

Observing Phenomenon

To describe the world around us, we record our observations of “What is Happening?” and ask questions.

What is Happening?

A. Describe what you think is happening in this picture. What do you see? What does it make you think of? What does this make you wonder?

What Happened?

Complete this section at the very end of this lesson, after you have developed an explanation.

D. What other questions do you have?

Observe Patterns

B. Now, take another closer look at this image. What patterns do you observe? Use qualitative and quantitative terms as you describe patterns you notice.

E. How did this investigation support your understanding of the phenomenon?

Ask Questions

C. Based on your observations of the phenomenon, generate some questions. What do you wonder?



Developing an Explanation

Observations help us raise driving questions about the phenomenon. To explain the phenomenon, we will develop and use models. We begin by recording the driving question and identifying the system.

Driving Question: _____

1. Identify the system and its components and their relationships to each other.

1a. System:

1b. Sketch the system in the space below. Identify the components of the system.

1c. Identify and describe the relationship between the components.

2. Use the model to describe and make predictions about the phenomenon.

3. Identify and describe a scientific cause. How would you test the model?

