métrica |
| microscope | microscopio |
| migration | migración |
| milligram (mg) | miligramo (mg) |
| milliliter (mL) | mililitro (ml) |
| millimeter (mm) | milímetro (mm) |
| mineral | mineral |
| mitochondria | mitocondria |
| mixture | mezcla |
| models | modelos |
| moisture | mixtura, mezcla |
| molecule | molécula |
| mollusk | molusco |
| motion | movimiento |
| motor | motor |
| mouth | boca |
| movable pulley | polea móvil |
| muscle tissue | tejido muscular |
| muscular system | sistema muscular |
| N | |
| nail | uña |
| natural events | acontecimientos naturales |
| negative | negativo |
| nervous system | sistema nervioso |
| neuron | neurona |
| niche | nicho |

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| nimbus | nimbo |
| nonliving thing | ser sin vida |
| nonrenewable | no renovable |
| nonrenewable energy resource | f fuente de energía no renovable |
| nose | nariz |
| nucleus | núcleo |
| number | número |
| nutrient | nutriente |
| O | |
| object | objeto, objetar |
| objective lens | lente objetivo |
| observable | observable |
| observation | observación |
| observe | observar |
| obtained | obtenido |
| occur | ocurrir |
| odor | olor |
| offspring | descendencia |
| omnivore | omnívoro |
| opinion | opinión |
| orbit | órbita, orbitar |
| order | orden |
| organ | órgano |
| organ system | sistema de órganos |
| organism | organismo |
| organize | organizar |
| original | original |
| ovary | ovario |
| overabundance | Sobreabundancia, superabundancia |
| ozone | ozono |
| P | |
| parallel circuit | circuito paralelo |
| parasite | parásito |
| path | camino, sendero |

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| pattern | patrón |
| percent, percentage | por ciento, porcentaje |
| period | período |
| permanent magnet | imán permanente |
| phases | fases |
| phenomena | fenómeno |
| photosynthesis | fotosíntesis |
| physical | físico |
| physical change | cambio físico |
| physical environment | entorno físico |
| physical property | propiedad física |
| physical weathering | erosión física |
| pie graph | gráfico circular |
| pistil | pistilo |
| pitch | tono |
| planet | planeta |
| plant | planta |
| polar | polar |
| pollen | polen |
| pollinate | polinizar |
| pollution | contaminación, polución |
| population | población |
| position | posición |
| positive | positivo |
| potential energy | energía potencial |
| precipitation | precipitación |
| predator | predador o depredador |
| predict | predecir |
| prediction | predicción |
| presence | presencia |
| previous | previo |
| prey | presa |
| primary | primario |
| probable | probable |

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| procedure | procedimiento |
| process | proceso |
| produce | productos agrícolas |
| producer | productor |
| properties | propiedades |
| protect | proteger |
| proton | protón |
| provide | proveer |
| pull | halar |
| pulley | polea |
| pupa | crisálida |
| puppies | cachorros |
| push | empujón, empujar |
| R | |
| rabbit | conejo |
| radiation | radiación |
| rain | lluvia |
| rearrange | reordenar |
| reason | razón |
| receive | recibir |
| record | registrar, grabar |
| rectum | recto |
| recycle | reciclar |
| reduce | reducir |
| refer | referir |
| reflect | reflexionar, reflejar |
| refract | refractar |
| relationship | relación |
| relative humidity | humedad relativa |
| relevant | relevante |
| remain the same | permanece igual |
| renewable | renovable |
| renewable energy resource | fuentes de energía renovable |
| repair | reparar |

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| repel | repeler |
| represent | representar |
| reproduce | reproducir |
| reproduction | reproducción |
| reptile | reptil |
| required | requerido |
| respiratory system | aparato respiratorio |
| respond | responder |
| response | respuesta |
| responsible | responsable |
| result | resultado |
| rest | descanso, descansar |
| reuse | reutilizar |
| revolution | revolución |
| revolve | girar, dar vueltas |
| riding a bicycle | andar en bicicleta |
| rock | roca |
| rock cycle | ciclo de las rocas |
| role | papel, rol |
| root | raíz |
| rotate | rotar |
| rotation | rotación |
| rubbing | fricción, frotación |
| ruler (metric) | regla (métrica) |
| runoff | residuo líquido |
| S | |
| saliva | saliva |
| salivate | salivar |
| scale | escala, balanza |
| scientific inquiry | indagación científica |
| scientific investigation | investigación científica |
| scientific thinking | pensamiento científico |
| screw | atornillar, tornillo |
| seasonal | por temporada |

