

**Louisiana Educational Assessment Program
Louisiana Alternate Assessment, Level 2 (LAA 2)
Science Achievement Level Descriptors: Grade 8**

Achievement Level	Descriptors
Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable
Mastery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable
Basic	<p>A student at this level has demonstrated only the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for the next level of schooling.</p> <p>Students scoring at this level generally exhibit the ability to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of some theories and concepts; • identify elements of a system and state one limiting factor when given a particular example; • identify a simple model; • begin to understand the nature of science; and • show an awareness that science is subject to change. <p>When given a problem, students at this level can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design a simple investigation by asking appropriate questions; • identify the important variables and select appropriate tools to gather data; and • interpret basic data and communicate a conclusion. <p>These skills should be demonstrated through the science disciplines—physical, life, earth/space, and the environmental sciences.</p>
Approaching Basic	<p>A student at this level has only partially demonstrated the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for the next level of schooling.</p> <p>Students scoring at this level generally exhibit the ability to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify related elements of a system; • identify elements of a simple model; and • show some awareness that science is developing and changing. <p>When given an investigation, students at this level can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • answer specific scientific questions; • identify at least one variable in an experiment; and • seek and identify basic scientific data and communicate it. <p>These skills should be demonstrated through the science disciplines—physical, life, earth/space, and the environmental sciences.</p>

LAA 2 ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL DESCRIPTORS – SCIENCE GR 8

<p>Foundational</p>	<p>A student at this level has <i>not</i> demonstrated the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for the next level of schooling but has demonstrated the foundational knowledge and skills that can be built upon to access the grade-level curriculum.</p> <p>Students scoring at this level generally exhibit the ability to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify some elements of a system; • demonstrate limited understanding of elements of a simple model; and • show limited awareness that science is developing and changing. <p>When given an investigation, students at this level can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • answer simple scientific questions; and • show limited knowledge and understanding of variables in an experiment and basic scientific data. <p>These skills should be demonstrated through the science disciplines—physical, life, earth/space, and the environmental sciences.</p>
<p>Pre-Foundational</p>	<p>A student at this level has <i>not</i> demonstrated the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for the next level of schooling. However, the student may be developing the foundational knowledge and skills that can be built upon to access the grade-level curriculum.</p> <p>Students scoring at this level <i>need to develop</i> the ability to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify elements of a system; • demonstrate understanding of elements of a simple model; and • show awareness that science is developing and changing. <p>When given a problem, students at this level can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • answer simple scientific questions; and • demonstrate knowledge and understanding of variables in an experiment and scientific data. <p>These skills should be demonstrated through the science disciplines—physical, life, earth/space, and the environmental sciences.</p>