

LIFE SCIENCE



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USING MERRILL LIFE SCIENCE



Life Science is an everyday experience. It's a subject you're familiar with because every part of your day is based upon principles of life science... the simple act of walking involves your muscles to move your body, your nervous system to tell your muscles what to do and where you want to go, and your circulatory system to transport nutrients, energy, and oxygen to all parts of your body. Depending on where you walk, you may encounter a variety of insects, plants, and animals that are living their lives also based upon principles of life science. **Merrill Life Science** will help you understand life science principles and recognize how they affect you and the life around you everyday.

a quick tour of your textbook

What's happening here? Have you ever seen a raft setting on the tops of trees? Each unit begins with thought-provoking photographs that will make you wonder. The unit introduction then explains what is happening in the photographs and how the two relate to each other and to the content of the unit. What is a raft doing on the tops of trees? Read the opener to Unit 4 to find out.



It's clearly organized to get you started and keep you going.









As you begin each new chapter, use the **Gearing Up** to preview what topics are covered and how they are organized. You will also preview the skills you will use in this chapter.

After you've performed the **FIND OUT** activity and previewed the chapter, you're ready to further explore the topics ahead. Read **What's next** to see what's ahead.



Chapters are organized into three to five numbered sections. The **Objectives** at the beginning of the numbered section tell you what major topics you'll be covering and what you should expect to learn about them. The **New Science Words** are also listed in the order in which they appear in the section.

Experience science by observing, experimenting, and asking questions.

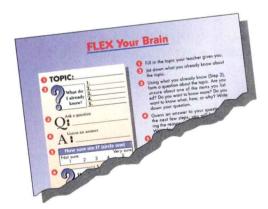




Science is more than words in a book. The two Activities and the MINI-Labs in each chapter give you the chance to further explore and investigate the science topics covered in your textbook.

In the **Activities**, you'll use household items and laboratory equipment as you follow the easy, step-by-step procedure. At the end of each Activity are questions that ask you to analyze what you've done.

Most MINI-Labs are designed so you can do them on your own or with friends outside of the science classroom using materials you find around the house. Doing a MINI-Lab is an easy and fun way to further your knowledge about the topics you're studying.



familiar with, such as a stream, garden plot, or pond, and identify the

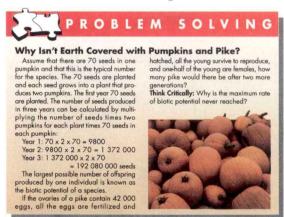
organisms found there. Make a list

of all the populations you can see in the ecosystem. What is the niche

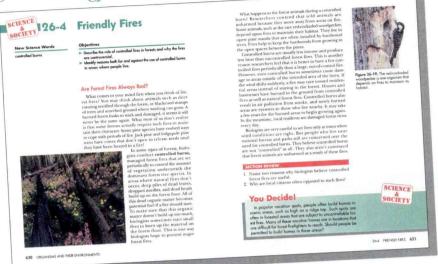
of each species in the community?

Flex Your Brain is a unique activity you can use to sharpen your critical thinking skills. Starting from what you already know about a science topic, you will apply a simple tenstep procedure to extend your knowledge about the topic from a perspective that interests you.

Each **Problem Solving** feature gives you a chance to solve a real life problem.

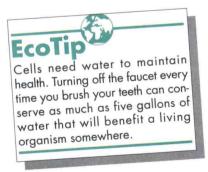


Explore news-making issues, concerns about the environment, and how science shapes your world through technology.

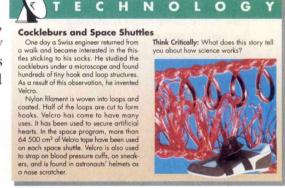


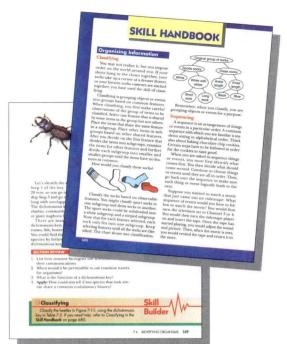
The impact of science on society directly affects you. In the **Science and Society** section in each chapter, you'll learn about an issue that's affecting the world around you. The topics you'll read about are controversial, and you'll explore them from several sides. Then, you'll have a chance to express your opinion in the You Decide feature that follows.

In the **Technology** feature in each chapter, you'll read about recent discoveries, newly developed instruments, and applications of technology that have shaped our world and furthered our knowledge.



Each **EcoTip** suggests a simple step you can take to help improve the environment. EcoTips explain how you can get involved in making Earth a better place to live.





Discover that you can apply what you've learned as you answer questions and practice your science skills.

At the end of each section are several Section Review questions that help you test your knowledge. The last question challenges you to think critically and **Apply** what you've learned.

The **Skill Builder** feature lets you sharpen your science skills using only paper and pencil. If you need help with these skills, refer to the **Skill Handbook** at the back of the book. Here, you can find complete information about each type of skill covered in the Skill Builders.



Because of regular exercise during the track season, Hope was able to reduce her at-rest pulse rate from 76 beats per minute to 66. Estimate how many beats Hope is saving her heart muscle per day. Science is related to every other subject you study. The **Science And** features challenge you to solve math problems, read literature excerpts, and to write about topics you're studying as you make the connections between science and other disciplines.

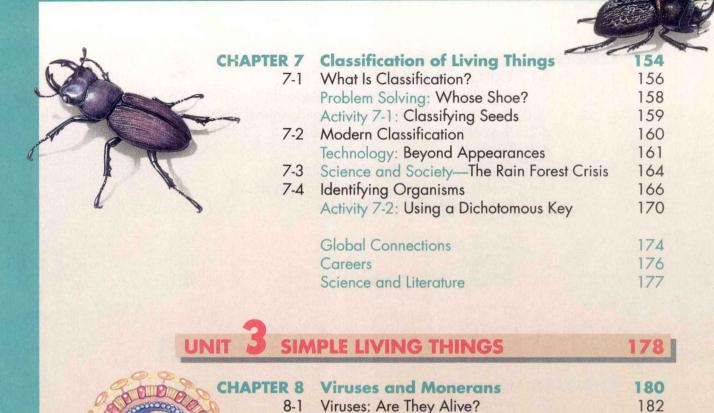
The **Chapter Review** starts with a summary so you can review the major concepts from each section. Then, you'll apply your knowledge and practice thinking skills as you answer the questions that follow.



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