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| seasonally | estacionalmente |
| seasons | estaciones |
| secondary | secundario |
| sediment | sedimento |
| sedimentary rock | roca sedimentaria |
| seed | semilla |
| seedling | cultivo en semillero |
| select | seleccionar, selecto |
| senses | sentidos |
| sense organ | órgano del sentido |
| sequences | secuela, sucesión, secuencia |
| series circuit | circuito en serie |
| sewage | aguas residuales |
| shadows | sombras |
| shape | forma, formar |
| shells | caparazones, corazas |
| shelter | albergue, protección |
| shield volcano | volcán en escudo |
| shiver | tiritar, temblar |
| significant | significativo |
| similarity | semejanza |
| simple machine | máquina simple |
| sink | pila de cocina, hundirse |
| situation | situación |
| size | tamaño |
| skeletal muscle | músculo esquelético |
| skeletal system | esqueleto |
| skin | piel |
| sky | cielo |
| sleet | aguanieve |
| small intestine | intestino delgado |
| smooth muscle | músculo liso o visceral |
| snow | nieve |
| soil | suelo |

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| soil texture | tipo o textura de suelo |
| solar cell | celda solar |
| solar system | sistema solar |
| solid | sólido |
| solidification | solidificación |
| solubility | solubilidad |
| solute | sustancia soluble |
| solution | solución |
| sound | sonido |
| sound recorder | grabador de sonido |
| source | fuerite |
| space | espacio |
| species | especies |
| specific | específico |
| speed | velocidad |
| spine | espina, columna |
| spinal cord | espina dorsal, columna vertebral |
| sponge | esponja |
| spore | espora |
| spring scale | dinamómetro |
| sprout | brote |
| stages | etapas |
| stamen | estambre |
| stalks | tallos |
| star | estrella |
| state | estado |
| static charge | carga estática |
| static electricity | electricidad estática |
| stem | tronco |
| stigma | estigma |
| stimulus | estímulo |
| stomach | estómago |
| storms | tormentas |
| stopwatch | cronómetro |

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| strategy | estrategia |
| strato | estrato |
| stratus cloud | nube estrato |
| streak | veta |
| structural adaptation | adaptación estructural |
| structure | estructura |
| subsoil | subsuelo |
| substance | sustancia |
| summarize | resumir |
| sun | sol |
| sunny | soleado |
| support | apoyo, respaldo, apoyar |
| surface | superficie |
| survive, survival | sobrevivir, supervivencia |
| surviving | supervivencia, sobreviviente |
| sweat | transpirar, transpiración |
| switch | cambiar, intercambiar, interruptor |
| system | sistema |
| T | |
| tadpole | renacuajo |
| tape measure | cinta métrica |
| teeth | dientes |
| temperate | templado |
| temperature | temperatura |
| temporary magnet | imán temporal o temporario |
| theory | teoría |
| thermometer | termómetro |
| thrive | prosperar |
| thunderstorm | tormenta eléctrica |
| tissue | tejido |
| tongue | lengua |
| tool | herramienta |
| topsoil | suelo |
| tornado | tornado |

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| trachea | tráquea |
| trait | rasgo, característica |
| transfer | transferencia, transferir |
| transport | transporte, transportar |
| trial | ensayo, prueba |
| tropical | tropical |
| troposphere | troposfera |
| trough | caída, depresión, comedero |
| trunks | troncos |
| turbine | turbina |
| type | tipo |
| U | |
| unbalanced forces | fuerzas desiguales |
| unequal | desigual |
| under | bajo, debajo de |
| universe | universo |
| V | |
| vacuole | vacuola |
| variable | variable |
| vegetable | vegetal |
| vein | vena |
| vertebrate | vertebrado |
| visible | visible |
| volcano | volcán |
| voltmeter | voltímetro |
| volume | volumen |
| W | |
| waste | residuo, desperdicio |
| water | agua |
| water cycle | ciclo del agua |
| water vapor | vapor de agua |
| wavelength | longitud de onda |
| weather | clima |
| weathering | desgaste |

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| wedge | cuña |
| week | semana |
| weight | peso |
| wheel and axle | rueda y eje |
| width | anchura, ancho |
| wind | viento |
| wind vane | veleta |
| wings | alas |