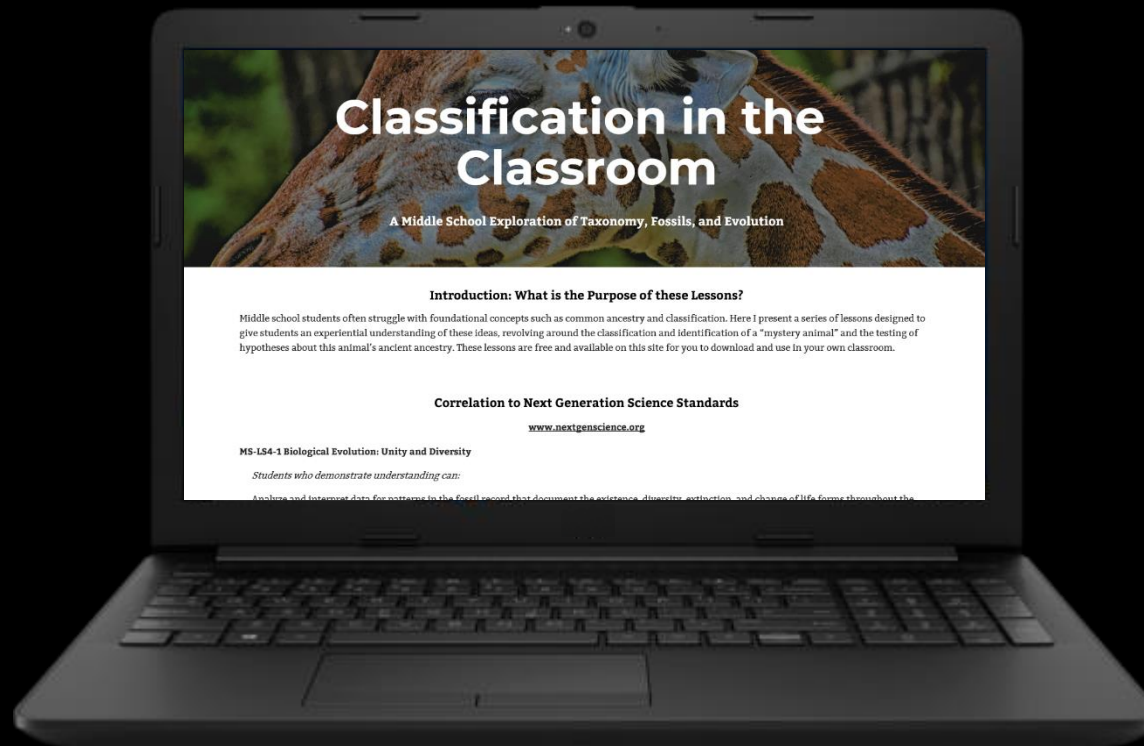


To download this lesson for use in your own classroom, visit <https://bit.ly/2SxCcnG>.



Classification in the Classroom

A Middle School Exploration of Taxonomy, Fossils, and Evolution

Introduction: What is the Purpose of these Lessons?

Middle school students often struggle with foundational concepts such as common ancestry and classification. Here I present a series of lessons designed to give students an experiential understanding of these ideas, revolving around the classification and identification of a "mystery animal" and the testing of hypotheses about this animal's ancient ancestry. These lessons are free and available on this site for you to download and use in your own classroom.

Correlation to Next Generation Science Standards

www.nextgenscience.org

MS-LS4-1 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

Analyze and interpret data for patterns in the fossil record that document the existence, divergence, extinction, and changes of life forms throughout the