Grades 6–8

3.2.6-8.A Physical Science: Structure and Properties of Matter

Students who demonstrate understanding can *develop models to describe the atomic composition of simple molecules and extended structures.*

Clarifying Statement: Emphasis is on developing models of molecules that vary in complexity. Examples of simple molecules could include ammonia and methanol. Examples of extended structures could include sodium chloride or diamonds. Examples of molecular-level models could include drawings, 3D ball and stick structures, or computer representations showing different molecules with different types of atoms.

Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include valence electrons and bonding energy, discussing the ionic nature of subunits of complex structures, or a complete description of all individual atoms in a complex molecule or extended structure is not required.

Science and Engineering Practices (SEP)	Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCI)	Crosscutting Concepts (CCC)
Developing and Using Models Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 and progresses to developing, using and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems. • Develop a model to predict and/or describe phenomena.	**Structure and Properties of Matter** • Substances are made from different types of atoms, which combine with one another in various ways. Atoms form molecules that range in size from two to thousands of atoms. • Solids may be formed from molecules, or they may be extended structures with repeating subunits (e.g., crystals).	**Scale, Proportion, and Quantity** • Time, space, and energy phenomena can be observed at various scales using models to study systems that are too large or too small.

Pennsylvania Context: N/A

PA Career Ready Skills: Explain to others one's own strengths, needs, and preferences specific to a context.

Connections to Other Standards Content and Practices

Standard Source	Possible Connections to Other Standard(s) or Practice(s)
Agriculture (AFNR)	CS.06.01.01.a: Research and explain the foundational cycles in AFNR (e.g., water cycle, nutrient cycle, carbon cycle, etc.).
Science, Environmental Literacy and Sustainability (NAAEE)	5-8 Strand 2.1.A. Earth's physical systems: Learners describe the physical processes that shape Earth, including weather, climate, plate tectonics, and the hydrologic cycle. They explain how matter cycles and energy flows among the abiotic and biotic components of the environment. They describe how humans affect and are affected by Earth's physical systems.
PA Core Standards: ELA	CC.3.5.6-8.G: Integrate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text with a version of that information expressed visually (e.g., in a flowchart, diagram, model, graph, or table).

Standard Source	Possible Connections to Other Standard(s) or Practice(s)
PA Core Standards and Practices: Math	MP.2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively. MP.4: Model with mathematics. CC.2.1.6.D.1: Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems. CC.2.2.8.B.1: Apply concepts of radicals and integer exponents to generate equivalent expressions.
PA Standards: Social Studies	N/A
Educational Technology (ISTE)	1.6. Creative Communicator: Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals.
Technology and Engineering (ITEEA)	STEL-2N: Illustrate how systems thinking involves considering relationships between every part, as well as how the system interacts with the environment in which it is used.